



## Summer Sisters: A Novel

By Judy Blume

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**Summer Sisters: A Novel** By Judy Blume

**#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Look for special features inside.  
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In the summer of 1977, Victoria Leonard's world changes forever when Caitlin Somers chooses her as a friend. Dazzling, reckless Caitlin welcomes Vix into the heart of her sprawling, eccentric family, opening doors to a world of unimaginable privilege, sweeping her away to vacations on Martha's Vineyard, an enchanting place where the two friends become "summer sisters."

Now, years later, Vix is working in New York City. Caitlin is getting married on the Vineyard. And the early magic of their long, complicated friendship has faded. But Caitlin begs Vix to come to her wedding, to be her maid of honor. And Vix knows that she will go—because she wants to understand what happened during that last shattering summer. And, after all these years, she needs to know why her best friend—her summer sister—still has the power to break her heart.

### Praise for *Summer Sisters*

“Compulsively readable . . . [Blume’s] powers are prodigious.”—*The New York Times Book Review*

“As warm as a summer breeze blowing through your hair, as nostalgic as James Taylor singing ‘How Sweet It Is.’ You remember. So does Judy Blume. How sweet it was.”—*Chicago Tribune*

“An exceptionally moving story that can leave the reader laughing and crying . . . sometimes at the same time . . . Blume creates a rich tapestry of characters.”—*The Denver Post*

“Blume’s characters still tend to hover after the book is set aside. . . . She catches perfectly the well-armored love between longtime female friends.”—*The Seattle Times*

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## Summer Sisters: A Novel By Judy Blume Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #41389 in Books
- Brand: Bantam
- Published on: 2003-05-27
- Released on: 2003-05-27
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.30" h x .90" w x 5.40" l, .70 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 399 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Judy Blume first won legions of fans with such young adult classics as *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret* and *Forever*, in which she tackles the cultural hot button of teenage sexuality. In *Summer Sisters*, her third novel for adults, the author again explores the ramifications of love--and lust--on two friends. Initially, the differences between Caitlin Somers and Victoria Leonard (or "Vix," as Caitlin christens her) draw them together: privileged Caitlin is wild and outspoken, beautiful but emotionally fragile, while working-class Vix is shy, reserved, and plain in comparison. After Caitlin selects Vix to accompany her to her father's home in Martha's Vineyard for the summer, the two become inextricably connected as "summer sisters."

On the Vineyard, Vix and Caitlin first find love, then sex--and lots of it. Yet Blume soon moves beyond hot fun in the summer sun, tracing the romantic and familial travails of the two from pre-adolescence to adulthood. Solid Vix evolves into Victoria, an equally solid, Harvard-educated, Manhattan public-relations exec. Unpredictable Caitlin opts out of college and travels to Europe, where she has a string of short-lived affairs with a series of intriguing (in every sense of the word) foreigners. It is only after she returns to the Vineyard that Caitlin does the unthinkable, forever changing both her friendship with Vix and their lives. Blume once again proves herself a master of the female psyche, and *Summer Sisters* is likely to entertain both her postadolescent and more mature readers.

#### From School Library Journal

YA-Caitlin lives with her mother in Sante Fe, but spends summers on a New England island with her father, brother, and stepmother. Both parents give her free rein, and her beauty, independence, and talent for getting away with outrageous behavior make her an intriguing star to her middle school classmates. Victoria can't understand why Caitlin would single her out to be her "summer sister" on Martha's Vineyard as she sees herself as quiet and dull. She senses, though, that this vacation is an important turning point and convinces her conservative parents to let her go. The girls become fast friends, sharing six unforgettable summers together. The strength of the novel lies in the portrayal of those six seasons. The author provides an engaging tableau of teenage experiences, worries, and emotions. Together, the girls cope with their changing bodies, difficult family relationships, boyfriends, and concerns about their futures. After high school graduation, Victoria goes on to college and a career while Caitlin travels to Europe and spins out of control. She even marries Victoria's former lover and has his child before escaping to Europe alone again. The end of the novel seems rushed but, overall, both the story and the girls will quickly capture readers' interest. The author's perceptive treatment of special childhood moments, the trials and joys of adolescence, and the magical possibilities of summer make this an entertaining read.

*Mary Alice Giarda, Fairfax County Public Library, VA*

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#### From Library Journal

Blume goes adult again in this story of golden-girl Caitlin and working-class Vix, who share a summer on Martha's Vineyard.

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### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

**Joseph Jackson:**

This Summer Sisters: A Novel book is absolutely not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is usually information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This kind of Summer Sisters: A Novel without we understand teach the one who reading it become critical in pondering and analyzing. Don't be worry Summer Sisters: A Novel can bring once you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even telephone. This Summer Sisters: A Novel having great arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

**Catherine Scott:**

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**Debbie Gagnon:**

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