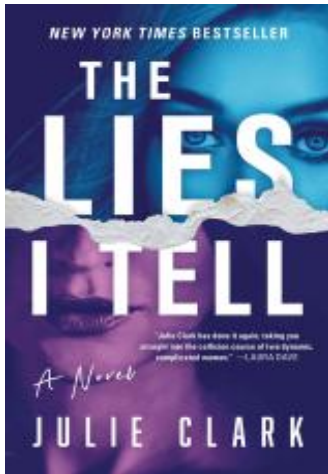


The Lies I Tell

by Julie Clark



About the Book

THE LIES I TELL is a twisted domestic thriller that dives deep into the psyches and motivations of two women and their unwavering quest to seek justice for the past and rewrite the future.

She's back.

Meg Williams. Maggie Littleton. Melody Wilde. Different names for the same person, depending on the town, depending on the job. She's a con artist who erases herself to become whoever you need her to be. A college student. A life coach. A real estate agent. Nothing about her is real. She slides alongside you and tells you exactly what you need to hear, and by the time she's done, you've likely lost everything.

Kat Roberts has been waiting 10 years for the woman who upended her life to return. And now that she has, Kat is determined to be the one to expose her. But as the two women grow closer, Kat's long-held assumptions begin to crumble, leaving Kat to wonder who Meg's true target is.

Discussion Guide

1. One of the most powerful tools in Meg's arsenal is a familiarity with social media. What do you think she could learn about you from your online presence?
2. Since they both know the other woman is lying about her identity, Meg and Kat also know they shouldn't trust each other. How does their friendship grow despite this?
3. Discuss the role of ego in Meg's cons. How do her targets create openings for her with their own bad behavior?

4. At first, Kat blames Meg for what happened with Nate. When do you think she stopped feeling that way?
5. The greatest downside of Meg's career is the loneliness. Do you think she could have kept in touch with her friends when she started scamming Cory? How would you feel in her position, moving cross-country every few years and not making any permanent connections?
6. Meg believes that scamming Phillip to return Celia's cottage was a turning point in her career. How was that job different from the others she had run?
7. Why does it take Kat so long to recognize that Scott has relapsed? Where would you draw the line between supporting a partner who is trying to overcome an addiction and protecting yourself?
8. Kat doesn't trust that Scott will be investigated by his colleagues. Is there incentive for police departments to investigate their officers and detectives? What motivations do they have to sweep corruption and violence under the rug?
9. Meg posits, "The difference between justice and revenge comes down to who's telling the story." What does she mean, and do you agree with her?
10. What's next for Kat and Meg? Do you think Kat will succeed in her new quest? Will Meg really retire from cons?

Author Bio

Julie Clark is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *THE LAST FLIGHT*, *THE LIES I TELL* and *THE GHOSTWRITER*. It has earned starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *Publishers Weekly* and *Library Journal*, and the *New York Times* has called it "thoroughly absorbing." It's been named an Indie Next pick, a LibraryReads pick, and a Best Book of 2020 by Amazon Editors and Apple Books. Her debut, *THE ONES WE CHOOSE*, was published in 2018 and has been optioned for television by Lionsgate. She lives in Los Angeles with her two sons and a golden doodle with poor impulse control.

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Publication Date: March 7, 2023

Genres: Domestic Thriller, Fiction, Psychological Suspense, Psychological Thriller, Suspense, Thriller

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Sourcebooks Landmark

ISBN-10: 1728260124

ISBN-13: 9781728260129