

**FEMALE
FRIENDSHIP: A TALE
FOR SUNDAYS**

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Female friendship: a tale for Sundays by Anonymous

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ANONYMOUS

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FOR SUNDAYS**



FEMALE FRIENDSHIP.

1800

Published by Harris & Son, corner of St. Pauls Ch^h Church.

FEMALE FRIENDSHIP;

A

Tale for Sundays.

BY THE

AUTHOR OF THE "SCHOOL FOR SISTERS."

Example moves where precept fails,
And Sermons are less read than Tales.

LONDON:

J. HARRIS AND SON,

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH-YARD.

1824.

LONDON :

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P R E F A C E.



THE following Tale is intended for the perusal of the higher classes of schools and private families on Sunday ; a period during which the Author has found the young persons composing her own family disinclined to sermons and other dry books of devotion.

She has sought to infuse into it some of the pious spirit of our best writers,—to inculcate the advantage of building our earthly friendships on the sure basis of religion,—and

to point out some of the various excellencies which distinguish our venerable church.

Dissenters of every kind have already supplied their youthful members with suitable histories of this description ; and it is humbly hoped the well meant effort of a decided church-woman may meet indulgence, if not approbation, from that community to which she is proud to belong.

FEMALE FRIENDSHIP,

A Tale.

CHAPTER I.

CAROLINE HOWARD had no recollection of any home but Grove House, a large and fashionable school near London, into which she had been introduced when only four years old. She understood that she had been conveyed thither from India by her father; and left entirely to the care and management of Miss Stewart, till old enough to return to him, completely educated. Caroline had always been the favourite of her governess, and was beside much liked by her school-fellows: for the influence which she was supposed to

possess with the head of the establishment, united to a great command of money, and a long residence in the house, seemed to give her a prescriptive right to *lead* ; while the gaiety and generosity of her disposition *prevented* her from abusing this enviable privilege. She possessed likewise such a natural quickness, that she excelled in whatever she undertook, so that her companions generally relinquished the idea of competition with her ; and although this advantage was counterbalanced by the want of perseverance, yet it left her in undisturbed enjoyment of the character and reputation of being the cleverest, as well as the most handsome, rich, and elegant, of all Miss Stewart's pupils. The powerful sway of beauty is perhaps no where more readily acknowledged than at school ; and that of Caroline not only excited the admiration of all strangers, but called forth the almost rapturous applause of her com-