



Friend Me

Cathy Hopkins

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Lucy, Izzy, and Nesta are sassy, sparkling...and utterly smitten.

In *Mates, Dates, and Inflatable Bras*, Lucy is at a turning point. She doesn't feel like she fits in with her friends Izzie and Nesta. Then Lucy sees the most wonderful boy, and things start to change -- in all areas of her life.

Izzie is smitten with Mark in *Mates, Dates, and Cosmic Kisses*. When Izzie cancels plans just so she's available if Mark should call, Lucy and Nesta know they need to intervene. But how can they help when Izzie is convinced that she and Mark are destined to be together?

Nesta meets a boy of her own in *Mates, Dates, and Designer Divas*. Simon is rich and his lifestyle is totally glamorous. So is his friend Cressida. But competing for Simon's affections could cost Nesta more than she anticipated.

Friend Me Details

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Author : Cathy Hopkins

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From Reader Review Friend Me for online ebook

Sarah Ray says

While reading the first book of Friend Me, I fell in love with Lucy as the main character, and her older crush Tony. I loved everything about them, their innocence when together, the way she was so head over heels for him, but most of all, the way that she changed him. Tony was such a free spirit, flying through girls each week, but not Lucy. She was different to him, she made him crazy. Nesta, Tony's sister did not approve, as she knew of his I appealing past with girls. While lovable, wise Izzie only warned her to be cautious. But what Lucy really wants is to look older and fit in with her friends. She soon finds what she wants to do, and that being make clothing. She really found her calling as she's amazing at it.

In the second book, you're following the life of Izzie, Lucy's friend. Izzie is the group's "hippie". Although she's an only child with an uptight neat freak mother, all she wants is to be "clean". Izzie says that to do so you must eat natural and healthy foods, but that's the last thing her mother and stepfather have time for. Izzie loves songwriting and has a good voice but is too shy to show it. For someone who goes through that I find Izzie very relatable.

Nesta, oh, Nesta. Will she ever be accepted into Lucy and Izzie's group? Eventually. Nesta is a beauty queen of only 14, and gets just about every guy that looks her way. When she introduces Lucy and Iz to her brother Tony, there may be hope after all. She soon finds out that this is Lucy's dream boy and can only feel sorry for her. Nesta knows good and well of Tony's reputation with girls and doesn't want Lucy to get hurt. But in the end everything's okay and the three girls decide it would be an awful mistake not to be a best friend threesome.

Kelly says

This book contains three volumes about three fourteen-year-old girls in London, with each volume narrated by a different girl. The stories explore the themes of self-discovery, friendship, and confidence, all of interest to young girls, but it's done in such a heavy-handed way as to be almost completely unrealistic. There are many more YA books that explore these themes with much greater success. The author also uses a good deal of British slang that might be inaccessible to some readers, and refers to current events in a way that will quickly date the book. Finally, I don't know if the text ever saw a copyeditor; not only were there typos, but also appalling errors along the lines of there/their misuse and tense changes in the middle of paragraphs. I feel completely indifferent to this book, and am only grateful that, despite its 497 pages, it was a very quick read.

RSterling says

Friend Me is a reprint of the first three books in the Mates, Dates series. It includes Mates, Dates, and Inflatable Bras; Mates, Dates, and Cosmic Kisses; and Mates, Dates, and Designer Divas. The three stories are cute, British :) and have a common coming-of-age theme. The writing is also easy to read and the titles have really clever relations to the stories inside. However I believe it is the characters that made this series. Izzie, Lucy and Nesta are each amazingly different and special teens and it is their quirks and attitudes that

keep these books, or reprint book, enjoyable. This is the perfect book series for any girl in her middle school/awkward phase. I wouldn't suggest it to kids any older though because the themes are rather young and the topics are slightly exaggerated. Still, it was a "sassy" read.

Rhea Loire says

These three books in one are a super fast, and fairly cute read. Although these characters are in their early teens their struggles reminded me of many that I have had, and I will very shortly start books 4-6. I like how each story is a continuation yet from a different girls perspective. It gives more insight into each girl with out being to repetitive in the story line

kitty cué says

One Star, it should deserve none.

I started reading this book and the plot is okay.

But I'm really, really mad! I'm pissed! Because of how badly is written! Seriously I don't mind that the word are weird because of LONDON but when you write a book you correct it! That's why you guys have editors and stuff!

I THINK I will finish the book but let me tell you. Is a waist of money (\$9.00) to be written like this!

Learn to write first! And The computer can even check your work!

Sincerely Karla P.C.

I just read till page 338 and it sucks sorry.

