



# The Friend

*Alan Bray*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# The Friend

*Alan Bray*

## **The Friend** Alan Bray

In the chapel of Christ's College, Cambridge, some twenty years ago, historian Alan Bray made an astonishing discovery: a tomb shared by two men, John Finch and Thomas Baines. The monument featured eloquent imagery dedicated to their friendship: portraits of the two friends linked by a knotted cloth. And Bray would soon learn that Finch commonly described his friendship with Baines as a *connubium* or marriage.

There was a time, as made clear by this monument, when the English church not only revered such relations between men, but also blessed them. Taking this remarkable idea as its cue, *The Friend* explores the long and storied relationship between friendship and the traditional family of the church in England. This magisterial work extends from the year 1000, when Europe acquired a shape that became its enduring form, and pursues its account up to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Spanning a vast array of fascinating examples, which range from memorial plaques and burial brasses to religious rites and theological imagery to classic works of philosophy and English literature, Bray shows how public uses of private affection were very common in premodern times. He debunks the now-familiar readings of friendship by historians of sexuality who project homoerotic desires onto their subjects when there were none. And perhaps most notably, he evaluates how the ethics of friendship have evolved over the centuries, from traditional emphases on loyalty to the Kantian idea of moral benevolence to the more private and sexualized idea of friendship that emerged during the modern era.

Finely nuanced and elegantly conceived, *The Friend* is a book rich in suggestive propositions as well as eye-opening details. It will be essential reading for anyone interested in the history of England and the importance of friendship in everyday life.

*History Today's* Book of the Year, 2004

“Bray’s loving coupledness is something with a proper historical backbone, with substance and form, something you can trace over time, visible and archeologicable. . . . Bray made a great contribution in helping to bring this long history to light.”— James Davidson, *London Review of Books*

 [Download The Friend ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Friend ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online The Friend Alan Bray

---

### From reader reviews:

#### **Michelle Wilson:**

In this 21st century, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that sometimes many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a guide your ability to survive improve then having chance to endure than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading a book, we give you this kind of The Friend book as nice and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

#### **Arnulfo Walls:**

The guide with title The Friend includes a lot of information that you can discover it. You can get a lot of benefit after read this book. This kind of book exist new understanding the information that exist in this guide represented the condition of the world currently. That is important to you to be aware of how the improvement of the world. That book will bring you throughout new era of the the positive effect. You can read the e-book on the smart phone, so you can read the idea anywhere you want.

#### **Charles Brewster:**

Your reading 6th sense will not betray you actually, why because this The Friend reserve written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who also read the book. Written with good manner for you, dripping every ideas and creating skill only for eliminate your personal hunger then you still skepticism The Friend as good book not only by the cover but also through the content. This is one reserve that can break don't determine book by its deal with, so do you still needing another sixth sense to pick this specific!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to one more sixth sense.

#### **Ronald Sadowski:**

Many people said that they feel bored stiff when they reading a reserve. They are directly felt the item when they get a half areas of the book. You can choose the book The Friend to make your own reading is interesting. Your own skill of reading expertise is developing when you such as reading. Try to choose simple book to make you enjoy to study it and mingle the opinion about book and reading especially. It is to be initially opinion for you to like to available a book and study it. Beside that the publication The Friend can to be your brand-new friend when you're sense alone and confuse with the information must you're doing of this time.

**Download and Read Online The Friend Alan Bray  
#MHDJ1NBS9UO**

## **Read The Friend by Alan Bray for online ebook**

The Friend by Alan Bray Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Friend by Alan Bray books to read online.

### **Online The Friend by Alan Bray ebook PDF download**

**The Friend by Alan Bray Doc**

**The Friend by Alan Bray Mobipocket**

**The Friend by Alan Bray EPub**