



True Betrayals

Nora Roberts

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Dear Kelsey: I realise you might be surprised to hear from me . . .

Kelsey Byden, divorced at just twenty-six, isn't looking for any more drama. But then she receives a letter from her mother, Naomi. Not so unusual - except Kelsey has always been told that Naomi was dead . . .

During an extended visit to her mother's beautiful horse farm in Virginia, Kelsey begins to untangle a lifetime of deception. Who can she trust, when those she loves have lied to her for so long?

To complicate things further, Kelsey is falling dangerously in love with Gabe Slater, Naomi's handsome and intriguing neighbour. But love and lies are a lethal combination. If Kelsey has any hope of a future with Gabe, she must first understand the terrible truth about her past . . .

True Betrayals Details

Date : Published February 5th 2015 by Piatkus (first published 1995)

ISBN :

Author : Nora Roberts

Format : Kindle Edition 436 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Contemporary Romance, Fiction, Contemporary

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Susan says

This is exactly why I love Nora Roberts books!! Awesome read!!

Telma Duarte says

“Mentiras e Traições”, o meu primeiro romance de Nora Roberts, mas certamente não será o último. Uma história envolvente, que nos leva aos bastidores dos hipódromos, onde as corridas de cavalos movimentam imensas quantias em apostas e, onde podemos assistir aos efeitos e consequências da inveja, da ganancia e da luxuria.

Kelsey entra neste mundo até então totalmente desconhecido, quando aos 26 anos de idade, acabada de sair de um casamento vitimado pela traição, se depara com a existência de uma mãe morta há 23 anos. Vendo que parte da sua vida fora uma mentira, parte em busca da verdade. Ao conhecer a mãe que, “morreu” para a proteger da inevitável vergonha de ter uma mãe assassina, acaba conhecendo o mundo do qual a afastaram, mas que aos poucos vai descobrindo ser o seu mundo. Gabe é o homem com uma história de vida improvável, com um pai que não o deveria ser, pois que até então só “viveu” para o maltratar e prejudicar. Oriundos de dois mundos totalmente antagónicos, os dois irão lutar pela justiça e pelo amor.

“...Talvez fosse o seu conto de fadas, pensou. O seu viveram felizes para sempre pessoal. Era verdade que fora a tragédia a trazê-la ali e a abrir-lhe as portas para o futuro. Mas os contos de fadas estavam cheios de tragédias. Órfãos e príncipes vítimas de feitiços, traições e sacrifícios, intenções diabólicas e amores perdidos.

Mas o bem triunfava sempre. Talvez por isso se tivesse lembrado da analogia. Se aquele era o seu conto de fadas, ia fazer tudo para que o bem triunfasse. Não ia desistir de encontrar a verdade”.

Uma história com um final surpreendente e totalmente inesperado. Recomendo

Mary says

La verdad que el nombre "Traiciones" es muy adecuado para esta historia.

Kelsey y Gabe son el último eslabón de una cadena que comenzó años atrás con un asesinato, un caballo aspirante a ganar el derby, muerto y una mujer culpada y sentenciada por asesinato. Los personajes del pasado y presente giran en una rueda de venganza, codicia, envidia, lujuria, traición, celos...etc. El concepto de los círculos y como las cosas que uno hace vuelven y te golpean en la espalda es un tema frecuente en los libros de Nora Roberts, es parte de la historia ver como las últimas personas sobre las que recae el pasado luchan por no hundirse en él mientras descubren sus sentimientos el uno hacia el otro.

Muy buenos personajes: Kelsey es una mujer fuerte y testaruda, pero en el buen sentido, es lo que la motiva a tomar decisiones por si misma y no ceder a los deseos de su familia. Gabe es un amor! Es un salvaje encantador, si bien tiene un pasado truculento y tendencia a las apuestas, es trabajador y defiende lo que

tiene.

Me encantó los mensajes de la historia, todos los paralelismos entre las familias de Kelsey y Gabe y obviamente como se cierran los círculos para dar paso a nuevos círculos. Mi única crítica es que el personaje que inicia todo esta ola de venganza y traición en el pasado, y aviva las llamas en el presente, no recibe el castigo que se merece.... me hubiera gustado que pagara y las personas intermedias también. Como bonus, aprender sobre las carreras de caballos y su cría fue muy interesante.

