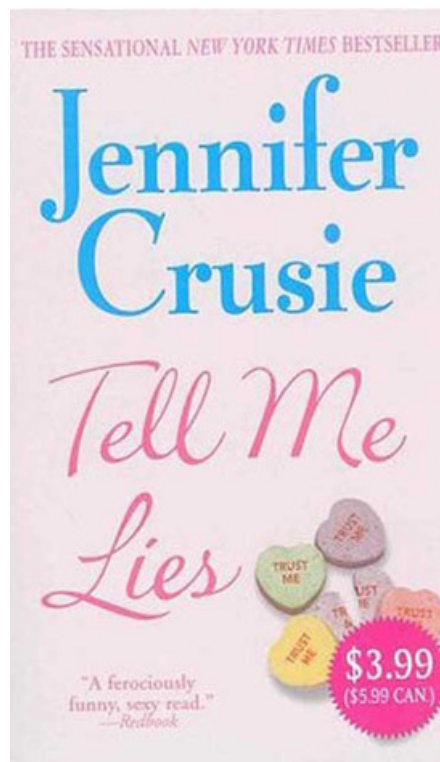




Tell Me Lies

Jennifer Crusie

Download now

Read Online ➔

Tell Me Lies

Jennifer Crusie

Tell Me Lies Jennifer Crusie

Maddie Faraday's life would be perfect if it weren't for her cheating husband, her suspicious daughter, her gossipy mother, her secretive best friend, her nosy neighbors, and that guy she lost her virginity to twenty years ago who is suddenly back in town... Suddenly, life in southern Ohio just got a little more scandalous.

Tell Me Lies Details

Date : Published July 11th 2004 by St. Martin's Paperbacks (first published January 1st 1998)

ISBN : 9780312932824

Author : Jennifer Crusie

Format : Paperback 384 pages

Genre : Romance, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary, Fiction, Humor

 [Download Tell Me Lies ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Tell Me Lies ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Tell Me Lies Jennifer Crusie

From Reader Review Tell Me Lies for online ebook

Anita says

Who is Brent sleeping with?? While not a mystery in the Romantic Suspense world, it IS a mystery, and one that Maddie must solve before it drives her crazy. Well, not that Maddie isn't already crazy. Even C.J. is looking good, and THAT is just plain crazy.

If you are looking for a change from the angst filled world of Romantic Suspense, read this book. It has comedy, romance and mystery (who is Brent sleeping with, etc.). There is a great cast of suspects and any one of them could have done it. Small town taboos are meant to be broken. It is fun and a great escape.

The Bookshelf Wars says

Another wonderful novel from Jennifer Crusie. Like most of her other works, it explores being true to oneself, no matter your age or marital status. Two thumbs up for a truly wonderful hero and a wonderfully true heroine.

Rebecca says

This book is FOREVER long. Full of way too much stuff and random details and just too much filler. And DL is weirdly pushy and it isn't cute or romantic at all! It's creepy!
And also, wth is up with the completely unnecessary Emily chapters?! Trying to suck out some sympathy for Brent? Showing parallels between Em/Mel and Maddie/Treva? Imo, they were completely extraneous.

Olga Godim says

This book is a caper and a drama. It mixes in equal proportions murder mystery and comedy, romance and betrayal, friendship and lust, motherhood and embezzlement, all happening in a small town Frog Point. Of course it does. What else could happen in Frog Point? Don't you just love the name?
The novel has the best first paragraph of most novels I've read:

One hot August Thursday afternoon, Maddie Faraday reached under the front seat of her husband's Cadillac and pulled out a pair of black lace underpants. They weren't hers.

It goes downhill from there for Maddie: stolen money, tragic secrets, false accusations, adultery, and a gun in a casserole – and she rides through it all and comes out the winner. She also gets her man.
A bunch of complex relationships enrich the story, while the dialog sparkles with wit – typically Crusie. An enjoyable chocolate cake of a book. Yummy! It even ends with the word “chocolate”:

And in the meantime, there was chocolate.

Recommended to any romance fan.

Laura says

It did nothing for me.

The aspect of 'small town' romances that I actually enjoy is usually the Cinderella story thing... dorky girl comes back and makes everyone eat their words etc. This book typified everything I *dislike* about small towns and small town fiction. It was claustrophobic and every single character hated it, but no one seemed willing to leave. I know I've always been a city girl and I haven't talked to hardly anyone I knew as a child in ages, but I couldn't understand why anyone stayed there and dealt with that nonsense.

CL was barely a character, he was nothing. I felt like the main character didn't like her daughter much (which could have been kinda interesting) but that got taken away quickly to boring and usual dynamics.

Nothing really wrong with the book, but not something for me at all.

Cheri says

I admit it was a little drawn out but I liked it. It was comically refreshing. I was fooled by the mystery of who dunnit!

