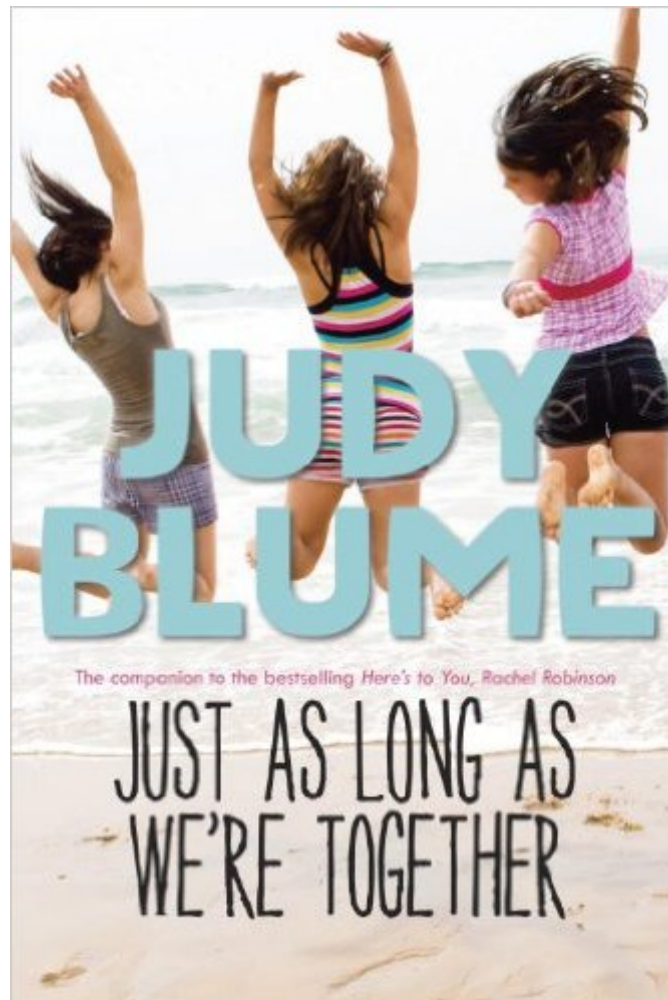


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# Just As Long As We're Together



## Synopsis

From the New York Times bestselling author of *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret* and the adult bestseller *In the Unlikely Event* comes a tale of family, friendship, and pre-teen life like only JUDY BLUME can deliver. The companion to *Here's to You, Rachel Robinson*. "Can you have more than one best friend? Stephanie's best friend is Rachel. Since second grade they've shared everything, good and bad. But now it's the start of seventh grade and Alison has just moved to their neighborhood. Stephanie immediately clicks with her—she's cool and fun and totally humble even though she's the daughter of a famous actress. Stephanie hopes all three of them can be best friends, but the more she pushes Alison on Rachel, the more Rachel seems to drift away. Is it possible to have two best friends? Or is it true that two's company, three's a crowd?" "Judy Blume does it again in what may be her best book yet!" —"American Bookseller

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 600L (What's this?)

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Delacorte Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (April 13, 2010)

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars "See all reviews" (154 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #32,297 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family > Adoption #133 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Friendship #3372 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

I've always been a big fan of Judy Blume, and she didn't disappoint in "Just As Long...." As always, Blume is a master in getting into the heads of young teens, and though Stephanie is the narrator in this installment (Rachel narrates in *Here's To You Rachel Robinson*, and Blume has mentioned that she'd like to write a book from Allison's POV), Rachel and Allison are equally as compelling. Overall,

this is funny, poignant and realistic look at what happens when a kid enters junior high and begins to question his or her place in the world. As for the handful of reviewers who complained that parts of this book are "obscene" because the girls discuss kissing and sex. Come on, let's not be stuck in the Pilgrim days here. These girls are 13 - of course they're going to be thinking about boys, getting their periods, etc. Which 13 year old hasn't? Whether the subject matter is appropriate for younger kids to read is up to parents to decide, but Blume doesn't try to pretend this isn't anything other than a middle-grade read. To criticize her for realistically portraying teenagers is absolutely ridiculous. I think the criticism goes more to the parents who didn't bother to check to make sure that their younger kids were reading something on their level. Anyway, this novel is a (PG-13) gem.

This is one of my personal favorite books. It is a great book for anyone 13 and up. I read it for the first time at about 11 or 12 and didn't understand some things. It's not inappropriate, I have always loved how Judy Blume doesn't just write stupid kiddie books, she writes books about real kids and teens with real issues. She doesn't try to teach you that the world is perfect and you have no problems, rather she lets you know you are not alone in the world. I've read this book at least 5 times. Judy Blume is a terrific children's author, her books are classics. My favorite part is when Jeremy says "Enjoy the show?" and Stephanie says "I've seen better". The book, even today, is relatable to teens. Also recommended are the Fudge books and Here's To You, Rachel Robinson.

This book is about three friends, Stephanie, Alison, and Rachael. It is from the perspective of 12 year old Stephanie. Stephanie is friendly and optimistic (according to Rachael). Rachael is very sensitive and a straight A student, and Alison is friendly, funny, and sensitive. The three friends get along well together but they do come to some problems. This book is all about friendship, school, and 7th grade girls. It is a book that once you start, you cannot put down.

I first read this book in 1988 when I was 12, like the main character of the book; and read it most recently when I was 38, like the main character's mother, and more times than I could begin to count all the years in between.

Grade: B+ Rachel and Stephanie have been best friends for five years, since second grade. When Allison moves into the neighborhood and the three girls be BFFs, or is someone always the third wheel? Judy Bloom had a way of capturing the essence of tweens on the cusp of adolescence in a way that's as relevant now than when she first published JUST AS LONG AS WE'RE TOGETHER

in the 1970s as it is today. Although her books lack the electronics gadgets millennials find necessary, the feelings of first boyfriends, first periods, adoption and divorce are the same. Rachel, Allison and narrator Stephanie are three distinct characters with complex personalities, all likable with some annoying quirks. THEMES: friendship, adoption, separation, siblings, menstruation, first boyfriends, school, coming-of-age

I ordered this book for my daughter but really I wanted to read it again. I'm 32! It's just as I remembered. This is the same cover that my sister's book had long ago. That's why I picked this one as opposed to the newer versions. Love it!

This book was incredibly nice! I've never read a book written by Judy Blume but now I know she is a very good writer. This book tells about life. I think it is like real life because it talks about three ordinary girls that have some problems. Stephanie and Rachel are best friends until they meet a Vietnamese girl named Alison. These friends have to face some problems that can end their friendship. The book was easy to read. It kept me very interested and I didn't want to stop reading it. I think I can compare these friends with the friends I have. I also have best friends but not only one. I also have many other friends that are really great. The story was very realistic because it talked about changes that happen during the ages of 12 and 13 years old. I hope that who ever reads this review will read this book. Just as Long as we're together. How I said before it was a GREAT book.

Read this book decades ago - when it first came out in paperback. Loved it. I was kind of awed with how candid the book was about puberty. Loved the shopping scenes. Loved the romance. Loved even the community, Palfry pond, the train rides to New York. Loved the family and the great Thanksgiving dinner. Story of Stephanie, and her growing friendship with new girl Allison. Her friendship with Allison threatens her friendship with Rachel, who had been her friend since childhood. Underneath is jealousy, insecurity and resentment. Also, Stephanie's family is sort of falling apart. Stephanie is an average girl. And her reactions are quite natural. Again, love, love the book. So much so that as an adult, I had to have this book in my library again. Some books do not hold up. This one did.

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