



A Questionable Friendship

Samantha March

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Brynne Ropert and Portland Dolish have been best friends since being paired as roommates in college. Seven years later they are now twenty-five, married, and living in Maine— but the two women couldn't be more different. Brynne finds fulfillment in her life as a wife, mother and owner of a small café and bookshop, but is struggling to expand her family. Portland is still coping with her mother's death during her childhood, and her marriage is unraveling before her eyes. Portland envies her friend's seemingly stable and easy life while Brynne doesn't understand the growing distance between them and cannot begin to guess what secret Portland is hiding about her husband and crumbling marriage. While one woman feels shut out, the other enters into a web of lies to protect herself.

A Questionable Friendship explores what really makes someone a true friend, a support system, a sister. How much trust goes into a friendship and when is being a friend not enough? Brynne and Portland's story will attempt to answer those questions, and show that happily ever after isn't in the cards for everyone.

A Questionable Friendship Details

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From Reader Review A Questionable Friendship for online ebook

Becca Price says

You can read my full review on my blog, www.asprettyasapeach.com. It contains slight spoilers, this review here will not.

Overall, I rated this at about a 2.5 on my blog. The good? This novel shows a side to friendship that we all have as women. No one tells their best friend everything, especially when they think their best friend's life is going great in comparison. However, there was a lot of not so good in the novel as well. That being said, I am going to continue to read from this author because I saw a potential.

The bad? There were grammar and spelling mistakes a few times, which bugs people like me who are literary freaks. I also didn't think it was realistic. Brynne had a perfect life, and honestly, the issue that arose for her seemed half-assed (read my review on my blog for details). It just seemed like she needed a problem but the author didn't go all the way for her to have a real problem. For Portland, she seemed like an afterthought a lot for me. She had filler scenes that meant nothing and she didn't seem as likable to me. She was boring and her ending was thrown together in a really weird way for me.

Overall, I'll definitely read more from this author because there was a good storyline, it just wasn't full executed.

Nicole Maclellan says

Left me wanting more

I enjoyed this book and watching the characters develop but the ending seemed abrupt and I felt that there were still unanswered questions about each of the characters.

Renee says

Friends for a reason, friends for a season, or friends for a lifetime? After being best friends for seven years, Brynne and Portland seem to be friends for a lifetime, but they still have some secrets from each other. Does being best friends mean you have to share everything? There are many reasons you might want to keep a secret: fear of being judged, denial, protecting someone, embarrassment, privacy, and the list goes on. If you don't tell each other everything, does that mean you really are friends?

In this contemporary women's fiction, Samantha March explores the relationship between two friends. The novel kept me engaged the whole way through. I found both Brynne and Portland likeable and relatable characters. The plot took a twist I wasn't expecting which took the story onto a whole new level. I loved how the epilogue wrapped everything up and answered all my questions. This is the first novel I have read by Samantha March, but it won't be the last.

Allie Smith says

I loved this compelling story is about the friendship between two women who appear to have very similar lives. Portland and Brynne have been best friends since they were in college. Brynne is married to her college sweetheart and the mother of an adorable three year old. She owns her own business, a bookstore and café, and is eager to add to her happy family. Portland is also married, to a successful gym owner, and although she doesn't need the income, she works for Brynne at the bookstore (much to the chagrin of her husband). The two couples get together at least once a week and vacation together – they're family. Everything seems perfect, except of course it's not.

Brynn has a health scare that she initially keeps from Portland. Portland hides her growing dissatisfaction with her marriage from Brynne. For reasons I can't reveal in a review, both woman are reluctant to confess their fears to each other, which causes them to drift apart.

The book is well written, especially the dialogue, and cleverly plotted. Although it's different from Samantha March's previous books, it's still an engrossing story that you'll have difficulty putting down – in fact, I read it over two snowed in days, with four children bustling about! I really liked both Brynne and Portland, who are well developed characters. I understood their motivations, even as I was frustrated by one woman's inability to ask for help. The author really broke my heart in some scenes and I know that this story will stay with me for quite a while. It'll make you look at your own friends and wonder what secrets they may be keeping from you.

I give it a 4 1/2 stars.

Kayla says

I received this book in exchange for an honest review. I loved this book. It tells the true story of what happens in a friendship when you think everything is perfect. It's a story of friendship and internal relationships with yourself. It saddened me that at times while reading about how the girls viewed one another's lives, I thought about how I view my own friend's lives and it's unfair to judge them cause you never will know the whole story. I think I enjoyed this book so much because of that, it gets you thinking. Almost every woman I know has been guilty of doing that one time or another. Samantha has a great way of connecting the story to real life situations that woman go through, she's an amazing story teller. I highly recommend this 5 star book as a book club book or to anyone who likes a novel that gets you thinking.

k718.wordpress.com

Andrea Murray says

I received a copy of this novel in exchange for an honest review.

