



Tell Her No Lies

Kelly Irvin

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In *Tell Her No Lies*, a new romantic suspense novel, talented author Kelly Irvin explores the question of what makes a family—nature or nurture?—in a fast-paced race to the truth.

As children, Nina Fischer and her sister were plucked from foster care in Florida and brought to Texas by a wealthy uncle they'd never met after their mother went to prison for selling drugs. Now, as an adult, Nina loves her adopted father and wants to please him, but she's chosen her own career path as a photographer and poet—choices state district court judge Geoffrey Fischer can't appreciate. When she finds him murdered in his study on a night they're home alone, she's the prime suspect and has to prove her innocence or face her own prison term. Is she her mother's daughter, after all?

The two men in her life want to help, each for their own reasons. Can she trust her on-again, off-again boyfriend, attorney Rick Zavala, whose political aspirations seem more important than Nina's tragic loss? Can she trust her friend, photographer Aaron McClure, or will he use their friendship to break the biggest news story of his career?

While cleaning out her father's things, Nina discovers a box of old letters and photos, revealing the secrets her father had been concealing for so long. When her biological mother makes an appearance at Geoffrey Fischer's funeral and asks to be welcomed back into her daughters' lives, Nina is even more determined to find the truth about her past. Following the evidence leads her on a journey of discovery about her father's shocking masquerade as a law-abiding, family-loving Christian. Unlocking these secrets could prove deadly, but it's the only way Nina will ever be able to trust love again.

Tell Her No Lies Details

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Author : Kelly Irvin

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From Reader Review Tell Her No Lies for online ebook

Melanie says

3.5 stars

Tell Her No Lies was a story that got better as I continued to read. The story started without much backstory and I felt like I had to try to figure out what was all going on, which was a little frustrating. Once I got further into the story, I started to really enjoy it and I liked suspense aspect as well.

Even though there was romance in Tell Her No Lies, I didn't feel like it was a main focus and maybe that is why I didn't care about the romance between certain characters.

All in all, Tell Her No Lies was a good suspense novel, but not a favorite.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received one or more of the products or services mentioned above for free in the hope that I would mention/review it on my blog. I was not required to give a positive review, only my honest opinion - which I've done. All thoughts and opinions expressed are my own and I only recommend products or services I use personally and believe will be good for my readers. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255: "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Iola says

Nina Fischer and her sister were adopted by her uncle after their deadbeat mother abandoned them as children. Now she's an adult and an aspiring photographer ... and a person of interest when her uncle is murdered in his study in the wee hours of the morning and she's the only other person in the house.

It's a great start to an excellent murder mystery.

We know Nina wasn't the culprit, as she was on the telephone to her not-boyfriend at the time (hey, this is important. I've recently read a romantic suspense where the hero said he didn't do it, but I didn't know whether to believe him or not).

There is also the tension between Nina and the two men who are interested in her: Rick Zavala, the poor boy turned rising young lawyer, and Aaron McClure, a photojournalist with his own reasons for following her case.

This is the first novel I've read from Kelly Irvin, because her previous novels have all been Amish romance—not a genre I read. Tell Me No Lies has the distinction of being one of the few novels I've read from an Amish fiction author I've actually enjoyed (along with Vanetta Chapman and Shelley Shepherd Grey). The others have been lacking in research rigour, writing craft, or both.

I hope this isn't Kelly Irvin's only foray outside Amish fiction, as I'd like to read more of her writing. The plot has plenty of twists and turns and red herrings. The writing is funny and smart, as were the characters. There's plenty of suspense, a sweet romance, and a solid Christian thread. All in all, *Tell Her No Lies* is a great read.

Recommended for fans of Christian thrillers and romantic suspense from authors such as Robyn Carroll, Lisa Harris, and Diann Mills.

Thanks to Thomas Nelson and NetGalley for providing a free ebook for review.

Kate Ellis says

Tell Her No Lies is the first book I have read by Kelly Irvin and I firstly want to say how pleased I am that she has attained her dream, as she mentions in her note at the end of the book, of publishing suspense. I have read lots of psychological thrillers, suspense, crime, and mystery books. This kept my interest throughout and it was so refreshing to read a book which did not contain swearing to distract and stunt my reading. I look forward to other suspense books by Kelly Irvin. Being a Christian I was keen to see in what ways a book marketed as Christian genre differs from mainstream or general adult fiction. I was pleased to find that Kelly Irvin in a very honest and earthed way includes the thoughts many of us have about God as we search for Him, question His ways, and try to make sense of our lives, and things that happen to us all, whether we are Christian or not. I thoroughly enjoyed this book, and recommend it to others that like thrillers with twists.