JuliaOrlando says

I thought this was a very enjoyable read about a woman who is trying to build a relationship with the mother she had been told died when she was a young child, but was actually in jail after being found guilty of murder.

As Kelsey begins to establish a deeper bond with her mother Naomi, other members of her family become worried that she will disgrace the family name and that she will abandon her previous lifestyle in order to be closer to Naomi.

I liked the little twists and turns in this book and the foray in the world of horse racing.

jenjn79 says

This is one of my favorite Nora Roberts books. Actually, the first time I read it, I thought it was good, but didn't love it. But for whatever reason, the story stuck in my head and I found myself wanting to read it again. So I did, about a year later, I guess. And it became one of my favorites.

The book has a little bit of everything, which is perhaps why I like it so much. Love and betrayal, family reunions, horses, mystery, self-discovery...and so much more. I enjoy the story alone because of the romance that develops between Kelsey and Gabe - they're a fantastic couple - but the plot is one of the best things about the book. It's well-thought-out and engaging, the characters are interesting...I'm just never bored while reading this book. I'm sure someone with a lot of knowledge of horses and the horse racing world could find things to pick at, but to the average reader, everything comes across as logical and reasonable. And as someone with little knowledge of the subject, I wasn't confused at all.

If I had one gripe with this book, it was that the behind-the-scenes antagonist never really had to face what they had done. That kind of annoyed me, but otherwise, I love everything about *True Betrayals*

Pepa says

Terminado. Reconozco que esta mujer sabe como escribir una novela. La ambientación del mundo de las carreras de caballos está muy lograda y, a pesar, que el malo malísimo de la historia ha estado muy claro desde el principio me ha sabido mantener atrapada en la historia.

Estamos ante una autora de las más consagradas, de la que tan solo he leído dos libros, y los dos me han gustado. Pero no sé, no sé si es porque la temática contemporánea no consigue realmente emocionarme, pero sus libros no consiguen "encantarme". Son buenos, pero no logra emocionarme con sus historias de amor. Y lo que busco es algo tan terriblemente difícil como que provoquen sentimientos.

Gail Fiorini says

Same old lust-at-first-sight and sex scenes that are just moved from book to book automatically. Nora Roberts is a better writer than she thinks she is. Though the surface plot is obvious, the issues and subplots are really good, sometimes thought-provoking. The use of horseracing as a background made for interesting settings and descriptions. I wish she would ditch the hash and write a novel worthy of herself.

Marie Freeman says

This book really hit home for me. I picked it up for several reasons: 1. I will read just about anything from Nora Roberts, 2. I was intrigued by the complicated relationship between mother and daughter-given my own complicated relationship with my own mother, and 3. It had been a while since I read a good horse book.

All of these reasons turned out to be good ones. I found myself continuing to read on not only for the mystery, although it was compelling, but because I wanted to continue to watch the progression in the relationship between Kelsey (daughter) and Naomi (mother). Coupled with my investment in the horses and the budding romance between Kelsey and the neighboring horse barn owner, I fell in love with the book and all of its subplots.

Putri Septiana says

In almost Nora Robert's books I often learn something new. This time is horses. Here in my country, there aren't much horses, and usually it's used as a means of transportation. So I don't know much about horses, much less about horse racing. But I enjoyed reading this book. It doesn't bore me even when I don't know anything about horses. And it gives me new knowledge for sure.

About the plot, it's good enough that it keeps me from putting down the book, but not much surprise here. I can pinpoint that the grandmother is the person behind the trouble halfway through the book.

Now the hero, Gabe Slater, he is my favorite kind of hero. Charming and funny with a little dark in the person. The heroine, Kelsey Byden, is strong enough but still need Gabe to lean to. Many Robert's heroine is too strong for my taste that made the hero's part seems unimportant and useless. But this couple is a perfect mix, they complement each other.

Even if the plot is not that surprising, when I know something bad is about to happen, I keep thinking 'what is it? what is it?'. So this is definitely in my reread list.

Mojca says

Kelsey Byden has spent 23 years of her 26-year-long life thinking her mother was dead. Imagine her surprise when she receives a letter from one Naomi Chadwick, her mother, back from the dead.

Despite the objections of her grandmother and stepmother, Kelsey decides to contact the woman who gave birth to her, and soon moves to the woman's horse ranch.

As she slowly gets to know her mother, Kelsey finally realizes the life before moving to the Virginia countryside was no life at all, and her moving from hobby to hobby, and job to job, was merely searching for her true goal in life. A goal she's finally found.