Looking for a realistic read with drama and heart? If you are, this one's for you. I'm not typically a fan of realistic fiction, preferring instead to escape into the otherworldly, but A Questionable Friendship drew me in. For me, the most engaging part of the novel was Brynne's brush with mortality. Recently, I had a very challenging episode when I had my first mammogram. I spent the day draped in a wraparound gown with a room of other anxious women awaiting results from my scan then chewing my nails and texting my husband

when I was given a more diagnostic test. By the time we moved on to an ultrasound, I was in tears, thinking how unfair it was that women spend their lives dealing with boobs and Pap tests. I also sympathized with her need to and inability to conceive. The tension, the pressure, Brynne experienced really resonated with me. And who hasn't dealt with friendship issues? We've all had those friends that we really loved become distant and drift from us. The love and eventual distance between Portland and Brynne dredged up some regrets of my own.

I have to admit I was a little envious of the love between Aaron and Brynne. He was perfect, maybe bit too much, but hey, everybody loves a romance! I was surprised by the twist with Portland, but I had some difficulty actually seeing the event as completely plausible even seeing all the problems she and Trent were having, and I'd rather the epilogue have been Brynne sometime in the distant future, possibly seeing her a few years distant from the climax. Overall, though, this was is a great, chick read.

4 Stars

Elise Hedlund says

This book was a lot of fun! Samantha March is one of my favorite Youtubers, so I was super excited to pick up her book, and it did not disappoint! The story was fun and interesting, and I don't read a lot of realistic fiction centered on adults, but I enjoyed it. The characters were believable and I was rooting for them the whole way through. The ending wasn't my personal favorite, but it also was believable yet unexpected, and it definitely wasn't bad. My favorite part of the book was the relationships, especially between the two main characters. I liked the take on friendships and other relationships. Overall, I really enjoyed it!

Melissa says

<http://www.chicklitcentral.com/2014/0...>

Jeanne says

Wow! So couldnt put down!!

When I first started reading this, I thought for sure one friend was going to end up with the other friends spouse or something. Totally didn't see this ending and I loved it! I'm all for anything this author puts out to print! She's a great YouTuber as well for beauty!

Chineka Williams says

The friendship between Portland and Brynne was very believable. Too often we sometimes try to keep up appearances, not realizing that everyone is going through something. The issues discussed in this novel are all too real and happen in everyday life. Samantha kept you engaged throughout the whole book.

Tracy Link says

Wow. What an incredible, powerful book

Mrs Mommy Booknerd <http://mrsmommybooknerd.blogspot.com> says

March has really evolved as a writer. With each new book her voice became so much more defined, polished. A QUESTIONABLE FRIENDSHIP is one of her best books to date. I love that March does not fear difficult topics. She takes these topics on head first and creates a wonderful backdrop for her story. She seems to find a way to make you feel connected to the characters; to their struggles and to their joys. A QUESTIONABLE FRIENDSHIP is an emotional read, but one that causes you to become retrospective about your own friendships and relationships. 4 stars

Janice Hurst says

True friendship never dies!

It really took me a long time to get into this book. I felt it was very juvenile in the beginning. It was almost like a high schooler was writing it for a class project. About half way thru it started to have depth and meaning and the characters came alive. It was at that point, I didn't want to put it down. Every woman should read this book. The message is that important.

Nikki Barrett says

4.5 stars/Lightning Bolts

Best friends are a big part of one's life. Lifelong friends. Someone you share secrets with. Someone you can laugh, cry, and get angry at other people with. Someone who knows you, loves you, and sticks by you.

What happens when life changes? When that friendship is tested?

It's not something you really want to think about, but it happens, doesn't it?

Meet Brynne and Portland. Best friends for so long. Now, they're older, and life is taking its toll. Each are married and adjusting to whatever life throws their way. But one is holding back, keeping things in, and it may just put a strain on that friendship.

The story is written in first person, switching from Brynne and Portland's POV. We as the reader get a big glimpse at their struggles, trials and triumphs. Samantha March pens a story with so much truth and reality to it, I found it so hard to put this down when I really needed sleep at night. I needed to know how things were going to play out. What was going to happen to this friendship? The truth of the matter is, things like this happen all too often. I could see myself and others in both of these ladies. I think this author gets better and better with each book she writes and I'm looking forward to the future.

Hilary Grossman says

I like to joke that I can tell my life story to anyone who will listen. However when I am very upset or more accurately worried about something I clam up. I keep my feelings all bottled up. Sometimes I share them with those closest to me. But most of the time I hold dearly onto my fears afraid to voice them.

This personality trait is probably why A Questionable Friendship resonated so much with me. This trait was central to the story and was why I was able to relate so much to the two main characters, Brynne Ropert and Portland Dolish. On the outside these two women are best friends. They met in college and instantly became besties. Seven years later, although their lives are quite different, they still consider themselves the best of friends. But as they find themselves facing major obstacles and challenges rather than seek their friend out and confide in her they keep secrets. Their friendship is tested in so many ways. As you read their story you can't help but wonder what really does make a friend?

A Questionable Friendship was a true page turner. It captured my interest from the very first page and I read it in one sitting. I loved how the chapters alternated between Brynne's and Portland's point of view, allowing the reader to really get to know both woman. Brynne's young daughter was hysterically cute and I instantly fell in love with her. But it was the epilogue that really was my favorite part. It was amazing! As I read the last few pages I knew that this book, and especially the ending, would haunt me (in a good way) for many days to come.... I totally recommend this book!
