APPENDIX I: Biography

Erin Kaye was born at home in Larne, Northern Ireland in 1966 to an Anglo-Irish mother and a Polish-American father, the fourth of five siblings. She has three sisters and one brother all of whom now live abroad one of her sisters lives in Melbourne, Australia, the other three live in the USA. She attended St. Anthony’s Primary School, Larne where she was the tallest girl in the school, got strapped for skipping in the classroom and played Angela Rippon in the nativity play! After that, she spent seven formative years at Larne Grammar where she was one of only a handful of Catholics in an otherwise Protestant school. Many of her experiences during this period are recorded in her novel MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS.

She met her future husband, Mervyn, on her first day at the University of Ulster at Coleraine (where two of her sisters were also undergraduates, one of them at the same time as Erin) and married him ten days after graduating in 1988 with a first class honours degree in Geography. They spent their honeymoon boating on the lakes of Fermanagh, followed by two months of homelessness (shuttling between various relative’s houses while they were away on summer holidays) until the autumn when Erin joined a Scottish bank as a graduate recruit in Aberdeen. She has fond memories of the Granite City including being sent to interview a customer who spoke only Doric (the local dialect, incomprehensible to the untrained ear!).
She soon came to the attention of the bank’s executive by winning first prize in the Scottish banking exams and moved to Edinburgh, where the bank has its head office. Ten years later she’d risen to become an Associate Director and a Board member but, always an avid reader of fiction, the urge to write herself had been growing over the same period. In 1997, frustrated with the long-hours culture and corporate treadmill, she finally threw caution to the wind, handed in her notice and turned her back on one promising career.

On the day she resigned, she walked into Waterstone and bought almost every book they had on the shelves about writing. She consumed these over the next six months, educating herself on the writing and the writing business. Erin reckons that, by seeking out best practice and learning from other people’s experiences and mistakes, she saved herself many months, even years, of wasted effort. When, in 1998, she discovered that she was pregnant she hastily completed her first novel MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS and fired a synopsis and first three chapters off to several publishers and agents. Some rejected it immediately, it got to second reading stage with two publishers and, finally, was accepted by an agent on the condition that Erin re-write it in line with the agent’s suggestions, which she did in the two months following the birth of her first child. Dublin-based publishers, Poolbeg Press, liked it so much they offered her a three-book deal. Her six novels to date like MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS, CHOICES, SECOND TIME AROUND, CLOSER TO HOME, MY HUSBAND’S LOVER and THE ART OF FRIENDSHIP - have all featured on the Irish bestseller list. They are all set in the fictitious town of Ballyfergus, Northern
Ireland, which is loosely based on her hometown. CLOSER TO HOME marked a departure for her as part of the novel is set in contemporary Boston, USA. Erin’s writing has been compared to Cathy Kelly and Maeve Binchy but really it’s in a category all of its own. She tackles difficult subjects with sensitivity in the context of the unique, and acutely observed, backdrop of Northern Irish culture.

Since 1991 Erin has lived in North Berwick, on the east coast of Scotland, with her husband Mervyn, her two young children, Ryan and Liam, and Murphy the dog. She visits Larne frequently to see family and friends and finds her hometown an ongoing source of inspiration for her work, as well as the small Scottish town where she now lives.

A member of The Society of Authors and Romantic Novelist’s Association, she likes to keep fit by swimming and walking her dog. She skis every year and coaches at the local swim club and is passionate about good food and healthy eating. By her own admission, she’s a bit controlling - she writes action plans for almost everything and daily lists.
APPENDIX II: Synopsis

When Jennifer and Ben first meet, they really like each other. It doesn't take long before they are dating and although there is over sixteen years difference in age, they get on so well that they can see that they do have a future together. However, as Ben is closer in age to Jennifer's children, Matt and Lucy, she is worried about what they will think. Ben's parents are equally unhappy especially as they feel that if Ben stays with Jennifer, she is not likely to provide them with the grandchildren they so desire. It seems that there's no way to keep everybody happy.

Added to this though, Jennifer has enough to deal with in her own family, particularly as far as her relationship with her daughter Lucy is concerned. Lucy is away at university but is hiding a terrible addiction. She also has very low self esteem so when an Oren, an older theology student, starts paying her attention and indoctrinating her with his zealous religious ideas, she is easy prey. How will Jennifer help her daughter who won't even listen to her, as well as sorting out her own relationship? There's so much going on in this fun but thoughtful novel.

I really enjoyed 'Second Time Around' and sympathised with Jennifer a great deal. It was interesting the way she was viewed by others because of her relationship with a much younger man, whereas, had it been the other way around, no one would probably have batted an eyelid. I found myself really caught up in this fascinating storyline and couldn't stop myself getting very cross with some of the other characters who were so condemning.
Overall, this is a very enjoyable and well written book with some absorbing story lines that are interwoven extremely well. I found myself caught up in all of them and couldn't wait to find out what would happen next. I really enjoyed reading about and getting to know all of the different characters all of whom I felt were entirely believable. There were some light hearted moments that had me smiling but overall I found it to be quite a thought provoking book and one that makes you think about how relationships work. I definitely recommend it.
PENGESAHAN REVISI

Judul Skripsi: JENNIFER'S DILEMMA IN ERIN KAYE'S SECOND TIME AROUND

Nama lengkap: CHONIATI TONGAYO

N.I.M.: 61102859

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