Jacob Proffitt says

I liked Maddie and C.L. and I liked their relationship, too. And Maddie's daughter Em had some stellar moments that gave the book an endearing heart I greatly appreciated. Indeed, if it hadn't been for Maddie's husband Brent this would easily have been four stars. Yeah, Brent had affairs and their marriage hadn't been working for years, obviously, but I still just can't get past Maddie's adultery—and that goes for C.L. as well (since he was fully aware of the state of affairs . . . heh).

The rest of the book was quality Crusie—good plot, excellent characters, wit and humor and interesting events and people. I don't know if this story could have worked without the adultery or not, but I wish Crusie had tried...

A note about Steamy: Somewhere in the middle on my steam scale. A handful of explicit scenes. Really *good* explicit scenes, too. If only... yeah, I'll stop harping on that, now.

Nan says

This book wasn't quite what I look for when I Jennifer Crusie's novels. That, in and of itself, could account for the relatively low stars I've given it in comparison to her other works. The dialogue was fun, as it is in every Crusie book, but there wasn't much else to recommend the story.

I'd say this book belongs in a special subset of chick-lit that I like to call "adultery-lit." These are the books wherein a spouse seeks and finds fulfillment outside of marriage. Maddie, our protagonist, has very good

reasons for wanting to end her marriage to Brent, but my inner prude doesn't like the timing of her new love interest. Admittedly, part of this book was about Maddie throwing off the chains of expected behavior, so the fact that she engages in an extramarital relationship isn't really all that much of a shocker. It's just not something I enjoy reading too much.

Otherwise, the book was fun and rather entertaining, but it pales in comparison to the better Crusie titles.

Megan Robinson says

This is the story of Maddie Farraday, who married her high school sweetheart and settled down in the small town she grew up in. Her husband has been a philanderer but they've stayed together "for their daughter" (ugh), an adorably precocious pre-teen. When Maddie finds evidence of another affair, she blows her top, and throws her husband out. But she's so obsessed with what the town might think of her, so afraid of not living up to her "good girl" reputation, she's considering backing down from her request for a divorce. And she lies to her daughter about what's going on, to "protect her," something I find inexcusable. Happily, her daughter calls her on it. She's initially annoyingly wimpy and lies all the time to maintain the status quo. CL, the boy who got away, is back in town, interestingly enough, to investigate a possibly shady business deal her sort of ex-husband is involved in. CL is awesome. His character alone is worth the price of admission. The chemistry between CL and Maddie is great, and there are some hot sex scenes. Maddie's daughter and best friend are also awesome, and Maddie finally becomes awesome when she gets a backbone and starts to be honest, no matter what other people think. As with all Crusie books, there are lots of fun, quirky characters, some plot twists and unexpected secrets. This particular story also has a murder, so it's got some good investigative bits. If Maddie didn't annoy me so much to begin with, I'd give it another star. Not one of Crusie's best works, but still worth a read if Bet Me or her other, better books, are unavailable.

Joan says

I missed the point of this book if there is one. Basic story line: small town where everyone knows everyone else's business and/or is related to each other. Twenty years have passed since high school graduation and former 'bad boy' comes back to town, now a successful accountant, to investigate a prominent citizen's company's financial soundness. The prominent citizen happened to be former 'big man on campus' who married 'most popular good girl' who actually was attracted to 'bad boy' who it turned out wasn't really 'bad boy' just 'honorable boy who defended others with his fists'. 'Most popular good girl' is still best friends with one of her high school friends and they work together as teachers and have matching 8-year old daughters. 'Prominent citizen' is found murdered in the park where many of his high school conquests occurred and 'most popular good girl' is a prime suspect because he has cheated on her, embezzled money from their construction company and was planning on fleeing to Brazil with the money and their daughter.

The book has a cartoon/soap opera quality. Flat characters, predictable plot structure and dialogue. The 'most popular good girl' makes such bad choices (ie puts murder weapon in a casserole in her friend's freezer) that I guess one could laugh. There are so many other books to read - even if you are just looking for a beach read, give this one a pass.

Jane Stewart says

I cannot enjoy a story where the major plot events are based on heroine stupidity.

Tell Me Lies had five major stupidities. Here are two of them.

Maddie knows a security guard watches couples having sex at a place called The Point. So why does she insist that CL take her there to have sex? When the guard sees them, she is horrified. She is worried that he will gossip and she may have trouble getting custody of her daughter in the divorce. Apparently I am supposed to believe she had been drinking and forgot about the security guard.

Maddie is a suspect in the murder of her husband. Someone planted the murder weapon (gun) in her car. When she sees it, she picks it up which puts her fingerprints on it.

Stupidity is the main reason I did not give it more stars. But a second reason was “the heroine lying to her daughter and others” was not interesting. Her husband is having an affair and a divorce is coming. But Maddie tells her daughter that everything is fine. Her habit is telling lies to her daughter. Toward the end the daughter is upset at all the lies, so Maddie promises to be truthful. But after this sweet connection, she tells more lies to her daughter. For example someone was hired to hit Maddie’s car, but Maddie tells her daughter it was an accident, not intentional. The daughter asks if Maddie is going to marry CL. Maddie says no. The reader knows they will marry.