706sarah says

Friend Me was a very friendly, and warm book that showed how friendships can really work out if you care about them and you work to make them better, and stronger. It reminded me of : "Things only come out the way you want them to if you work at it." My parents always say that to me. At first I thought Friend me was going to be about Facebook, and that was okay, but i definitely preferred learning about friendships a little more. I liked the fact that they switched perspectives, and I could really see how each girl thought about their friendship with the other two girls, and how they could make it stronger. For example; Nesta, being the new girl to the treo and all she talked about them like they were her true friends, and would do anything for them. Once she got her pocket money back, she bought them each gifts because she was so sorry. That's how she normally made up with them, she apologized and gave them a gift. That's how she made their friendship stronger, she gave them something that represented her and them. It couldn't be forgotten.

I also didn't like this book. I felt like they forgave each other very easily. I know that it's very hard to write out a long fight, and not have it get too boring, so Cathy Hopkins did do a good job, but i feel like having longer fights might've made their friendship stronger. And maybe not buying them presents all the time, and

just face them with a sincere apology might've also been stronger, and a bit more realistic. I do think Nesta was brave though, instead of texting them she went over and faced them face to face. That definitely worked better, and I wish I could have enough courage to do that. I normally text my friends, but than again I don't get into so many fights.

Overall, I think Cathy Hopkins did a good impersonation of really getting into a teenage character. They sounded like 14 year old girls, especially the way they talked about boys. Although they were super nice for their age. I have friends like Isobel, Nesta, and Lucy and I hope we are all still very close to each other at that age. And I hope I am that nice, although I have no doubts I won't be.

Natasha says

These were the first books I really enjoyed in teen fiction so I decided to reread them because I like Cathy Hopkins. This is the first volume containing the first three books in the series and I forgot how hilarious these were. This book follows Lucy, Nesta and Izzie and them beginning to take an interest in boys. This starts with Lucy who finds herself fancying Nesta's older brother Tony, she is trying to figure out who and what she wants to be. The second is about Izzie who begins with dying her hair green for the wedding of her stepsister, only for her family to be very annoyed and get angry because she is different wanting to be healthy and not be a perfectionist like her mother. The third book is about Nesta who starts off being on a train and falling on a guy called Simon and them going out with his snooty friends who instantly takes a dislike to her. Her mother is also going through tough times as she doesn't know if her contract will be renewed for her news job.

Julie G. says

Friend Me:

Three Best Friends Forever?

Lucy and Izzie are best friends. When Nesta comes along, are the three of them going to be best friends, or will one of them be excluded from the group? In the book *Friend Me*, by Cathy Hopkins, Lucy and Izzie have been inseparable for as long as they can remember. When Nesta moves in to London, Izzie invites her into their group. Lucy hasn't figured out if Nesta likes her or not. When Lucy sees a boy from the fancy boys private school, it's love at first sight. Lucy tells Izzie and Nesta about him, and she wants to know who the "mystery boy" is. When Lucy sees Nesta's older brother, Tony, she realizes that he is the "mystery boy." How is she going to tell them? The plot becomes more complicated when Nesta tells Tony about Lucy's crush and she wants to know who he is. Tony tries to help find who the "mystery boy" is. When Tony volunteers to give Lucy kissing lessons, she doesn't know what to do. After she kisses him, Izzie and Nesta find out that the "mystery boy" is Tony. In this realistic fiction novel, Lucy faces three conflicts. She has to decide if she wants to include Nesta into her group, whether to reveal her secret that Nesta's brother is "mystery boy," and she has to choose between her best friends, or Tony.

In *Friend Me*, one of the conflicts Lucy has to face is whether she will include Nesta into her group. Since fourth grade, Lucy hasn't been sure whether to include Nesta as her friend or not. Lucy's best friend, Izzie, tells Lucy that Nesta is so nice and amazing. In the book, Izzie tries telling Lucy, "She needs friends. She's not as sure of herself as she makes out. I know she acts all tough, like she doesn't need anyone or care about what anyone thinks of her but I just found her at the bus stop, crying" (p.19). Lucy doesn't know if Nesta

likes her and if she could be her friend. Lucy feels sorry for Nesta and tries hard to be nice to her. She must decide if she is nice enough to join their group.

Another conflict that Lucy has to face is whether to reveal her secret that Nesta's brother is the "mystery boy." When Lucy sees a boy she likes at the fancy boy's private school, she realizes she wants to know who he is. She tells Izzie and Nesta about him. When Lucy sees Nesta's brother, Tony, she realizes that he is the mystery boy. Lucy says to Izzie, "Oh, my god, that's him, the guy who Nesta is walking with" (p.60). As Nesta comes up to Izzie and Lucy, she tells them that Tony is her brother. Nesta also tells her brother that Lucy likes a boy that goes to his school and maybe he can help her find out who he is. When Izzie and Nesta find out that Tony is "mystery boy," they become mad that Lucy didn't tell them when she knew that he was the "mystery boy."

