



Best Friends Forever: A Novel

By Jennifer Weiner

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From *New York Times* bestselling author Jennifer Weiner comes "a smart, witty fairy tale for grownups" (Maureen Corrigan, NPR).

Addie Downs and Valerie Adler will be best friends forever. That's what Addie believes after Valerie moves across the street when they're both nine years old. But in the wake of betrayal during their teenage years, Val is swept into the popular crowd, while mousy, sullen Addie becomes her school's scapegoat.

Flash-forward fifteen years. Valerie Adler has found a measure of fame and fortune working as the weathergirl at the local TV station. Addie Downs lives alone in her parents' house in their small hometown of Pleasant Ridge, Illinois, caring for a troubled brother and trying to meet Prince Charming on the Internet. She's just returned from Bad Date #6 when she opens her door to find her long-gone best friend standing there, a terrified look on her face and blood on the sleeve of her coat. "Something horrible has happened," Val tells Addie, "and you're the only one who can help."

Best Friends Forever is a grand, hilarious, edge-of-your-seat adventure; a story about betrayal and loyalty, family history and small-town secrets. It's about living through tragedy, finding love where you least expect it, and the ties that keep best friends together

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Best Friends Forever: A Novel By Jennifer Weiner Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #145500 in Books
- Brand: Washington Square Press
- Published on: 2010-05-04
- Released on: 2010-05-04
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x 1.00" w x 5.31" l, .70 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 384 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Reclusive 33-year-old illustrator Addie Downs opens her front door late one night to reveal her childhood best friend, Valerie Adler, whom she hasn't seen since high school. Valerie is in trouble, and Addie drops everything to bail out her friend despite her own rather serious problems. Although the novel isn't up to Weiner's usual standards, the audio abridgment is watertight and the narration strong: Kate Baldwin reads the portions told in the first person from Addie's perspective, while Rick Holmes reads the third-person sections that focus on police chief Jordan Novick and Valerie's high school boyfriend Dan Swansea. At just six hours, this would make for excellent diversion on a girlfriends' road trip to the beach. *An Atria hardcover (Reviews, June 15). (July)*

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Weiner is an unabashed fan and writer of chick lit, but critics generally agreed that *Best Friends Forever* rises above the genre. Sure, it touches on familiar themes of friendship, love, family dysfunction, physical appearance—all touchstones of the genre—but Weiner delves beyond these issues to explore the growing pains of adolescence—as well as those of adulthood. The novel contains her usual wit, comedy, and emotional wisdom; Addie is an especially compelling "nice girl" creation. Only the *Washington Post* cited a preposterous plot and far-fetched characters, but even that critic admitted that Weiner's novel hits close to home on many levels.

Review

"In Addie, Weiner has created a steely, sympathetic narrator who is vulnerable but not pathetic, unwilling to settle for disappointment despite the bad hand that most of her 33 years have dealt. The novel is a welcome addition to the author's collection of tales about strong, clever women who carve their own niche in this world -- much like Weiner." -- "The Miami Herald"

"Weiner's latest showcases her talent for creating richly drawn, realistic characters. She deftly weaves in multiple back stories and subplots and punctuates the story with plenty of humor. Highly recommended for all fans of women's fiction." -- "Library Journal", starred review

"Addie Downs - the Everygirl at the center of Jennifer Weiner's latest novel - just could turn out to be one of our favorite heroines of the summer...Another superlative novel by Weiner, about a big girl with a bigger heart, that will have women and men of all sizes cheering." -- "USA Today"

"Former mousy types, rejoice! In Weiner's delicious latest, a popular girl hits trouble long after high school and only the geeky pal she once shunned can help." -- "People" magazine

"This beach read will win readers over with its wit and wisdom. A clever, sad and sweet turn on Thelma and Louise [with] what may be the funniest not-quite-heist ever pulled off ..." -- "Publishers Weekly"

"Jennifer Weiner's latest novel, 'Best Friends Forever', is not leaving the special shelf where it's already wedged in with other books I reread every so often because they just make me happy - novels such as Jeanette Haien's 'Matters of Chance', Susan Isaacs' 'Shining Through', Kingsley Amis' 'Lucky Jim', most of Barbara Pym's novels, and, of course, 'Pride and Prejudice'. [What] earns it a place on my treasured 'reread as needed' shelf is its tough emotional wisdom. Addie's story rates a second (and, perhaps, even a

third) read, too, because its unrelenting depiction of loneliness, as well as the myriad ways people can surprise themselves and each other, deserves to be savored, again and again." -- "The Philadelphia Inquirer"

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Amy Rodriguez:

This Best Friends Forever: A Novel usually are reliable for you who want to be considered a successful person, why. The key reason why of this Best Friends Forever: A Novel can be among the great books you must have is actually giving you more than just simple studying food but feed anyone with information that might be will shock your earlier knowledge. This book is handy, you can bring it everywhere and whenever your conditions in the e-book and printed ones. Beside that this Best Friends Forever: A Novel giving you an enormous of experience including rich vocabulary, giving you trial of critical thinking that we understand it useful in your day exercise. So , let's have it and enjoy reading.

Steven Cordell:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to obtain information. The information will make anyone to understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information better to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, paper, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher that will print many kinds of book. Often the book that recommended to you is Best Friends Forever: A Novel this publication consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This kind of book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer value to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some study when he makes this book. That's why this book suited all of you.

David Moore:

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Thomas Busch:

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