



## The Girls from Corona del Mar (Vintage Contemporaries)

By Ruffi Thorpe

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**The Girls from Corona del Mar (Vintage Contemporaries)** By Ruffi Thorpe

Best friends Mia and Lorrie Ann couldn't be more different; where Mia is reckless and proudly hard-hearted, Lorrie Ann is kind, serenely beautiful, and seemingly immune to the kind of teenage mistakes that Mia can't help but make.

But within a few years, fortunes change. Suddenly, Mia is free to grow up and adventure, falling in and out of love while Lorrie Ann is weighed down by responsibilities at home. And when good, nice, brave Lorrie Ann stops being so good, Mia must question how well she ever really knew her best friend in the first place.

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## The Girls from Corona del Mar (Vintage Contemporaries) By Ruff Thorpe Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

**An Amazon Best Book of the Month, July 2014:** While much of pop culture might have you believe otherwise, the most important relationship a young woman has is not always with her first love, or even, say, with her father. It is with her best friend, the one to whom she tells everything about her sexual encounters, the one who accompanies her to medical procedures, the one who sometimes forgives but never forgets. As Rufi Thorpe demonstrates so vividly in her debut *The Girls from Corona del Mar*, the one we grow up with is the one we love forever—even well after we've grown apart. Lorrie Ann seems perfect: gorgeous, smart, and charming, while her best friend Mia, while brainy and attractive, has a more deliberative personality, and an alcoholic parent, to boot. If biology were destiny, it would be Lorrie Ann who succeeded most in life—except that bad choices and bad breaks intervened. Over nearly two decades, we watch Mia try to come to terms with her friend's struggles and to understand why things didn't go as planned. Occasionally, graduate-student Mia feels pretentious—her obsession with her PhD project, ancient Babylonian myth, is grating—and the way Lorrie Ann's life unfolds can be contrived. But because of Thorpe's raw and intelligent voice, this book stays with you. Mia calls her time in school “those seven strenuous years of tugging myself slowly toward excellence,” and explains Lorrie Ann's attraction to an inappropriate mate this way: “She wanted to pick him up and shake him up and down until all the amazing things inside of him came out . . . [like] . . . the fallen candy from a piñata.” You may not like either of these women all the time, but you'll likely recognize them, and find it hard to turn away. --Sara Nelson

From [Booklist](#)

Best friends since high school, Lorrie Ann and Mia couldn't be more different. Lorrie Ann comes from a happy and close-knit religious family; Mia desperately tries to take care of her alcoholic mother and troubled younger brothers. Lorrie Ann is a typical “good girl”; Mia ends up getting an abortion at 15. But Lorrie Ann's fortunes change after her father dies in a car accident. Shortly after their high-school graduation, she gets pregnant and marries her boyfriend; her baby is born injured due to malpractice during the birth; her husband joins the army and dies in Iraq. Eventually, she ends up in a messy and unhealthy relationship and turns to drugs to quiet her demons. Meanwhile, Mia has escaped to Yale but can't quite forget her friend, whom she compares to a goddess. As time and distance separate the women, narrator Mia recounts every time the women tried (and mostly failed) to reconnect. This literary novel will leave readers questioning the myths and realities of complicated relationships. --Rebecca Vnuk

Review

**Nominated for the International Dylan Thomas Prize**

**Nominated for the Flaherty-Dunn First Novel Prize**

“A ravishing, stay-up-all-night reading kind of novel—a sad, funny, almost impossibly good debut.”

—*MORE*

“I'm still thinking and dreaming about this book and the heartbreakingly real women I met in its pages.”

—Emily Gould, author of *Friendship*

“A slim book that leaves a deep impression. . . . Depicts friendship with affection and brutality, rendering all its love and heartbreak in painstaking strokes.” —*Los Angeles Times*

“Just when you believe the ubiquitous ‘literature is dead’ declarations are true, there comes a novel like *The Girls from Corona del Mar*.” —*The Boston Herald*

“A knockout. . . . Worldly, rambunctious, feminist, morally interrogative.” —*Elle*

“Will nail you right in the heart.” —Ben Fountain, author of *Billy Lynn’s Long Halftime Walk*

“A gratifyingly honest dispatch from the battle lines of young womanhood.” —*Entertainment Weekly*

“One of those rare books that breaks down the wall between reality and fiction; the entire time I read this book I ached as if it were my own best friend whose life was unraveling before me. . . . Ruff Thorpe is a brilliant writer.” —Vanessa Diffenbaugh, bestselling author of *The Language of Flowers*

“Female friendship gets its literary due. . . . [A] beautifully unfiltered study of two lives in parallel, and the confluence and reversal that gives shape to each.” —*Vogue.com*

“[A] funny, sad, delightful debut.” —Anton DiSclafani, author of *The Yonahlossee Riding Camp for Girls*

“Elegant yet intense . . . . Take the time to get to know *The Girls from Corona del Mar* and contemplate the beautiful and thorny—even agonizing—sides of friendship.” —*BookPage*

“Ruff Thorpe’s open-hearted, open-eyed debut tells the engrossing story of a long friendship between two complex women. . . . Generous, soulful, and tough.” —Maggie Shipstead, bestselling author of *Seating Arrangements* and *Astonish Me*

“Powerful” —*The Huffington Post*

“Full of heart. As Thorpe chronicles a complicated friendship across decades, continents and reversals in fortune, she brings to life two unforgettable characters.” —J. Courtney Sullivan, bestselling author of *Maine* and *The Engagements*

“Enchanting.” —*Glamour*

“I could say this is a remarkable debut by a gifted new voice in fiction; or that it’s a beautiful, nuanced portrait of a difficult friendship; or that it has something entirely new to say about how we approach and occupy motherhood. But really, what’s most impressive is its incredible vitality, its searing intensity.” —Ann

Packer, bestselling author of *The Dive from Clausen's Pier*

“Rich and introspective, *The Girls from Corona del Mar* is a friendship story with the literary refinement such ‘best friends stories’ deserve.” —PopMatters.com

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Dominique Fletcher:**

Does one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt if you find yourself in the book store? Attempt to pick one book that you just don't know the inside because don't determine book by its handle may doesn't work this is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not seeing that fantastic as in the outside seem likes. Maybe your answer could be *The Girls from Corona del Mar* (Vintage Contemporaries) why because the amazing cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint you actually. The inside or content will be fantastic as the outside or perhaps cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly make suggestions to pick up this book.

#### **Allison Devore:**

You could spend your free time to read this book this reserve. This *The Girls from Corona del Mar* (Vintage Contemporaries) is simple to develop you can read it in the park, in the beach, train and soon. If you did not include much space to bring often the printed book, you can buy the e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save the particular book in your smart phone. Therefore there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

#### **Robert King:**

That reserve can make you to feel relax. That book *The Girls from Corona del Mar* (Vintage Contemporaries) was bright colored and of course has pictures on there. As we know that book *The Girls from Corona del Mar* (Vintage Contemporaries) has many kinds or genre. Start from kids until adolescents. For example *Naruto* or *Investigator Conan* you can read and think you are the character on there. Therefore not at all of book are usually make you bored, any it can make you feel happy, fun and rest. Try to choose the best book for you and try to like reading in which.

#### **April Baker:**

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