Lindsey (Books for Christian Girls) says

About this book:

"As children, Nina Fischer and her sister were plucked from foster care in Florida and brought to Texas by a wealthy uncle they'd never met after their mother went to prison for selling drugs. Now, as an adult, Nina loves her adopted father and wants to please him, but she's chosen her own career path as a photographer and poet—choices state district court judge Geoffrey Fischer can't appreciate. When she finds him murdered in his study on a night they're home alone, she's the prime suspect and has to prove her innocence or face her own prison term. Is she her mother's daughter, after all?

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Series: As of now, no.

Spiritual Content- Exodus 20:12 at the beginning; A few Scriptures are mentioned, remembered/repeated, & talked about; Prayers; Talks about trusting God; Nina has trust issues & finds it hard to believe about a loving Father or trusting anyone named 'Father'; Aaron is a believer & tries to witness to Nina; *Spoiler* (view spoiler)*End of Spoiler*; Mentions of God & Christians; Mentions of prayers, praying, & blessings over food; Mentions of churches & church going; A few mentions of hymns; A mention of a good Samaritan;

*Note: a 'Thank God' is said by someone who most likely doesn't mean it; A mention of someone having a master's in Eastern religions.

Negative Content- Minor cussing including: a 'biddy', a form of 'crap', a 'crummy', a 'dumb', a 'give a flip', a 'kick-butt' (used to described something), a 'little poop head' (when referring to a cat), a 'shush', a 'sissy', a 'suck it up', a 'wuss', eleven 'idiot's, thirteen 'stupid's, sixteen forms of 'shut up'; Curses are said, not written (by Rick and Melanie) & mentions of curses; Eye rolling; Finding a body of a loved one murdered, blood, & seeing how it happened (semi-detailed); Finding another body that was murdered, blood, & seeing how it happened (semi-detailed, *Major Spoiler* (view spoiler) *End of Spoiler*); Being Punched & Blood/Bleeding (semi-detailed); Being pushed down the stairs & Pain (semi-detailed); Being held at gunpoint, aiming guns, guns are shot, & a setting up for a murder who look like a fight (up to semi-detailed); A car accident/crash & pain (up to semi-detailed); Rick has a hangover & remembers drinking; Rick remembers when he did drugs & wishes for a line of coke; All about many mentions of murders, how they happened, who did them, & blood (semi-detailed); Many mentions of gambling, taking bribes, & hiding it from a spouse; Many mentions of alcohol, alcohol addictions, drinking, drunks, hangovers, bars, & parties; Many mentions of cigarettes, tobacco, & smoke; Many mentions of lies, lying, & liars; Mentions of all the deaths Aaron has filmed (including a person being run-over, a body that was stabbed, horses who were abused, and children dying from a car crash, barely-above-not-detailed); Mentions of assassins, hiring one, & killing adults and minors; Mentions of a car running someone over & the murder/death; Mentions of morgue humor & jokes about dead bodies and deaths; Mentions of shootings, gunshots, injuries, & deaths; Mentions of being punched, injuries, blood/bleeding, & intruders/burglars; Mentions of someone being hit in the face by a gun (barely-above-not-detailed); Mentions of a police officer shooting his partner (more details on how/why is not given); Mentions of wars overseas, fighting, & PTSD; Mentions of threats & blackmail; Mentions of prison/jail; Mentions of rehabs; Mentions of gossip & rumors; Mentions of drugs/pot, drug users/addicts, & drug sellers; Mentions of divorces & wives wanting one; Mentions of nightmares; Mentions of throwing up; Mentions of tattoos; Mentions of a threat of shooting a pet; Mentions of hunting; A few mentions of accidental deaths; A few mentions of graffiti; A couple mentions of mothers who lost their children from drive-by shootings; A couple mentions of a car accident & deaths; A couple mentions of deaths from cancer; A couple mentions of Rick getting beatings from stepfathers when growing up; A couple mentions of gangbangers; A couple mentions of being hateful & hatred; A couple mentions of DUIs & being a designated driver; A mention of a singer who was killed by a fan; A mention of a gang selling meth; A mention of grave robbers; A mention of a club; A mention of poker; A mention of seeing something like a pit bull mauling a kitten; A mention of someone passing gas;

