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29
A Novel
by
ADENA HALPERN

Advance Praise for 29:

“A joyful fairy tale that will sweep you up and captivate you from start to finish. Sweet, funny, and tender.” – **Karen Quinn, author of *The Ivy Chronicles* and *Wife in the Fast Lane***

“Take an ingenious idea for a plot, combine it with likable characters and genuine heart and you’ve got ‘29’...A skillfully told story that will appeal to 29-year-olds of all ages.” - **Jane Heller, bestselling author of *Name Dropping* and *An Ex to Grind***

What if you closed your eyes, blew out the candles and your wish came true? Ellie Jerome is a young-at-heart 75-year old who relates more to her 29-year old granddaughter Lucy than to her 55-year old daughter Barbara. Ellie’s done everything she can to stay young, and the last thing she wants is to celebrate another birthday. So when she finds herself confronted with a cake full of candles, Ellie wishes more than anything that she could be twenty-nine again, just for one day. But who expects a wish like that to come true?

29: *A Novel* (Touchstone Books/Simon & Schuster Trade Paperback Original; July 15, 2010; ISBN: 978-1-4391-7112-7; \$14.99) by Adena Halpern is the story of three generations of women—Ellie, Barbara and

Lucy—and how this one magical day shakes up everything they know about each other. While Ellie finds that the life of a twenty-something is not as carefree as she expected, the sheer joy of being young again tempts her to consider living her life all over.

Ellie has lived a full life—she has a closet full of designer clothes, has traveled the world, and has family and friends who are devoted to her. Although she loves the life she has led up until now, there are decisions she regrets and questions she would like answered. When her daughter Barbara brings out a cake that could only fit 29 candles, Ellie closes her eyes tightly and makes a birthday wish that changes her forever.

Ellie Jerome wakes up to discover that her wish has come true! She's 29 again. With her youth restored to her, Ellie enlists the help of her granddaughter Lucy to have one perfect day. Ellie wants to do all the things she could not at 75—put on a thong, wear short dresses, eat spicy pizza without getting heartburn, get a chic new haircut—but more than that, she wants to see life through the eyes of youth again, only this time without a husband, child and the constraints she knew growing up in the 1950's before women had the freedoms they do today. With Philadelphia as the backdrop for this delightful story, will Ellie decide to stay young for more than this day, even if it means leaving everyone she loves behind?

Adena Halpern is the author of the novel *The Ten Best Days of My Life*, *Target Underwear and a Vera Wang Gown: Notes from a Single Girl's Closet*, a memoir based on her popular “Haute Life” essays for the back page of *Marie Claire*. In addition to *Marie Claire*, Adena has written for *Daily Variety* and *The New York Times*. The rights to *The Ten Best Days of My Life* (2008), Adena Halpern's first novel, have been acquired by 20th Century Fox. Shawn Levy, (“Date Night,” “Night at the Museum”) will direct, Amy Adams will star, and Josh Klausner (“Date Night”) is currently writing the script. Levy and Adams are producing.

About the Author:

ADENA HALPERN has a bachelor of fine arts degree in dramatic writing from New York University and a master of fine arts degree in screenwriting from The American Film Institute. A proud Philadelphia native, she's resides in Los Angeles with her husband, screenwriter Jonathan Goldstein. Please visit Adena at www.adenahalpern.com.

29: A Novel

By Adena Halpern

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