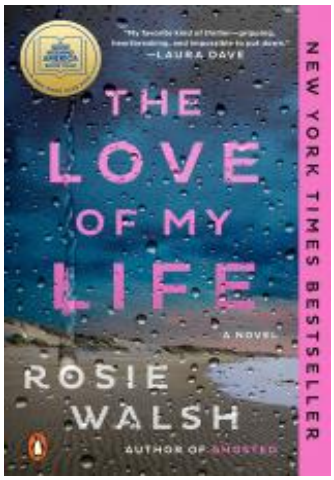
The Love of My Life

by Rosie Walsh



About the Book

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of GHOSTED comes a love story wrapped in a mystery --- an up-all-night page-turner with a dark secret at its core.

I have held you at night for ten years and I didn't even know your name. We have a child together. A dog, a house.

Who are you?

Emma loves her husband, Leo, and their young daughter, Ruby. She?d do anything for them. But almost everything she's told them about herself is a lie.

And she might just have gotten away with it, if it weren?t for her husband?s job. Leo is an obituary writer; Emma is a well-known marine biologist. When she suffers a serious illness, Leo copes by doing what he knows best --- researching and writing about his wife?s life. But as he starts to unravel the truth, he discovers the woman he loves doesn?t really exist. Even her name isn?t real.

When the very darkest moments of Emma?s past finally emerge, she must somehow prove to Leo that she really is the woman he always thought she was.

But first, she must tell him about the other love of her life.

Discussion Guide

1. In Emma and Leo, we initially see a devoted couple with a deep and seemingly genuine connection. To what extent do you believe it is possible for a happy relationship to be founded on colossal untruths? Is it possible to love someone and

not really know who they are?

2. This novel features betrayal, deceptions and outright lies. Whose actions --- or inactions --- do you think were the most harmful, and why?

3. Emma?s postpartum psychosis places her in an extremely vulnerable position, which allows Janice to make a decision that changes the course of several lives. What do you think pushed Janice to make such a choice? Discuss.

4. Leo decides he wants to be with Emma even once he learns the full truth, despite her deceptions. Would you have made the same choice? Why or why not?

5. At times Leo tends to put Emma on a pedestal. But when the truth finally comes out, she says to him, ?Life made sense again, when I met you, Leo. I remembered why people wanted to live.? Do you think he has ever believed she loves and needs him every bit as much he loves and needs her?

6. The moment at which Emma finally meets her adult son is one of the most charged of her life, a longed-for event she had all but given up on. How do you think mother and son handle this moment? Do you feel hopeful for their emerging relationship at the end of the novel?

7. The crab Emma seeks throughout her career proves elusive until the very end. Do you think this is a metaphor? If so, for what

8. The title of the book --- THE LOVE OF MY LIFE --- implies that Emma has only one true love, but her circumstances throughout the novel indicate something very different. Who do you think is the ?real? love of her life, or is there more than one?

Author Bio

Rosie Walsh has lived and traveled all over the world, working as a documentary producer and writer. Her two previous novels, GHOSTED and THE LOVE OF MY LIFE, were *New York Times* bestsellers and have sold nearly two million copies worldwide. THE ONE DAY YOU WERE MY HUSBAND is her third novel. She lives in Devon, UK, with her partner and two children.

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