But as Kelsey gets accustomed to her new life, her true purpose, and the possibility of a long-term relationship with her mother's charming neighbor, Gabriel Slater, a ghost from the past is slowly rising, determined to ruin all Naomi, Kelsey, and Gabe have accomplished.

My "experience" with Nora Roberts's early books is hit-and-miss, unfortunately. And as I started this one, I honestly feared this would fall under the "miss" category, mostly because I didn't particularly like the heroine or her actions and behavior. She sounded selfish, shallow, and, yes, spoiled.

I could not have been more wrong, though, and after a few chapters, and once Kelsey was out of the grasp of her blue-blooded family for whom appearances were everything, no matter who suffered for them, and moved to the country, I realized the spoiled brat was just the veneer, a mask she used to keep up those appearances, and to keep doubts about what her true place in life was, at bay.

Everything, not just the heroine, was different in the country, actually. The narration was different, the descriptions more vivid, the pacing steadier, the characters well-developed and realistic, the emotions stronger, the intensity higher.

I loved the relationship between long-lost mother and daughter. It built up slowly, steadily, its progress organic. The romance between Kelsey and Gabe, on the other hand, was much quicker to develop and progress, yet didn't feel rushed, but just perfect, the tempo of it very much suited for both their characters. Despite their different upbringing these two were quite similar in lots of ways, leaning new things and how to adapt in the way they were complete opposites.

If Kelsey were truly that woman we got to know at the beginning, the polished, flighty socialite, their romance would not have worked, but since deep down she was just as passionate, just as emotion-driven, and just as stubborn as Gabe, they worked together more than nicely.

But what drew the story forward, what fueled the intensity, what kept me turning the pages, was the suspense. The twists and turns of it all, the danger both to humans and animals, the horrible ends people were willing to go to accomplish a goal, be it keep someone in line, punish someone, get rich, or simply to get rid of an unwelcome individual, were chilling, and strangely fascinating.

Some of those got their comeuppance, but I was sorry the biggest sociopath (the behavior and utterly remorseless responses made me think of that word) came through it without a scratch. This main villain, the one who put things in motion all those years ago only to repeat the process twenty-three years later, was rather predictable, but I didn't mind, I was looking forward to the discovery and the punishment, only to be disappointed the punishment was lacking.

Oh well, the other baddie got what was coming, so I'm happy.

This book had it all; great characters, explosive chemistry, wonderfully sexy romance, mystery and secrets, suspense, danger and drama. Loved it.

Mieke Schepens says

Wist je dit?

Onder het pseudoniem J.D. Robb schreef ze ook 38 misdaadromans, de 'in Death' serie.

Het zal je maar overkomen dat je een brief krijgt van je doodgewaande moeder. Dan blijkt ook nog dat je vader en je grootmoeder je al jaren voorgelogen hebben over dit feit.

Dit is de dag waarop ze haar man verloor en een moeder had gewonnen, zo gaat het door Kelsey's hoofd. Overstuur rijdt ze meteen naar Three Willows waar haar moeder op een stoeterij woont waarvan ze eigenaresse is.

Een prachtige cover die aan de achterkant doorloopt laat een smeedijzeren poort met hoefijzers op witte stenen toegangspalen zien in een bloemrijke omgeving. Dat geeft de sfeer goed weer van de vruchtbare omgeving waar dit verhaal zich afspeelt.

Kelsey besluit een tijdje bij haar moeder te gaan wonen om haar te leren kennen. Ondanks het verkeerde begin klikt het goed tussen moeder en dochter. Ze leert ook Gabe, een buurman van haar moeder kennen, met wie ze eveneens bijzonder goed op kan schieten.

Er gebeuren dingen die haar verblijf minder leuk maken. Een lastige ex-echtgenoot blijft haar telefonisch lastigvallen. Ze heeft een duidelijke streep door hun relatie gezet, maar wil iedereen dat wel?

Ze gaat samen met Gabe aan de slag om de onderste steen boven te krijgen. Over het hoe en waarom in verband met haar moeders' gevangenisstraf. Maar men zit nooit echt te wachten op wat er te voorschijn komt blijkt al snel. Niet alleen bij haar is dat het geval, maar ook bij een aantal andere personages in dit verhaal.