*Note: Many mentions of singers & songs; Many mentions of brand names and designers; Mentions of TV shows, movies, characters, & actors; Mentions of car brands; Mentions of painters & paintings; Mentions of social media platforms; A couple mentions of Girl Scouts; A couple mentions of Starbucks; A couple mentions of Hallmark & Lifetime; A mention of GQ.

Sexual Content- two cheek kisses, a forehead kiss, two barely-above-not-detailed kisses, three (unwanted) semi-detailed kisses, and a detailed kiss; Remembering kisses (up to semi-detailed); Wanting to kiss; Touches, Shivers, & Embraces (barely-above-not-detailed); Noticing; four 'babe's; Rick hugs Nina once

*Note: A mention of her sister's curves that Nina always wanted; A mention of Jan's attributes that make men pay attention to her; A mention of a woman's amazing body (from Rick's perspective); A mention of not meeting intruder while just wearing underwear; A mention of a woman's cleavage showing; A mention of another woman having work done on her face and chest; A mention of getting a butt out of bed; A mention of someone who is a pain in the butt; A mention of butting heads; A mention of hauling someone's butt to a police station; A mention of a baby's butt; A mention of someone being a horse's patootie; A mention of prostate cancer; A mention of someone having assets up the wazoo.

330 pages

This book teetered between a two-star rating because of Nina and the film photography parts and a one-star because of the obvious content and the content of Rick (which I strongly disliked him, his forced kisses, and the lack of a restraining order that Nina should have done on him). I did have a bit of trouble with the writing style a few times as a handful of parts felt choppy or used a lot of slang/abbreviations. This was a roller-coaster of a book, but because of different content, the ratings are low for this suspense book.

<https://booksforchristiangirls.blogspot...>

*BFCG may (Read the review to see) recommend this book by this author. It does not mean I recommend all

the books by this author.

*I received this book for free from the Publisher (Thomas Nelson) for this honest review.

Ann says

Thanks to the publisher for an advance reader's copy.

I had to quit reading this from boredom. Nothing happened in the first 60+ pages of the book! The murder happened in the first chapter before I had the chance to learn enough about the character to care, and the next 50+ pages are all repetitive establishing conversations.

Mark says

Kelly Irvin is a new author to me. It looks like she has only written Amish fiction prior to this book, so that is one reason I haven't read anything by her. I am always eager to try out new authors, especially in the Christian suspense genre', so I was happy to get Tell Me No Lies to review.

I like books that jump immediately into the suspense, and this one started out with a murder in the first chapter, and the suspense kept building from that point. I liked the characters, the plot, and definitely the suspense. I'll admit the idea of a photographer sounded a bit boring, but the book was far from boring.

Christian books like this often address a certain topic, or have a theme. Trust was the one addressed in this book, trust of others and God. The author also dealt with the issue of homelessness in the book, and is something it is good to be reminded of and what a problem it for so many.

Romance played a part in the story, as it usually does in this kind of book. I tend to get into that more than I used to, and found myself rooting for the one dude over the other..... and was happy to see the author agreed with me. :) And it made for a great ending.

And just when I thought the crime had been solved, and all of the guilty parties arrested, the author threw a curve ball I did not see coming.

As I stated, I have not read the author's Amish novels, but Tell Me No Lies shows she is great at suspense.

Caitlyn Santi says

This is my first time reading a book by this author, and I enjoyed it. Romantic suspense is one of my favorite genres and this one had some great edge of your seat moments, but the pace felt a bit slow for my taste. I loved Aaron instantly! I'm personally not crazy about love triangles, but I did end up liking how that aspect of the story was handled. I liked Nina, but I didn't feel like I ever fully connected with her, which kept me from feeling very invested in her story.

Overall, Tell Her No Lies is a very good read that I recommend to fans of romantic suspense. I am very intrigued by the description of this author's next romantic suspense novel which I definitely plan on reading!

I received a copy of this book from the publisher, which did not influence my review in any way. All thoughts and opinions are one hundred percent my own.

