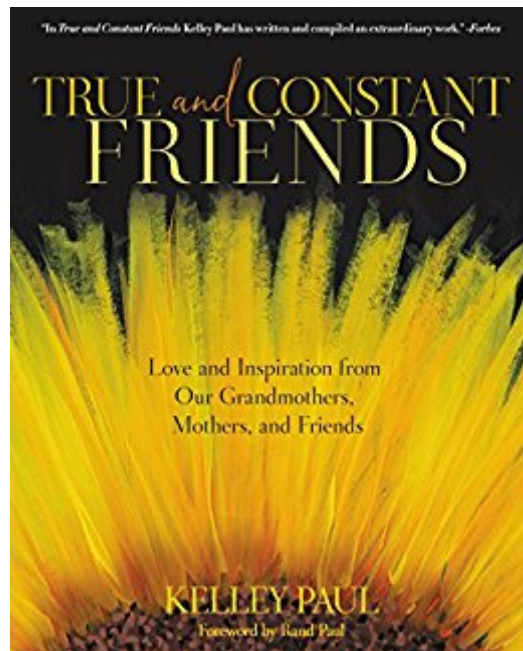


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# True And Constant Friends: Love And Inspiration From Our Grandmothers, Mothers, And Friends



## Synopsis

Kelley Paul, wife of Senator Rand Paul, celebrates lifelong friendships in a beautifully illustrated book about the female bond. Feeling blessed to be one of seven friends who met and grew close in college-and looking forward to their celebration of a milestone birthday together-Kelley Paul wanted to know more about the women who were their first sources of love and inspiration, as her own grandmother and mother have been to her. So she asked each friend to tell her the story of a woman who influenced and guided her, who fostered her sense of joy, independence and courage. As you read each one, you'll discover, as Kelley did, that they're the stories of women everywhere, for they are personal yet universal, ordinary yet extraordinary. This lovely book also features works of art by the women of HomeFront Family Preservation Center and wise words of female authors and poets.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I suppose I should disclose that I am not a particular fan of Rand Paul as a politician, but the book is almost entirely devoid of politics, and my political views (and Rand Paul's) had no effect, I believe,

on the review. True and Constant Friends is a series of love letters from author Kelley Paul (wife of Rand) to relatives and a group of friends she formed a close bond with in college (and, to their credit, has maintained since). When I say "love letters," I don't mean the term literally but instead mean a series of writings that express deep love of those who have helped, shaped, befriended, guided, and loved her. The picture that emerges of Kelley Paul is a good one. She seems to be firmly grounded and is apparently a stalwart friend to those she befriends. I have no doubt that every word in this book is sincere and expresses her heartfelt love for the people she discusses. For the most part, she does a very good job bringing the people she discusses to life and an excellent job in selecting the quotations that appear throughout the book and add to her words. And when others tell their stories (for example, when Kelley Paul's friends tell of their influences), the same qualities come through: sincerity, love, and appreciation. My only real objection is that the book seems too personal. Reading it, I felt like an outsider, as if, were I seated across from Kelley Paul or one of her friends hearing these stories, I would nod politely and smile at the appropriate times but realize that her words have much, much more meaning for her than for me. And so I give the book three stars for that gap. I have two small other complaints. The first is that I think the book is over-written. It could have benefited from a bit more authorial restraint and tighter editing.

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