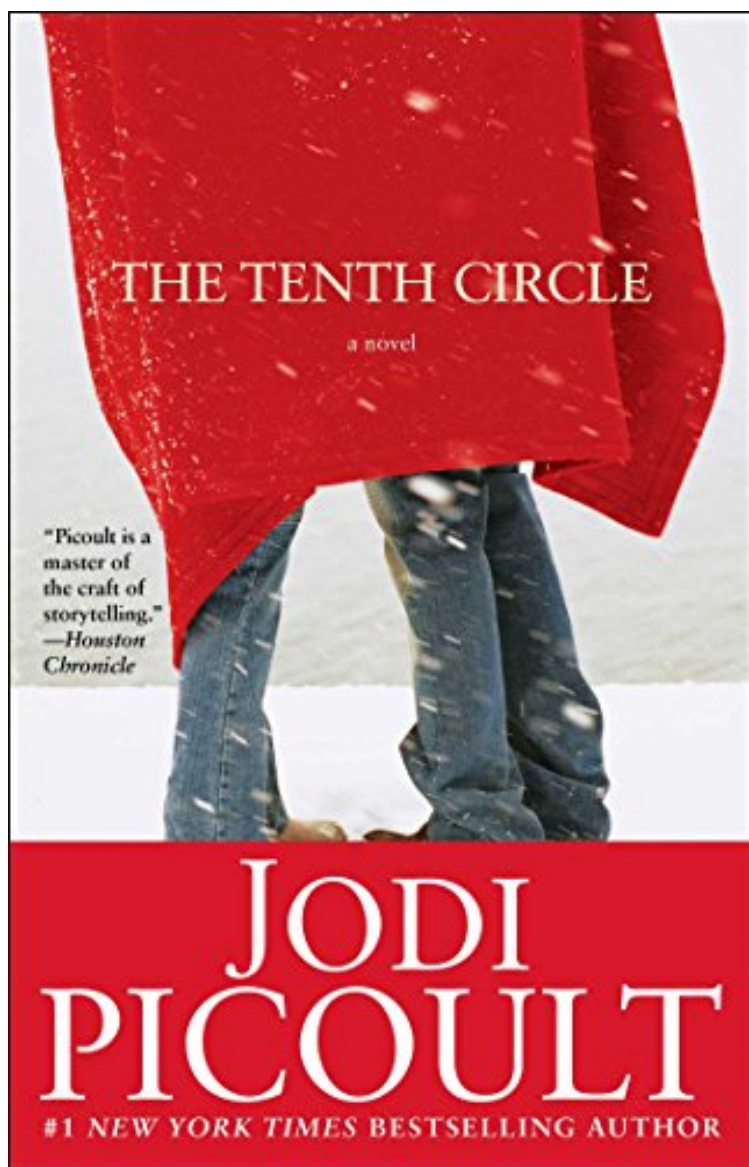


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The Tenth Circle: A Novel (English Edition)



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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurJodi Picoult, the New York Times bestselling author of Vanishing Acts, offers her most powerful chronicle yet of an American family with a story that probes the unbreakable bond between parent and child -- and the dangerous repercussions of trying to play the hero. Trixie Stone is fourteen years old and in love for the first time. She's also the light of her father's life -- a straight-A student; a freshman in high school who is pretty and popular; a girl who's always looked up to Daniel Stone as a hero. Until, that is, her world is turned upside down with a single act of violence...and suddenly everything Trixie has believed about her family -- and herself -- seems to be a lie. For fifteen years, Daniel Stone has been an even-tempered, mild-mannered man: a stay-at-home dad to Trixie and a husband who has put his own career as a

comic book artist behind that of his wife, Laura, who teaches Dante's *Inferno* at a local college. But years ago, he was completely different: growing up as the only white boy in an Eskimo village, he was teased mercilessly for the color of his skin. He learned to fight back: stealing, drinking, robbing, and cheating his way out of the Alaskan bush. To become part of a family, he reinvented himself, channeling his rage onto the page and burying his past completely...until now. Could the young boy who once made Trixie's face fill with light when he came to the door have been the one to end her childhood forever? She says that he is, and that is all it takes to make Daniel, a man with a history he has hidden even from his family, venture to hell and back in order to protect his daughter. The Tenth Circle looks at that delicate moment when a child learns that her parents don't know all of the answers and when being a good parent means letting go of your child. It asks whether you can reinvent yourself in the course of a lifetime or if your mistakes are carried forever --

if life is, as in any good comic book, a struggle to control good and evil, or if good and evil control you..com Bestselling author Jodi Picoult's *The Tenth Circle* is a metaphorical journey through Dante's *Inferno*, told through the eyes of a small Maine family whose hidden demons haunt every aspect of their seemingly peaceful existence. Woven throughout the novel are a series of dramatic illustrations that pay homage to the family's patriarch (comic book artist Daniel Stone), and add a unique twist to this gripping, yet somewhat rhetorical tale. Trixie Stone is an imaginative, perceptive 14 year old whose life begins to unravel when Jason Underhill, Bethel High's star hockey player, breaks up with her, leaving a void that can only be filled by the blood spilled during shameful self-mutilations in the girls' bathroom. While Trixie's dad Daniel notices his daughter's recent change in demeanor, he turns a blind eye, just as he does to the obvious affair his wife Laura, a college professor, is barely trying to conceal. When Trixie gets raped at a friend's party, Daniel and Laura are forced to deal not only with the consequences of their daughter's physical and emotional trauma, but with their own transgressions as well. For Daniel, that means reflecting on a childhood spent as the only white kid in a native Alaskan village, where isolation and loneliness turned him into a recluse, only to be born again after falling in love with his wife. Laura, who blames her family's unraveling on her selfish affair, must decide how to reconcile her personal desires with her loved ones' needs. *The Tenth Circle* is chock full of symbolism and allegory that at times can seem oppressive. Still,

Picoult's fans will welcome this skillfully told story of betrayal and its many negative, and positive consequences. --Gisele Toueg From Publishers Weekly Picoult's newest bestseller moves to a deeper level of drama in the audiobook version of this tale of heartbreak and revenge. When Trixie Stone tells her father she's been raped by a former boyfriend, her family's lives begin to unravel. Daniel Stone slides easily back to the angry violence of his youth, while his wife, Laura, despairs over both her affair and their daughter's agony. The combination of Laura's study of Dante, Daniel's comic book artistry and Trixie's grief makes for a multilevel, multihued tale. Narrator Monda does a good job of giving unique voice to the characters through the complex narrative, and her voice is easy to listen to throughout. Technical issues, such as breaks in flow where a new recording was patched in, shouldn't detract from the overall power of both Picoult's story and Monda's unabridged reading. Simultaneous release with the Atria hardcover. (s, Dec. 5).

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