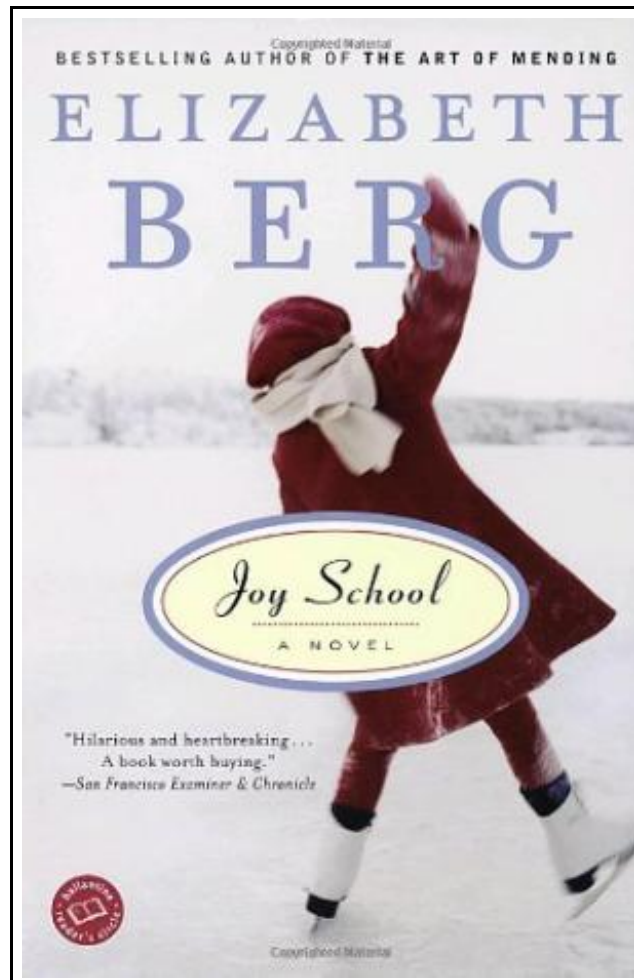


Joy School (Ballantine Reader's Circle)



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Reviews

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(Prof. Damon Kautzer III)

JOY SCHOOL (BALLANTINE READER'S CIRCLE)



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Ballantine Books, 1998. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: "Hilarious and heartbreaking . . . A book worth buying." San Francisco Examiner & Chronicle "IF YOU ONLY READ ONE BOOK THIS YEAR, LET IT BE THIS ONE." Richmond Times Dispatch "A STORY THAT TUGS AT THE HEARTSTRINGS. . . Thirteen-year-old Katie is new to her Missouri town, living alone with a stern, inaccessible father following her mother's death. Unable to fit in at school, she forges alliances where she can: with her housekeeper, with a pimply fellow misfit named Cynthia, and with the gorgeous Taylor, who gets her kicks out of shoplifting. Most frustrating of all is Katie's imperfect friendship with the proprietor of a local gas station, a handsome twenty-three-year-old who shares her love of checkers but doesn't return her crush. With humor and an eye for telling detail, Berg conveys the way each unpromising element of Katie's life ultimately offers her more than she had anticipated." People "[A] PAINFULLY ACCURATE TALE OF FIRST LOVE . . . Berg can conjure character with a minimum of words and a rainbow of nuance. The reader misses Katie the instant the book ends." Publishers Weekly (starred review) "A FUNNY, SWEET, COMING-OF-AGE NARRATIVE . . . Its heart and wit will remind Berg's fans why her writing is so eminently likable." Chicago Tribune "If you remember the heart-slammng intensity of your own first love, Joy School will recall the pain and exhilaration that intersect when that love is unrequited. Berg's peripheral characters are a treat: Vivid and quirky, they do more than fill in the background. These are people who encourage the reader to imagine what their own stories would be." St. Louis PostDispatch "Growing up is hurtful, humorous, petty, and very, very serious....



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