Het is duidelijk dat Nora Roberts de omgeving waarin dit verhaal zich afspeelt, als haar broekzak kent. Ze heeft een heerlijke schrijfstijl waardoor je als lezer geboeid blijft lezen. Ze schrijft net zo vlot uit het oogpunt van een man als dat van een vrouw. Dat ze altijd tussen mannen heeft geleefd is een plus gebleken. Ze kent de psyche van de man, dat is duidelijk.

Kelsey komt heel dicht bij de waarheid, dat gaat niet zonder gevaar voor haar en haar omgeving. Ze wil beschermen en verdedigen.

Maar dan komt iets boven water waar iemand niet mee kan leven. Letterlijk. Iets over de man wiens bloed door zijn aderen stroomt en bovendien iets over zichzelf.

Maar er zijn geen pasklare antwoorden, zo blijkt.

Het plot wordt knap opgebouwd. Er komt meer bij kijken dan ik verwacht had toen ik in dit boek begon te lezen. Het is inmiddels uitgegroeid naar een bijzonder spannende roman. Alle dingen kloppen uiteindelijk, het past als een handschoen.

Dit boek heeft alles in zich waarover een lezer wil lezen: hebzucht, liefde, haat, familie, jaloezie en onbegrip. Maar ook moord en doodslag zijn aanwezig. Niet zomaar een roman.

Pas op de laatste bladzijde is duidelijk hoe tot de keuze van de titel Dageraad op Three Willows gekomen is. Deze auteur heeft met haar boeiende schrijfstijl gezorgd voor urenlang leesplezier.

Anita says

Nora Roberts is the most wonderful romantic-suspense author, EVER!! True Betrayals is an oldie, published in 1995. It shown no age, whatsoever. The suspense is riveting and the romance hot. A twisted tale of twisted revenge. But baddie gets their due in the end.

Gage is a gambler who won big in a card game and not has a Virginia horse farm that is now producing winners. A lot of people are not happy about Gabe's good fortune. Gage is very good friends with his neighbor, Naomi. They have a lot in common, including a rivalry between their horses.

Naomi is a convicted murderer whose daughter, Kelsey was told she was dead. While Naomi's family was racing royalty, Kelsey's father and Grandmother were blue blood to the last drop. the two didn't mix well and ended up in a battle over young Kelsey. When Naomi reaches out to Kelsey after 23 years, the s--- hits the fan and things take a deadly turn.

Kelsey is devastated to learn her mother is still alive. When she tells her family, father, stepmother, grandmother, that she is going to spend time with Naomi, well, you would have thought the world had come to an end. As Naomi and Kelsey grow closer, Kelsey discovers that she has a deep love for the farm, horses, racing and Gabe. This does not make some people very happy. When it looks like Naomi's horse may win the Derby, well that just isn't going to happen.

Michelle says

I enjoy all Nora Roberts books. They are easy to read.

Kris - My Novelesque Life says

TRUE BETRAYALS

Written by Nora Roberts

1995; 400 Pages

Genre: romance, contemporary, mystery

4 1/2

Now when I start a Nora Roberts (standalone) novel I go into the book with the mindset of this is a contemporary romance with a slight mystery in the background. With that in mind, I find that I am really enjoying the books. A new book friend told me this is her favourite NR novel and I am happy to say it's on the favourites list for me too.

Kelsey Byden went to pick up her mail and was expecting divorce papers but instead finds a letter from her mother...who she thought was dead. After confronting her beloved father, Philip, she finds out that not only is her mother alive, but she was once in prison for murder. Curiosity can't keep her away so she heads down to Naomi Chadwick's horse farm. At first there is

some tension but Kelsey thinks there is more to the murder and wants to give Naomi a chance. As she learns more about Naomi and the past she finds herself loving the mother that abandoned her. Also keeping her on the farm are the horses and neighbour, Gabe Slater. Gabe also has a troubled past so she finds in him understanding and love. Just when things could not get any better there is a murder, an angry grandmother, another murder and secrets.

Right from page one there is a great hook that keeps you until the last page. I love Kelsey's spunk and fiery passion. Her chemistry with Gabe is hot! Gabe on his own is very steamy indeed. I enjoyed how Naomi and Kelsey started to become mother and in daughter - and their shared passion of horses. I loved to hate Millicent...who makes my own paternal grandmother look like a saint. I recommend this novel to all contemporary romance lovers!

k (My Novelesque Life)

Liza Wiemer says

Love Nora Roberts.