Another lie was everyone “knew” her husband hit her, but she continued to say she ran into a wall. On balance, the lies were not interesting or entertaining - to me.

Another reader liked this book and commented to me “her insecurity, stupidity, impulsiveness, closeness to her mother and grandmother, obliviousness to her husband, et al make her a three-dimensional person.” So some will like this.

I’ve read this twice, in 2007 and 2012.

DATA:

Story length: 347 pages. Swearing language: moderate to strong, including religious swear words. Sexual language: none to mild. Number of sex scenes: three or four. Setting: current day Ohio. Copyright. 1998. Genre: romantic mystery.

Susan Kelley says

This was my first Crusie book, though I do have at least one other in my TBR mountain. I read this one for the Yahoo Bookcrossing Reading Group.

I most likely wouldn't have picked this one up on my own, as I have a million and a half books to read. In fact, I almost didn't finish the book. I wasn't entirely overwhelmed in my first day of reading the book. I even posted that opinion in the group. Well, pardon me. The book turned around and slapped me silly! Within hours of my post, I was totally on edge due to this book. Not because I didn't like it. Oh no! Instead, the suspense level got amped up to about 1000!

Tell Me Lies is about Maddie Faraday's life gone wrong. She finds evidence that her husband is cheating, her best friend is keeping secrets, her life is known to EVERYONE in her small town, and the hottie to whom she lost her virginity is suddenly on her doorstep - looking just as scrumptious as ever!

The thing that really got me about this story is small town life. The gossip moves quicker than any internet connection could hope for! Everyone is talking about who is divorcing who, who is cheating who (great song, BTW), who got fired, who quit, and on and on. I am from the small town of Lebanon, Illinois. I worked in and later managed a gas station there. OMG, the stories that passed through that store! The worst ones about it were the cops - "Did you know that so and so's car was at such and such's house last night?" That is what made this book for me. People in small towns tend to live their life for the approval of the town - just like Maddie Faraday.

Tell Me Lies is a hot book - it's funny too -- and loads of suspense. The reader will be kept guessing. Who's doing the cheating? Who's committing the crimes? And will Maddie ever learn to let go and just be happy?

Wendy says

This one wasn't one of my favorites of JC's. I've read several of her books and really enjoyed them, but this one had a small town gossip undercurrent that started to bug me fairly soon into the book. It bothered me that the characters were so worried about what the town thought that it effected everything that they did. Some of that is okay, we all live with it a little, but this went over the top. I really liked the characters and their relationships to each other, but the story seemed to drag through the middle and I had to really fight to get past that part. Over all I liked the book and give it three out of five stars.

Kristin Marie says

I cannot say it enough, I love Jennifer Crusie. Her novels are fun and flirty. She creates dynamic characters (both human and dog alike). I really enjoyed the mystery aspect of "Tell Me Lies" as I did with "Crazy for You". It adds a new depth to the story line and keeps me turning page after page.

Did I guess part of the mystery VERY early on? Yes. Did I guess all of it? I did not. Thankfully so.

I picked up a few more of her books at the local bookstore and I'm sure I will be reading more of her work very soon!

Happy Reading!

PS. It's an easy read. I'm not really sure why it took me six days to read. Very unlike me.

Tracy says

This book started out ok but the main character was annoying. She kept lying and lying and almost lied her way into a prison cell. It did improve though and I found Maddie pretty tolerable by the end. I've never really much cared what people think of me, and Maddie's insistence on doing the right thing because people would talk was really annoying. By the end she was cheerfully potty mouthed and that bumped this from two stars to three.

Kris Rafferty says

Reads like women's lit, but she has a special genius for character development.

Linda says

3.5 Stars. Good story with some unexpected twists along the way.

Jennifer says

Not my favorite novel by Crusie - but still an enjoyable read.

Barbara says

5 Stars...I loved it!

Here's another 5 Star read by Crusie...There's just something about the way this women brings a story to life. She just includes everything; mystery, romance, comedy and the right amount of sarcasm that'll have you laughing out loud hoping you'll at some point in your life get to use that exact same line.

To all of you that could use a break with paranormal or historical let me just say...just try one of her books!

My favorites by her are...

- Bet Me
 - Tell Me Lies
 - Welcome To Temptation &
 - Faking It
-

Emily says

I love a lot of what Jennifer Crusie has written for funny, light reads -- my favorites are probably Bet Me and Welcome to Temptation, but a lot of the others are also very entertaining.

Tell Me Lies reads like a "proto-Crusie" -- a lot of her characteristic elements are there: fiesty heroine discovering her inner fabulousness, redeemable hero being redeemed, cute kid, even cuter dog, fabulous friends and/or family characters, mystery to be solved complicating heroine and hero getting together.

But it's just not as crisp and pulled together and funny as the later works. It's like she was working out how to make all those elements work together without getting too bogged down in the set up and the exposition. She's getting closer by the end, but the first 150 pages would probably only have been 50 in a later work or hers.

Overall, still worth reading if you already love Crusie's work, but maybe start with one of her more recent solo books if you're new to her.
