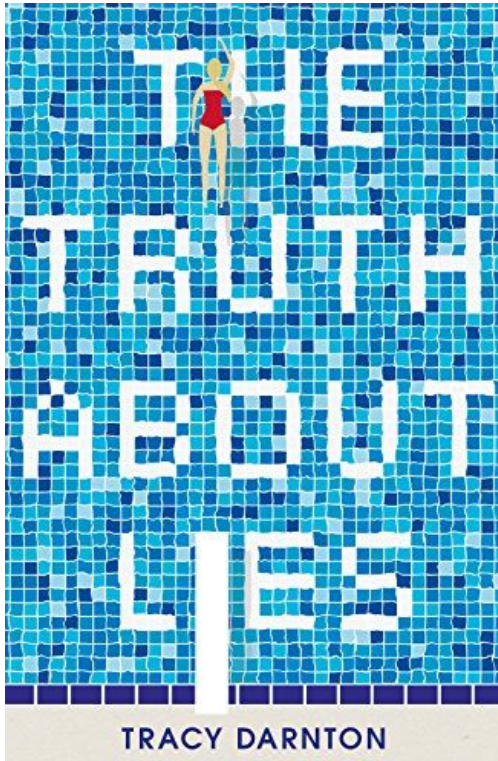


## LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of **The Truth About Lies** Written by Tracy Darnton

Below are the complete reviews, written by the LoveReading4kids members.



Holly Wilkins, age 14

***Truly gripping. Excellent read. I recommend this book to any YA reader who likes mystery. You will never want to put it down, until you get to the end - which is very satisfying. Read this book!!!***

*Jess thinks she has an infallible memory and has been studied in the Programme run by Coleman. She manages to escape and she goes to Dartmeet College after her mum dies in a car accident. At Dartmeet College she reinvents herself but still cannot escape her memory. Every day she remembers her best friend falling out of the window. She can never forget it, or anything. A new boy, Dan, arrives at the same time as a new teacher and cryptic messages start appearing. Who are they from? Is there a link with her past? Is her memory really infallible?*

Lily O'Dwyer, age 9

***I wish my memory was as good as Jess' so I could replay this book in my head over and over!***

*I loved this book! It kept me gripped all the way through. It was easy to read, I liked the main characters. I couldn't work out who was good or bad for ages, it was a real puzzle. I think Jess must be a very strong girl to go through all that she did when she was younger.*

*I would love to have a memory like that, especially for school for tests and things, but I totally get why sometimes it was a pain. I really didn't like Dr Coleman. I thought she was a horrible horrible lady, who deserves everything she gets. I would recommend this book to my friends.*

**Soph Ufton,**

***Loved this book. I couldn't stop reading and wanted to find what happened to Jess. Fantastic!!!***

*This is the story of Jess, who from the age of 11 has been able to remember everything from everyday. After being tested on for so long, one day she manages to escape but just when she starts to accept a normal life, her boarding school mate dies and the school is thrown into grief and chaos. Is it time to run again? Will she finally get her freedom?*

**Rose Heathcote, age 19**

***Jess can remember everything she has ever done since the age 11 and with the loss of her best friend, her secrets getting out. I didn't put this book down and would recommend it for young adults.***

*Jess who is the main character. Since the age of eleven, she remembers everything. I mean everything. Not only facts but smells, sounds, how events make her feel. It is not just a memory, it is re-living. She files everything away in bookshelves in rooms in her head. It is how she can cope with having so much in her brain. She has secrets too and they are unravelling. It is written in the first person, which I think was the only way this book could be written as she is quite blunt, sharp, and damaged girl which could come off as non-empathetic. I did not put this book down from beginning to end and would definitely recommend it to young adults.*

**Emily Kirby, age 14**

***I really enjoyed 'The Truth About Lies' and I will definitely recommend it as a quick summer read. There were a quite a few unexpected twists and turns which kept me interested.***

