

Bird in Hand: A Novel

By Christina Baker Kline



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From the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Orphan Train, and the critically acclaimed author of The Way Life Should Be,* comes a novel about the choices we make, how they shape our lives, and how they can change them forever—includes a special PS section featuring insights, interviews, and more.

Four people, two marriages, one lifelong friendship: Everything is about to change.

It was dark. It was raining. It was just an accident. On the drive home from a rare evening out, Alison collides with another car running a stop sign, and—just like that—her life turns upside down.

When she calls her husband from the police station, his accusatory tone reveals cracks in their relationship she'd never noticed were there. Now she notices everything. And she begins to realize that the life she carefully constructed for herself is as tenuous as a house of cards. Exquisitely written, powerful, and thrilling, *Bird in Hand* is a novel about love and friendship and betrayal, and about the secrets we tell ourselves and each other.

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Bird in Hand: A Novel By Christina Baker Kline Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In her fourth novel (after *The Way Life Should Be*), Kline traces the construction and collapse of two longterm relationships. On her way home to New Jersey after an awkward party for her lifelong friend Claire's highly autobiographical first novel, Alison gets into a car accident that kills a boy in the other car. Even though the accident wasn't her fault, Allison, a mother of two young children, is wracked with grief and guilt. Her husband, Charlie, also struggles with the impulse to blame his wife, especially as he longs for any excuse to escalate his nascent affair with Claire and end his marriage. Episodes detailing the inevitable collapse of Alison and Charlie's marriage, as well as Claire's marriage to her well-meaning husband, Ben, are interspersed with vignettes revealing the four friends' 10-plus–year history together. Shifting perspectives and thoughtful interior monologues reveal just how isolated, and in some cases misguided, the characters are. Kline's unflinching gaze and lovely prose sets Kline's novel apart from the herd of infidelity/marital ennui novels. It's well-done, thoughtful and thought provoking. (*Aug.*)

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Review

"In BIRD IN HAND, Christina Baker Kline looks at marriage, at parents and children, pain and sorrow, and at all the questions that life asks us. This is a wise and lovely book." (Roxana Robinson, author of Cost)

"Kline's razor-sharp novel about love, marriage and obligation is a beach book only because you could zip through it anywhere." (More magazine)

"Kline's unflinching gaze and lovely prose set [BIRD IN HAND] apart from the herd of infidelity/marital ennui novels. It's well-done, thoughtful and thought-provoking." (Publishers Weekly)

"A gripping tale about two crumbling marriages, [BIRD IN HAND] offers a realistic and, at times, heartbreaking look at love and friendship." (RealSimple.com, Entertainment Pick)

"[Bird in Hand] exhibits an unsparing eye for the telling details that reveal how people think and act." (Library Journal)

"Kline explores the complications of the lines and bonds between marriage and friendship with honest and complex emotions on all four narrative fronts." (Booklist)

"Christina Baker Kline is a relentless storyteller. Once she sets her hook and starts reeling you in, struggle becomes counterproductive. The narrative line is too taut, the angler at the other end too skillful." (Richard Russo, author of Empire Falls and That Old Cape Magic)

"It is both thrilling and terrifying to read this powerful new novel and think: this could be me. Christina Baker Kline takes us on an intimate journey with her characters, one that brings us dangerously close to the hidden truths about love, trust and friendship." (Ellen Sussman, author of Dirty Words: A Literary Encyclopedia of Sex; Bad Girls: 25 Writers Misbehave; and On a Night Like This)

From the Back Cover

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Edward Tuttle:

Do you certainly one of people who can't read pleasant if the sentence chained within the straightway, hold on guys this kind of aren't like that. This Bird in Hand: A Novel book is readable by you who hate the perfect word style. You will find the facts here are arrange for enjoyable reading through experience without leaving possibly decrease the knowledge that want to provide to you. The writer regarding Bird in Hand: A Novel content conveys prospect easily to understand by lots of people. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different in the form of it. So , do you nevertheless thinking Bird in Hand: A Novel is not loveable to be your top list reading book?

Nathan Jackson:

Hey guys, do you really wants to finds a new book you just read? May be the book with the headline Bird in Hand: A Novel suitable to you? Often the book was written by renowned writer in this era. The actual book untitled Bird in Hand: A Novelis the main one of several books in which everyone read now. This specific book was inspired a number of people in the world. When you read this guide you will enter the new age that you ever know before. The author explained their thought in the simple way, thus all of people can easily to be aware of the core of this book. This book will give you a wide range of information about this world now. So you can see the represented of the world within this book.

Timothy McKinney:

Reading a book tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With looking at you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Together with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Publications can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or even their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the textbooks. But also they write about the ability about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your young ones, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors these days always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write for their book. One of them is this Bird in Hand: A Novel.

Richard Sauls:

Exactly why? Because this Bird in Hand: A Novel is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will zap you with the secret that inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who have write the book in such amazing way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning fully. So, it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book possess such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking technique. So, still want to hold up having that book? If I were being you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

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