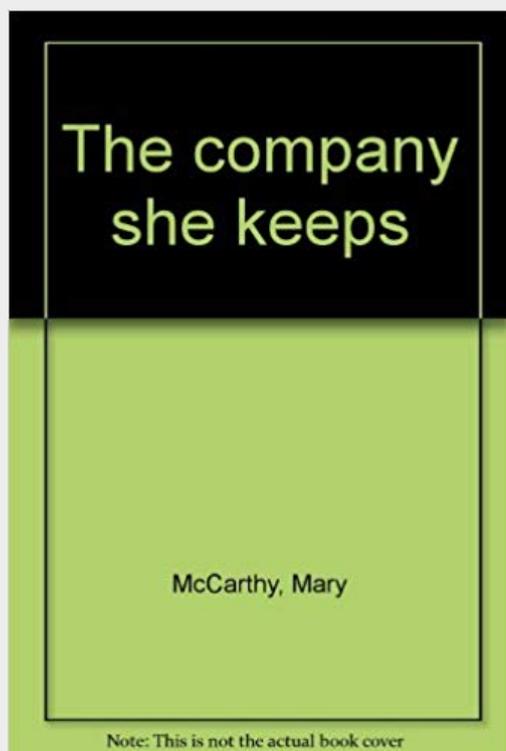


The Company She Keeps *by* Mary McCarthy



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ISBN: 0380555093

ISBN13: 978-0380555093

Author: Mary McCarthy

Book title: The Company She Keeps

Pages: 223

Publisher: Avon Books (1981)

Language: English

Category: Contemporary

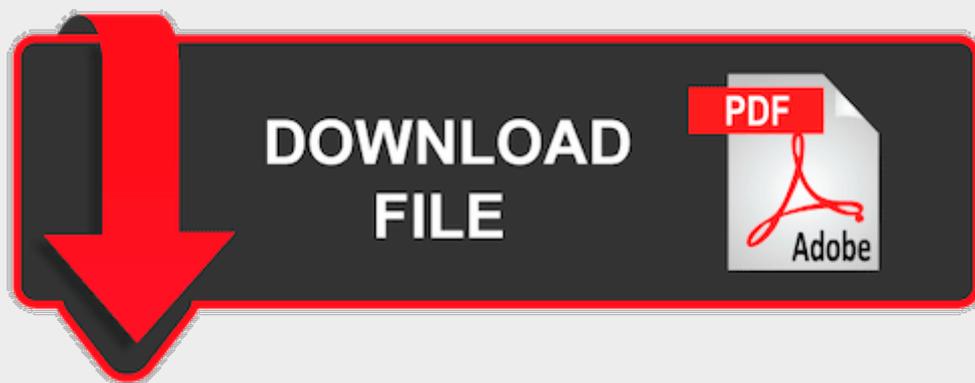
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Reviews of the *The Company She Keeps* *by* Mary McCarthy

1. Flas

Writing that has stood the test of time! Witty, insightful, wry. The politics of the era may be hard for some contemporary readers to track.

2. Zodama

Superb prose and a well-conceived story line bringing to life the world of leftist politics and "liberated" intellectual women in the New York of the 1930s and 1940s.

3. Cetnan

Wonderful excursion back in time...loved the characters and the story

4. Rocksmith

Read these stories 30 years ago in college....still fresh, funny, Great writer.

5. Shaktit

satisfactory

6. Faulkree

An unblinking gaze cast upon everyone, including herself. I swear I heard chords first struck by Evelyn Waugh in some of her passages, but McCarthy's project was different from his and very much her own. I especially value her willingness to acknowledge that many 1930's New York intellectuals were actually mincing -- effete? -- snobs.

7. Tehn

Excellent!

8. The Company She Keeps was Mary McCarthy's first novel (as noted above) and follows the life of Margaret Sargent from her first divorce through the life of a gay divorcee to a strained remarriage. Margaret tries to live the life of a twenties heroine (her ideas of the free life very reminiscent of Fitzgerald) but the context of this time had completely irrevocably changed.

The book covers the prewar period with the infighting on the left and the politics of Trotsky and Spain, the coming war and sexual freedom.

McCarthy writes with incision and great wisdom, mocking, mourning, and loving her characters all at the same time.

The only problem with the book is that it was originally not a book at all, but several short stories on a theme. As such, it hangs together remarkably well, but before I knew that it had been short stories first I was already puzzled by some of the abrupt jumps and breaks.

This is the first Mary McCarthy I've read, but I will certainly be reading more. Highly recommended.

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