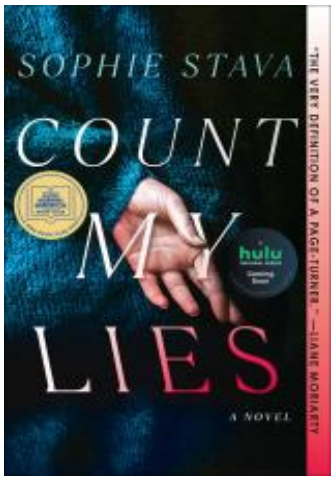
Count My Lies

by Sophie Stava



About the Book

A read-in-one-night suspense thriller narrated by a compulsive liar whose little white lies allow her to enter into the life and comfort of a wealthy married couple who are harboring much darker secrets themselves. For the millions of us still chasing those gone girls, this is perfect for fans of Lisa Jewell, Lucy Foley and Laura Dave.

Sloane Caraway is a liar.

Harmless lies, mostly, to make her self-proclaimed sad, little life a bit more interesting.

So when Sloane sees a young girl in tears at a park one afternoon, she can?t help herself. She tells the girl?s (very attractive) dad that she?s a nurse and helps him pull a bee stinger from the girl?s foot.

With this lie, and chance encounter, Sloane becomes the nanny for the wealthy and privileged Jay and Violet Lockhart. They?re the perfect New York couple, with a brownstone, a daughter in private school, and summers on Block Island.

But maybe Sloane isn?t the only one lying, and all that?s picture-perfect harbors a much more dangerous truth. To say anything more is to spoil the most exciting, twisty and bitingly smart suspense novel to come out in years.

The thing about lies is that they add up, form their own truth and a twisted prison of a world. And in COUNT MY LIES, Sophie Stava spins a breakneck, unputdownable thriller about the secrets we keep and the terrifying dangers that lurk just under the images we spend so much time trying to maintain.

Careful what you lie for.

Discussion Guide

1. COUNT MY LIES begins with a little white lie that leads to a world of trouble. Have you ever told a lie that led to unexpected consequences?

2. The novel asks a lot of questions about jealousy and envy. Have you ever felt envious of a friend, and what did you do about it?

3. The novel turns the concept of female friendship on its head. How have your friendships grown and/or changed over the years? Has a friendship ever felt like it might be too close?

4. Have you ever plotted to get back at someone for being unfaithful in a relationship? Be honest!

5. The novel is narrated by a compulsive liar. What are some other books you've read that feature an unreliable narrator, and how do you think Sophie Stava used previous mysteries that came before hers to write this one?

6. Now that you?ve read the book, we can delve a bit into spoilers! Do you think the punishment fits the crime, so to speak, for Jay Lockhart, or does Sophie Stava allow you to feel sympathy for him?

7. The book has a dramatic halfway twist. Did you see it coming? Why do you think Sophie Stava waited so long to show us another character?s perspective? How did it enrich the novel for you as a reader?

8. The concept of family is a running theme in the novel. Sloane is desperately craving to be a part of the Lockhart family, and Violet will do anything it takes to protect her child. Have you ever gone to extreme lengths to protect your family? To feel like you belong?

9. Violet and Sloane bond over their love of Taylor Swift. Why do you think Sophie Stava chose this particular artist as a point of connection for these two characters? How many Swiftie Easter eggs did you find in the novel?

10. COUNT MY LIES ends on one final lie told by Sloane to Violet. Just how do you think her affection, to put it mildly, for Jay will play out in their new lives together as ?sisters by choice??

Author Bio

Sophie Stava received her BA in English literature from UC Santa Barbara. She currently resides in Southern California with her family.

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