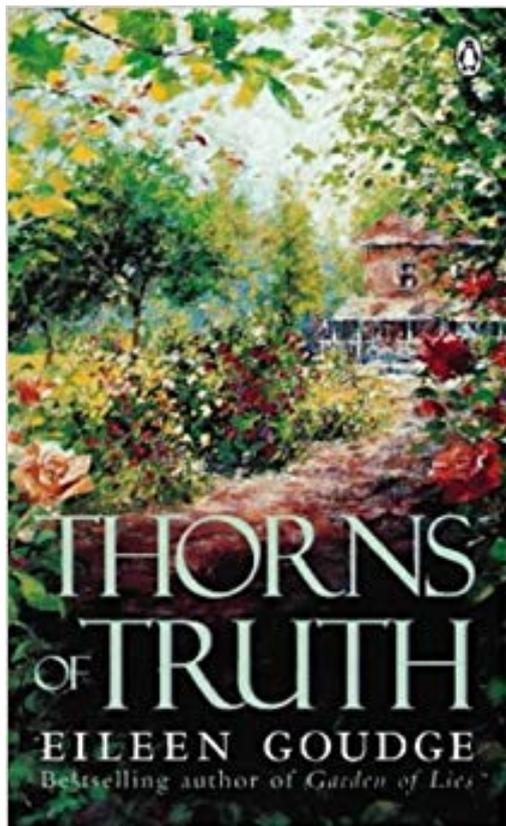


## Thorns of Truth *by* Eileen Goudge



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In this sequel to "Garden of Lies", Rachael and Rose, now women with grown children of their own, find themselves face-to-face with the destiny that has haunted them for nearly half a century, since the two were switched at birth in the chaos of a hospital fire.



## Reviews of the **Thorns of Truth** *by* Eileen Goudge

lolike

I knew there was no way a sequel could enamor me as wholly as the original book, Garden of Lies, but I was willing to give Thorns of Truth a chance. I wasn't disappointed. Rachel and Rose are still the same characters they were in the first book, but older and more concentrated versions of themselves. Rachel is still stubborn, single-minded, hard-working and infuriatingly selfish. Rose is still heartbroken, sharp, self-pitying and a little too good at wearing her heart on her sleeve. They are equally well-rounded characters with realistic flaws and strengths, but I've always been partial to Rose.

There's too much going on for me to summarize, but I'll do my best: Rachel and Rose have two grown children who are now dating each other. Rachel's adopted daughter is unbalanced and suicidal, while Rose's son is overly caring and afraid to leave the relationship. Rachel and Brian are still married, but unhappily. Rose and Max were married for 20-something years before he passed away of an unexpected heart attack. Rose's biological and Rachel's "adopted" mother, Sylvie, struggles with whether or not she should tell the truth about her connection to Rose and how she came to end up with Rachel as her daughter. The story centers around Sylvie's inner conflict, the drama between Rose and Rachel's kids and how it affects the families, Rose navigating her first relationship with a new man after Max's death, and Rachel trying to figure out what went wrong in her marriage to Brian.

This book is a fitting continuation of the story involving the characters we grew to love in the first book. I was very satisfied with the ending and wouldn't mind reading a third novel in the series.

Onath

I am so glad I found Eileen Goudges books after she wrote the sequel to Garden of Lies. It was wonderful to read them back to back and know what happened to all the characters. Read her books, you'll love them. And they've made me think long and hard about what's important in life and to try to put myself in others shoes, and try to be kinder and not so judgmental. Again Eileen thanks

Jark

I didn't give this book a 4 or 5 star rating because the author kept dragging out exciting scenes with descriptive narrative that made me impatient to know what happened next. For example, when a house is burning down and two women enter it to look for a third, she takes 10 pages to let you know both of the women were able to exit the house without major injury. This seems unnecessary to the story and simply adds additional length to the book. This book is a followup to Garden of Lies, and on many occasions (frequently on the same subject), she summarizes something from the first book so an event in this book makes more sense. That's great - if it weren't repeated so often. I got tired of re-reading what I already knew. All that being said, the plot really pulls you through it - even if fairly contrived in its complexities.

Sermak Light

I loved it, loved it & loved it even more! I first read the Diary, which MADE me need to read Garden of Lies (5++++) and I was NOT disappointed in anyway with Thorns of Truth. The plot & characters are a part of you when reading. I HATED FOR THIS TO END... now what????

ALAN

I liked the story line, and was interested in where it led to. The lies, cowardice and love throughout the story held my interest. I couldn't understand how Sylvia could do what she did but I could understand her despair at the thought of losing her husband because of infidelity. That still did not justify her deceit.

The long term harm caused by this act caused me dislike her and if I were either "daughter" I could never forgive her.

Pettalo

Eileen Goudge takes you right into life, with all of its joy, laughter, sorrow, tragedy and growth. Good or bad the people here are every day people, with all of our human errors and triumphs.

Dorintriuis

I was happy to find that Eileen Goudge had written a sequel to Garden of Lies. I was interested to see how the lives of the characters played out. I was not disappointed. It was great to catch up with all the characters. I was happy to find that Rose had moved on and had been happily married for a number of years. She had gotten over Brian. It was exciting to see all the lies come undone and the truth to come out. I enjoyed the book and thought it was an easy, uncomplicated read. I read several of the reviews that were posted before I purchased the book. I disagree that the book is a classic but I did like the story line and the characters. To me both books, The Garden of Lies and the Thorns of Truth were good but not exceptional.

I loved Garden of Secrets, it had an interesting story and pulled me in so I was excited to find out that there was a sequel. I was eager to read the continuation of the story but I am pretty disappointed now. The story doesn't really measure up to the first book. I expected for the information in the first book to be there and come up sometimes but this book just rehashed the past events repeatedly. Rachel did this slightly but Rose just kept whining about the past and didn't really do anything. The story of Iris and Drew could have been engaging but it fell flat. I couldn't really read into their romance and I felt it was more about how she was a burden on him. Sylvie, Brian and Nikos were kind of pushed to the side. The book's plot could have been better but it just boring and overly sentimental. I usually love Goudge's books but this one wasn't up to her usual standards.

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