The last conflict that Lucy faces is she has to choose between her best friends, or her crush, Tony. When Tony finally asks Lucy out, she says yes. When Izzie and Nesta ask Lucy to hang out, Lucy says no. Lucy will have to choose between her best friends, or the love of her life. In the end, Lucy finally makes her decision.

In this realistic fiction novel, Lucy faces three conflicts. She has to decide if she wants to include Nesta into her group, whether to reveal her secret that Nesta's brother is "mystery boy," and she has to choose between her best friends, or Tony. If I were in Lucy's position, I would definitely choose Izzie and Nesta because long-lasting friendship is more important than a crush. I would hate to have my best friends mad at me because of a crush. If they are good friends, they will always be there for you know matter what happens. Also, I learned to stick with what is really important to you - friendship. Stay with the people who have been through everything with you. This was an amazing book about friendship and I rate it four out of five stars.

Syira says

These girls need to grow up

Annie says

I am severely impressed with the speed I've finished this book.

I feel as if this book was a bit boring in the beginning, when it was written in Lucy's POV. I was in the mood for a interesting beginning, and this book began in the worst way imaginable. It picked up soon after that, though. Some of her worries are so similar to what I feel, and I feel as if I can relate to the characters.

Especially about the boys, haha. Though in real life they aren't "dropping gorgeous" and have startling colorful eyes.

I've noticed *a lot* of grammatical errors while reading this. Sometimes finding a quotation mark at the beginning, and they aren't even talking! I frowned when I saw this, and I think that they should re-read this book. It had more than one wrong use of grammar. Once I even found they ended a sentence with a comma, not a period. Shocking, I know.

It's very obvious that this tale is written in the United Kingdom, and the way they spoke. For example, the word *loo* and *snog*. Loo is the British word for bathroom, snog is to kiss in American English. Though sometimes I found that if the author stuck to American grammar, it would help lots. I guess British people spell *realize* REALISE. And I just want to grit my teeth, burn the book, then spread the ashes all over my dogs dog house. I don't know, just the thought of their grammar, uiehnfkjdshfksdjh.

In the second book, *Mates, Dates, and Cosmic Kisses*, I was horrified with the petty problems. And the weak sense of characterization, oh my!

I feel as if they should include more romance. It seemed more as a side-genre, and if there was a bit more it would seem fitting to the titles, as you see the word *Dates*.

Overall, I'm actually liking this book, if you see my ratings. I follow the GR ratings based on what GR says: One star if I didn't like it, two stars if it was okay, three if I liked it, four if I really liked it, and five if it was amazing.

Lindsay says

Since my best friend and I both agreed that life is too serious and so is everything in YA lately, we both went to the bookstore and decided to pick out a few much needed chick lit books. At least, I bought some chick lit anyways. She went straight back to the dramatic stuff ;)

Friend Me isn't life-changing or traumatizing or anything mildly surprising. Probably because I've gone through all these moments before in my life as most people have. And even if this wasn't my favorite book of all time, it was definitely what I needed: cute! I've been in such a reading slump as of late and I didn't even bother trying to get out of it.

So yes, I'm still in love with the ever dramatic YA and the intense Dystopian but honestly? I needed a break. And I'm probably going to squeeze in a few more chick lit books before I return to my classics. Everybody needs to mix it up here and there and that's exactly what I needed. And honestly, I can't wait to get the next book.

What's next on the reading agenda? The Duff by Kody Keplinger!

Rating: 3.5 out of 5 Stars

Mpho says

its a very interesting book. it opened my eyes mostly in cases that the friends i have are they true to me or is it just a current friendship that is going to end in some few days or weeks.

706Sacha says

this book was okay, it wasn't great but it wasn't bad

Kenzie says

OMG sooooooo many spelling problems!

Patricia says

In this book Lucy is starting to think that she doesn't fit in with her friends Nesta and Izzie. She spots this incredible looking guy. Then her life changes in all different areas. There was an internal conflict with Lucy. She was trying to decide if she should be nice to Nesta or not. The main characters are Lucy, Izzie, and Nesta. The setting is in London.

Text to Self. Lucy had decided she needed to have some things changed in her life. She did it to feel older and get guys to notice her. I could connect to this because I had decided I needed a small change in life as well. Even though the reasons for change were different, we both still wanted the change.

I gave this book 4 stars because I thought it was a cool book. I love books that have best friends and their stories. This shows that even though you are different it's okay.