Karen R says

Wow, this one starts out with a bang and keeps up the tension until the end! One of the best romantic suspense stories I've read. Plenty of action, mystery, and a complex plot kept the pages turning. It also hits on some serious issues relevant to today--addiction, child abandonment, homelessness--and their lingering damaging affects on families. Faith and prayer are touched on, and the need to trust God and forgive others. "God is a good Father. We can't always understand what His plan is, but we have to trust He has one."

The romance is a complicated one between friends. The ending is a tender one though, and worth the wait. Poor Nina definitely gets put through the ringer, but seems to come out better for it, emotionally and spiritually.

Highly recommend for fans of Christian romantic suspense!

(I received a complimentary copy of this book from Thomas Nelson through NetGalley. Opinions expressed in this review are completely my own.)

Gloria says

Tell Her No Lies is a great Christian suspense that is complicated and multi-layered. Nina Fischer lives at her family home where she has her own apartment on the third floor. She has a photojournalist background and carries her camera everywhere. She has a trust issue and the camera helps. Nina and her friend Aaron are putting together a photo/video exhibit and the deadline is coming up. Working on the project late one night in her darkroom, she becomes hungry and travels downstairs to get a snack in the kitchen only to hear a noise in her father's study. Her father's body is on the floor. She tries CPR but he is gone. Police detective King of the San Antonio Police Department takes her in for questioning. Her dad is a judge, an important man. Her friend, Rick, a civil law attorney can't represent her but his firm calls someone for her. Nina is let go and then the rest of her family is questioned. Her family is an odd group. Nina and her sister Jan are really the nieces of her dad and mom. Her dad's sister is a druggie and alcoholic who left the girls in a tent city in Florida when they were young and they were put in the foster system, only to be rescued by her uncle and aunt, who raised them. Her aunt, whom she calls Grace, is a romance author and travels frequently. Her parents have a son, Trevor, who is a college professor. Jan is a sniper in the Army and her husband is in the Army. They have a seven year old daughter that lives in the Fischer home. This is a strange household but it seems to work for them. Their dad always expects the best from them and he gives the best. He is a fair judge, a Christian man, always doing the right thing. Or is he? Why would someone want to kill a beloved judge? As Aaron and Nina investigate who might have killed her dad, they find out that things are not always how they seem. People are not who they appear to be. People start to die as Aaron and Nina talk to them. On the other hand, Rick is possessive of Nina. He is trying to get into politics and thinks that Nina would be a great wife for him. He does love her but he loves himself more. Aaron and Nina are close but have not taken a step beyond friends. The two guys are jealous of each other. There is friction everywhere. Nina is attacked and Detective King tries to get her to stay out of the investigation but she thinks that she is protecting her family. This is a wild ride with corruption, greed, hurt and surprises. Aaron helps Nina see that she can trust God

when others have caused her pain and grief. Nina has to forgive others in order to move forward in her life. Great suspense!

I received a complimentary ARC from Thomas Nelson Publishing through NetGalley. The thoughts and opinions stated are mine only.

Fiction Aficionado says

If you like a good dose of family drama with your romantic suspense, then look no further. It's all happening in this story! When the only father Nina has ever known is murdered, all the skeletons begin falling out of the closet. Add in (a) Detective No-Filter, who's itching to arrest Nina, and (b) the two men vying for her affection, both of whom have a conflict of interest, and you've got a whole lot of tension, quite aside from the rising body count.

It was certainly a book that kept me turning the pages, but I found myself debating whether one particular character's POV was necessary to the story. In some ways it would have had more of an impact if this character's motives and actions had remained hidden for longer, although it perhaps could have worked if the character had been more developed—if there had been more of an internal struggle as the situation progressed or a greater sense that external pressures had painted the character into a corner.

Despite knowing what the aforementioned character was up to, there were still some surprises as the plot unfolded, and I confess I didn't pick the culprit at the end—although in hindsight I probably should have at least wondered. Throughout the story, Nina also grapples with the idea of trusting a God people refer to as "Father" when both her earthly fathers have left her, and the one she knew and trusted is turning out to have a secret life that's very different to the model Christian one he displayed to the world.

So, yes. Plenty going on, and I look forward to more romantic suspense titles from this author.

