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Three Wishes: A Novel

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Three Wishes

A NOVEL

"What a wonderful writer—smart, wise, funny."—Anne Lamott

Liane Moriarty

AUTHOR OF THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER *THE HUSBAND'S SECRET*



Synopsis

A New York Times bestseller, *Three Wishes* is the funny, heartwarming and completely charming first novel from Liane Moriarty, also the author of #1 New York Times bestsellers *The Husband's Secret* and *Big Little Lies*. Lyn, Cat, and Gemma Kettle, beautiful thirty-three-year-old triplets, seem to attract attention everywhere they go. Together, laughter, drama, and mayhem seem to follow them. But apart, each is dealing with her own share of ups and downs. Lyn has organized her life into one big checklist, Cat has just learned a startling secret about her marriage, and Gemma, who bolts every time a relationship hits the six-month mark, holds out hope for lasting love. In this wise, witty, and hilarious novel, we follow the Kettle sisters through their tumultuous thirty-third year as they deal with sibling rivalry and secrets, revelations and relationships, unfaithful husbands and unthinkable decisions, and the fabulous, frustrating life of forever being part of a trio.

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Customer Reviews

Lyn, Cat and Gemma Kettle are approaching their 34th birthday together. These Aussie triplets may share a birthday, but they have their own very different personalities. Gemma floats through life and relationships. Lyn powers her way through her organized and efficient days. The fiercely emotional

Cat does battle with co-workers, her husband, and her sisters. In the year surrounding this particular birthday, their lives are thrown upside down by various tragedies and joys and they struggle through as they always have - together. This heart-warming and heart-wrenching story is an impressive first book for Moriarty. She captures all the best and worst of family relationships - siblings, parents, spouses, and children - while balancing the heavy parts with funny bits of mayhem and wicked humor. The point of view alternates between the sisters and the story bounces back and forth in time, but never gets confusing. Interspersed between the chapters are little vignettes about how the triplets have touched the lives of strangers throughout the years. Moriarty's characters are just quirky enough to really care about without being absurd. I thought the flashbacks to the past did a wonderful job of showing how the sisters evolved into their separate personalities. *Three Wishes* is a fun, fascinating look into three lives that are inextricably entwined, and an insightful look at family relationships in general.

Three Wishes is a story about a year in the life of the Kettle triplets - Lyn, Cat and Gemma. It highlights all of the major issues that multiple of any age have to deal with, along with some issues that can take over anyone's lives. The pacing of this story is a little disjointed. It starts at the girls' 34th birthday, then jumps back almost a year and starts from there. The chapters are interspersed with stories about the girls' lives as seen by random onlookers at different points in their lives. And the basic timeline has a lot of other flashback and overlap as well. What makes this story so entertaining is the interaction between the three girls and the other characters in the story. The characters are well developed and very believable in their given roles. It gets a little slow at a few points, and like any story told from multiple perspectives, I found myself looking forward to certain characters' points-of-view more than others. But on the whole, this was a very entertaining read.

I just loved this book! As one of the previous reviewers said I thought it would be far fetched, the idea of triplets but it really wasn't. Obviously this author has some knowledge of sisters and maybe of multiples, as it came across very genuine. Each sister has a very distinct, if crazy personality. I loved the relationships they shared with one another and the rest of their family. The book is told in turn from the point of view of each of the sisters, with interspersed "man on the street" style narratives from unnamed individuals witnessing the triplets at different points in their life, which I found unusual and refreshing. Emails sent between the sisters are hilariously funny. One sister always hits the "respond to all" button and ends up sending the sister she is talking about (supposedly behind her back) the email. I also enjoyed the setting (Australia) I haven't read many

books set there. It's always fun to see how the other half lives, the little differences between your life and the life of those on the other side of the world. I highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys humor, books about family, sisters or chick lit.

The Kettle family is quite a trip. There's Nana Kettle, mother of Frank Kettle, ex-husband of Maxine (Max) Kettle, mother of the wackiest triplets on the planet, Lynnette (Lyn), Catriona (Cat), and Gemma Kettle. The girls are long-legged and beautiful, but that's where the similarity ends. Author Moriarty grew up in a family with six children, she being the eldest, so she probably has an excellent concept of what chaos in a family means. The scene is Sydney, Australia, and the story is about the triplets as they approach their thirty-fourth birthday. There are snippets of their lives from birth, including the divorce of their parents when they were six, the death of the fiancé of one of the girls; marriages, childbirth, miscarriage, unfaithful husbands, etc. There's a good mix of happy/sad/mundane events, but mostly these three girls and their family members try, like most of us, to survive one another. It's quite a hoot. However, there is one aspect of this story I found very disturbing. Since art imitates life, we all know of situations like the one portrayed in the book. All I can say is "Get out!" Ms. Moriarty not only used prose to tell her story, she included emails between these very modern sisters, which I thought was very clever. In addition, she included vignettes by people who had been "exposed" to the sisters over the course of their lives. These vignettes were presented in italicized text. I liked the feature as it gave the unusual view of the story's characters from people outside the story line. Carolyn Rowe Hill

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