

January 2009

Dear Editor/Producer,

“You can always start again,” Kate Robinson’s mother once told her, “all it takes is a new thread.”



Heather Barbieri author of
The Lace Makers of Glenmara
HarperCollins Publishers
Photo Credit: Macellina Tylee

The Irish seaside village, where Kate Robinson finds herself stranded in **Heather Barbieri's** delightful novel, **THE LACE MAKERS OF GLENMARA (Harper/HarperCollins Publishers; \$24.99; Hardcover; ISBN 13: 9780061721557; on-sale: 6/23/2009)**, is picture perfect. Or so Kate, looking for a safe haven on the heels of heartbreak, believes. But as the struggling fashion designer settles into the village and is befriended by a group of local lace makers, she discovers that there is more to the place than meets the eye. Beneath the bucolic, peaceful exterior roil age-old—and some very modern—conflicts and tragedies.

As she learns the secrets of the lace-making craft, Kate finds the creative inspiration she's been searching for. Soon, she and the women work together not only to create a line of exquisite lingerie, but to help each other in their personal lives. There is **Bernie**, widowed in the past year; Aileen, estranged from her teenage daughter, her marriage adrift; **Moira**, needing to find the strength to leave an abusive relationship; **Oona**, in remission from breast cancer; and **Colleen**, worrying about her husband, overdue from a fishing trip in dangerous seas. And outside this newfound circle is **Sullivan Deane**, an enigmatic man trying to overcome tragedy of his own. But not everyone welcomes Kate, and just as she is beginning to regain her confidence, tragedy strikes, swiftly and unexpectedly.

Heather Doran Barbieri is half-Irish. Her paternal ancestors left counties Donegal and Tipperary in the 1860s/70s after surviving The Great Famine and worked in the coal mines of Eastern Pennsylvania before settling in Butte, Montana. Her impeccably dressed maternal grandmother was a descendent of a lady in waiting to Queen Victoria and instilled an avid interest in fashion in her granddaughters. Barbieri's first novel was *Snow in July* (Soho Press) was selected as a Book Sense Pick, a *Glamour Magazine* "Riveting Read," and a *Library Journal* Notable First Novel. She lives in Seattle with her husband and three children.

Reminiscent of Maeve Binchy's *A Circle of Friends*, **THE LACE MAKERS OF GLENMARA** is an enchanting, moving novel that hits the sweet spot between literary and commercial. Featuring unforgettable characters, a romantic love story, a magical setting, and prose that sparkles, this tale of very different women building friendships and overcoming adversity lends itself perfectly to book club readers, but would be equally at home on the beach this summer. *Attached you will find a "Behind the Book" essay on what inspired Heather to write **THE LACE MAKERS OF GLENMARA**. I hope you will take a look. I look forward to speaking with you soon!

Best regards,

Heather N. Drucker
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