

Circle Dance Reviews

“Circle Dance has captured the essence of the Greek American experience. Full of plot twists and turns, it is a page-turner, appealing to Greeks and non-Greeks alike. Bravo to these two talented authors.”

Olympia Dukakis

A book you'll be staying up way too late to read because you can't put it down

In “Circle Dance,” we encounter many twists and turns in the lives of this family. What we always get back to is the cohesiveness of the family, that bond that can't be broken. The Parsenis Family is your family. They're extremely proud of their roots; they work hard, and they give back. They're good people. But things happen. In happiness and in sorrow, you lean on your family. Family sticks together. It's an enduring type of love that cannot be shattered. It's our shelter from the storm.

The Constantine sisters have created characters you become invested in; they're real and identifiable. They're people you know. This book is a page-turner; it's one you'll be staying up way too late to read because you can't put it down. This story will resonate with Greeks and non-Greeks alike.

- Maria A. Karamitsos, Associate Editor, The Greek Star Newspaper

Seamless Classic

Sisters Lynne and Valerie Constantine must be very close, almost thinking as one. In Circle Dance, they have created a seamless classic which takes you on a dynastic journey from the humble islands of Greece to the American Dream of New England. Their story bridges the culture gap from one European country to one corner of the States, but its appeal is universal. America is a cosmopolitan glue pot of cultures from all over Europe and more. The whole country is struggling with the change from historic values. Circle Dance shows this beautifully with a gripping tale of divided loyalties. Lynne does this with humour, "She wondered if men told unattractive women not to worry their ugly little heads," and emotion, "Broken trust, like fine porcelain when it is repaired, retains forever a hairline crack." She also takes us on a journey from raw desire, "No, her head screamed, but she heard her voice say yes," through to genuine and lasting love, "He was so much a part of her she didn't know where he finished and she began." It's a cracking read. Would thoroughly recommend to people of all ages.

Garry Kay, Author of DON'T FEAR THE REAPER

Great Story

Circle Dance is a well-crafted, touching story about two Greek- American sisters, Nicole and Theodora, who return to the United States after vacationing with their grandparents in Ikaria, an island in Greece. Each sister is thrust into life changes and circumstances that ultimately test their deepest values. Each one deals with deception that unfolds in their personal relationships, and it is not easy, as they have to handle conflicting emotions and passions. The authors have done an excellent job in realistically portraying love and loss. I loved the two sisters: their characters are rich and well rounded, and both have family values and strong ethics. I felt their heartbreak and sadness, and yet cheered them on when life smiled upon them. This is a wonderful, memorable story and I look forward to reading more from these talented authors!

- Patty Apostolides, Author of "The Greek Maiden and the English Lord"

Couldn't Put It Down

"This intriguing story filled with deception, hope, sorrow, and joy, is perfectly balanced with the traditions and culture of Greek America. The reader becomes an eyewitness to the saga of the close-knit Parsenis family. Compelling and wonderfully described characters come to life as you conjure up vivid images-trying to anticipate the fast-paced events impacting two sisters, Theodora and Nicole. The story often alternates between these characters with a seamless flow that contrasts and compares their lives. The book's authors, also children of the Greek-American experience, tell a story that is both delightful and suspenseful. It is not surprising to find the reader transported with ease between the unfolding drama in America and Greece. Beginning with an elusive death, the story comes full circle concluding with the shining hope offered by new life. In a surreal fashion, you are there with the Parsenis family every step of the way and once you finish Circle Dance...you will simply wish for more."

Nicholas M. Prevas, Historian, Author of History of the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation, Baltimore, 1982. Gone But Not Forgotten, A Definitive History of the

Greek Section at Woodlawn Cemetery, Baltimore, 2001.