*Without ruining anything 'The Truth About Lies' is the story of a girl called Jess in the aftermath of her best friend Hanna's death. But Jess is no ordinary girl, not only does she have a photographic memory but she also has hyperthymesia this means she can also recall about any experience she has ever had since the age of 11 (the age may vary for different people), because of her unique condition she used to be involved in Dr Coleman's programme, throughout the book you learn more and more about her past. I thought this book had a good pace and I thoroughly enjoyed it!*

**Edel Waugh,**

***Go get this, Jess is amazing!***

*The story is set in Dartmoor in England and is about a girl called Jess who is exceptionally smart, her memory is incredible, she can remember every single thing that has ever happened to her, both good and bad, eek!*

*When her roommate falls to her death it all begins a spiral into her past as she tries to figure out who is friend or foe and if everything she is remembering is true or could she be missing something.*

*This was a great read, the story goes back and forth in time and we get glimpses of her younger life and why she is the way she is now, the story keeps you guessing and I had to read it all in one go it was just so enticing. I also really enjoyed the memory games throughout the book, they were really fun and probably the reason why it took me so long to finish this great read . Go get this, Jess is amazing!*

<http://edelwaugh.blogspot.com/2018/07/the-truth-about-lies-by-tracy-darnton.html?m=1>

**Ella O’Gorman, age 13**

***A thoroughly enjoyable, tense thriller that’s filled with clever twists and turns. Jess is a really strong female character, with an incredible memory, but her past is about to catch up with her.***

*The story starts with the tragic death of Jess’s school roommate and we are slowly drawn into Jess’s complex life. Gradually, we learn why she is keeping her true identity and her super memory a secret from everyone at her new school. She can remember everything, good and bad, since she was eleven. She starts finding postcards with cryptic notes and rightly suspects that she is no longer safe. She finally opens up to Dan and I really liked that she finally had someone to share her secret with and who was willing to help, despite all her baggage from her traumatic past. She finds it very difficult though to trust him, which ends up placing both of them in grave danger. I loved the ending and the memory quotes at the start of each chapter. This is definitely a book that anyone who likes an absorbing thriller, with a romantic element, will really enjoy.*

**Aimee Sweet, age 16**

***Compulsive reading for anyone who likes suspense or crime novels, or unreliable narrators. The details about memory and how it worked is fascinating and adds to the layers of this wonderful debut.***

*Jess can remember everything that has happened in her life - good and bad. This is a great suspense novel which twists and turns as the truth behind the lies is revealed. Jess is a great central character and I felt compelled to follow her journey. Her*

roommate, Hanna, dies and a new boy arrives at the school that Hanna starts a relationship with. At the same time strange signs and messages are left around the college which Jess must work out the meaning behind - and who is leaving them. *The Truth About Lies* is a well-constructed novel - I was gripped throughout. The details about memory are fascinating and work so well alongside the narrative. Jess' voice is strong and authentic and told in the first person, feels very immediate. As the layers are built up in the story, we realise, as the reader that she might not be completely infallible. Can Jess really remember everything? And just what was the Programme? I would recommend this to anyone who likes suspense or crime novels, or unreliable narrators.

[www.thesweetreview.com](http://www.thesweetreview.com)

***Rebekah Marsh, age 15***

***Although I bit of a slow starter, this book few on me by the second and, soon enough, you couldn't prise me away from it.***

*This book is genuinely amazing, it almost combines a number of genres: romance, action, and even comedy. I thoroughly enjoyed reading the book, and cherished each and every second holding it.*

***Evie Macaulay, age 12***

***I really enjoyed this novel. I didn't like the main character very much, but maybe you're not supposed to. This is a thriller that is mysterious. Not like anything I've ever read before.***

*Jess has an incredible memory. She can remember every single detail of every single day since she was eleven. But Jess would rather not be remarkable and, after years of testing at the hands of a ruthless research team, she has finally managed to escape. Just when Jess thinks that she's managing to settle in to living a normal life, everything changes.*

*I really enjoyed this novel. I didn't like the main character very much, but maybe you're not supposed to.*

*The Truth About Lies is a mystery, and a thriller. Told by someone who might be telling the truth, or might be unsure. I had never heard of the hyperthymesia before. Jess suffers with this, and the book focuses on this, the mind..the brain.  
3/5 stars for this one.*

