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THE PARTY

ELIZABETH DAY

One night. A lifetime of secrets.



Elizabeth Day

**The Party: The thrilling Richard
& Judy Book Club Pick 2018**

«HarperCollins»

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The Party: The thrilling Richard & Judy Book Club Pick 2018 /
E. Day — «HarperCollins»,

‘As the train pressed on, I realised that my life was in the process of taking a different direction, plotted according to a new constellation. Because, although I didn't know it yet, I was about to meet Ben and nothing would ever be the same again.’ Martin Gilmour is an outsider. When he wins a scholarship to Burtonbury School, he doesn't wear the right clothes or speak with the right kind of accent. But then he meets the dazzling, popular and wealthy Ben Fitzmaurice, and gains admission to an exclusive world. Soon Martin is enjoying tennis parties and Easter egg hunts at the Fitzmaurice family's estate, as Ben becomes the brother he never had. But Martin has a secret. He knows something about Ben, something he will never tell. It is a secret that will bind the two of them together for the best part of 25 years. At Ben's 40th birthday party, the great and the good of British society are gathering to celebrate in a haze of champagne, drugs and glamour. Amid the hundreds of guests – the politicians, the celebrities, the old-money and newly rich – Martin once again feels that disturbing pang of not-quite belonging. His wife, Lucy, has her reservations too. There is disquiet in the air. But Ben wouldn't do anything to damage their friendship. Would he?

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The

Elizabeth

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Elizabeth Day asserts the moral right to be identified as the author of this work

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Dedication

For my friends

party

noun

1. a social gathering of invited guests, typically involving eating, drinking and entertainment.
2. a formally constituted political group that contests elections and attempts to form or take part in a government, e.g. 'faction', e.g. 'the party's election manifesto'.
3. a person or people forming one side in an agreement or dispute, e.g. 'the guilty party'.

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