I received a copy of this novel from the publisher. This has not influenced the content of my review, which is my honest and unbiased opinion.

Susan says

A wonderful blend of suspense, intrigue, romance and faith. Several twists and turns. I'm hoping this develops into a series. Looking forward to more by this author and narrator.

Shalini says

This was a perfect read between my thrillers which had me forgetting realities of life. I didn't even analyse the book. I just went with the flow.

Nina moved back home to pursue photography and one day working late, discovered her adopted father's dead body which led to her racing against time to get to the murderer.

There was romance as she was liked by Rick her childhood friend and a lawyer with political aspirations, and colleague and competitor of sorts, Aaron, both if they want to help her. But could she trust them?

My first book by Kelly Irvin, had me enjoying the twists in the plot and secrets that slowly kept getting uncovered. There was action, suspense, mystery and tension across the scenes which made it a quick read, the triangle in the romance niggled me quite a bit.
Overall an enjoyable read

Staci says

This suspense novel offers a lot of action and plenty of plot twists. Nina is a strong lead with a rough early childhood and the need to protect others. Tell Her No Lies is set in San Antonio and I love that the two main characters are alumni from the same college that I attended.

My gratitude to publisher Thomas Nelson for a complimentary copy of the novel. I was not required to post a review and the opinions expressed are my own.

Erin Laramore says

Wow - what a great ride! This was my first book by Kelly Irvin and will not be my last. While the title and cover had drawn me, it was other advanced reviews that lead me to seek out this book for myself So glad I did!

Nina Fischer is a night owl, up late listening to music while she does work in her dark-room. And is the only other person at home when her father is murdered in his study. When she finds him, she calls the police and starts CPR, but that doesn't change the likelihood of her being a suspect in the detective's mind. When she is connected with 2 other murders in town, suspicions rise even further. Nina and the 2 guys fighting for her affection have to find a way to determine who really committed these murders and clear her name.

This story had a lot of character development and growth. It had great suspense with a lot of twists and turns. I didn't know who did it until the very end! This is considered romantic suspense, but unlike most romantic suspense where a guy and girl are thrown together in a life-threatening situation and fall in love hard and fast in a super cheesy way, the romantic elements in this book are deeper-rooted and realistic. I'm not one for romance (especially cheesy romance), but I found the romance elements of this one to be sweet.

All in all, this was an excellent book that would appeal to a broad range of audiences. With the romance element and the suspense element, it caters to both of those audiences. Though it was fast paced, it was never so intense that it would give a person nightmares. I thoroughly enjoyed the story-line and writing style. I definitely look forward to more books from this author.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from Thomas Nelson through NetGalley. Opinions expressed in this review are completely my own.

Calista Andrechek says

Thank you NetGalley, Kelly Irvin and Thomas Nelson for the free e-book in exchange for an honest review.

Nina and her sister were plucked from their absentee mother at a very early age and were placed with their well off aunt and uncle, who were like parents to them. Nina loves her adopted father, even if he doesn't support her career choices. One night, while getting ready for a show, Nina hears something downstairs and investigates only to find her father dead on the floor and she is the only one in the house. She becomes the prime suspect and the two other men in her life try to help her, but for their own very different reasons. Which one can she trust? While cleaning out her father's things, she finds letters from her biological mom and realizes that there was more to her father's life than he let on. Suddenly everyone around Nina starts to die and she knows she has to find out who is calling the shots.

I felt like I was just dropped right into this novel and I didn't enjoy that because I didn't feel like I knew what was going on at all. I was thrown off by the beginning and really didn't feel like I got my bearings at any point during this novel. I unfortunately didn't feel like I could connect to any of the characters and found that the novel was too confusing for me to full understand what was going on. I enjoyed some of Nina and Aaron's relationship and the ending of the novel, but otherwise I didn't understand most of the characters choices and felt like the book was just not for me.

The writing was good and if I could have connected with the characters, I feel like this would have been a great novel. There was just a lot going on and I felt myself getting confused and having to go back and reread parts of the novel. The ending though was a surprise to me and I enjoyed the last 10% of the novel much more than the rest of the book. I also really enjoyed Nina's ex-boyfriend Rick because I love a character that we can hate and not feel bad about it. Overall, I didn't enjoy the entire novel but parts of it were superb.
