

LoveReading Reader reviews of The Lie Tree by Frances Hardinge

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.

Edel Waugh

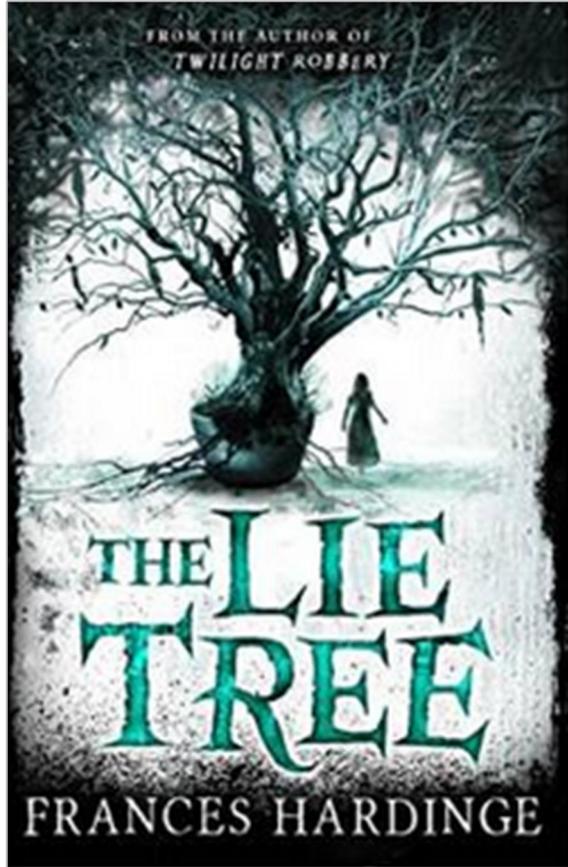
This is the story about a young girl called Faith who has had to move away with her Uncle and family to an island where nobody knows about her fathers previous work.

They arrive on the island where her father is going to work and it is not long before his past catches up with him and everyone in their new home knows.

*Faiths father had a reputation of being slightly mad and at times he did not help himself with his manner but his daughter never lost faith in him but kept an eye on him instead and what he was studying. That was how she found out about the Lie Tree and it would change her life quickly and forever. **I really enjoyed this***

story, mystery, magic and no good neighbours on a small island where this feisty young girl quickly learns who friend and foe are.

<http://www.edelwaugh.blogspot.com>



Izzy Read, age 14

Tragedy strikes a short time after moving to Vane and as Faith tries to uncover the truth she uncovers a strange little tree that feeds off lies and produces the truth...

With a historical setting, I already was drawn in to the story of Faith; an intelligent girl who was born before her time, when girls were only good for

wives, but all she wants to do is study Natural Science. The plot was similar to a regular murder mystery but it had a lot more depth to it, including the lie tree in the midst of it, a magical plant that listens to your whispered lies, growing the more people believe in them. One of my favourite features of the Lie tree was how Faith grew as a person through her discovery's, learning revenge is not what it seems. I felt that at times Frances Hardinge made you question whether Faith was really the villain, rather than the heroine. **Overall, with unexpected plot twists, lies, a mystery and the tale of underdog, I loved 'The Lie Tree' and hope it gets the credit it deserves!**

<http://jumpinmuddypuddles.blogspot.co.uk/>

Jessica Anderson, age 12

'The Lie Tree' is **a completely original read** that is set in the past. It is in the time era where women are still regarded as stupid because they have small heads, therefore smaller brains.

However, Faith, who's father is a natural scientist, is determined to show everyone that she is clever, and that she does know about things.

Faith and her family have moved to a remote island for a dig that is about to happen, but she soon discovers that there were so many more reasons for why her family left the mainland...

Her father's secrets and lies are everywhere, and after a tragic incident, Faith resolves to find out the truth.

And when she comes across her father's notebooks and finds the tree, things begin to get more complicated than she had ever imagined. Because the lie tree, for every lie that is told, for every lie that is believed, blossoms a fruit that holds a truth.

The Lie Tree. A tree that thrives in the dark, a tree that lives off the tales of human lies...a tree that some people would even kill for.

This book was so thrilling, it sucked me in after the first few pages.

What amazed me was that all of the characters were very deep and each had their own story to tell. The daredevil vicar's son, the maid that gossips, a flirting mother, a brother who is supposedly possessed by the devil, the wise Chinese man and the two faced miner.

Destiny Maraj, age 13

*I found 'The Lie Tree' quite hard to get engaged in as it isn't the style of novel I would usually go for, never the less it was very well illustrated and I thought it to be very clever that the author incorporated two plots; The mysterious letter and who murdered Faith's father. 'The Lie Tree' was **quite enjoyable and a good read!***

Benedict Simpson, age 12

When Faith's father is found dead at the bottom of a cliff in Vane, everyone instantly thinks that he has committed suicide but Faith thinks otherwise...

***I found this book a bit hard to get started but as I got to the climax I could barely put it down!** I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested in mysteries, but I don't think it would be suitable for younger readers as some of the content in the book can get a bit nerve-racking.*

Some people may find it hard to get through the book, as the chapters are quite long, but it is worth persevering as it becomes quite exciting as the book progresses.

This story is a different genre to the books I usually read, as I prefer adventure and thriller stories, but I will definitely look out for other books written by the author and I would love to read a sequel.

Katherine Sheldon

*'The Lie Tree' is **a brilliant book**. It is full of mystery, and is really interesting. I enjoyed reading it, especially towards the end, as you understand more and more about the characters and the tree itself. I thought it funny that Faith showed disregard and contempt towards the hampering rules of society! I love how Faith's mind works, how she thinks of things in the nick of time that you wouldn't necessarily think of but once she does you wonder how you didn't see them before. Although some people may not like this I enjoy it! Overall I think this is a really enjoyable book, **it is one of the best books I have reviewed yet!!** I highly recommend this book and it defiantly worth reading!*

Poppy, age 16

I found 'The Lie Tree' simply captivating, a truly fantastic book. I could not put it down, there was a constant cliff-hanging edge to it,

that made it impossible for me to stop reading. I loved it.

I found 'The Lie Tree' simply captivating, a truly fantastic book. The air of suspense was pretty much constant throughout, I enjoyed the use of varying characters in the unrolling of the plot. I could not put it down, there was a constant cliff-hanging edge to it, that made it impossible for me to stop reading. I loved it.

Ella Hollingshead, age 14

A fantastic novel that will appeal to readers of the mystery genre.

The lie tree is an intriguing novel set in the past where a young girl named Faith struggles to find herself and the truths about her father's secret.

Her father is a scientist and her mother is a socialite, and her little brother is being pressured to be the perfect son and heir to the family name whilst Faith is ignored and overlooked.

They along with her mother's brother, uncle Miles, travel unexpectedly one day to a remote island with only a small village. There, Faith tries to figure out why they left, why her father is being suspicious and why did he commit suicide.

Along with the help of a small alliance, a tree and a few clues, Faith attempts to discover the truths and lies of her life and the mysteries that she uncovers.

Although it was a bit tricky to get into, I did enjoy this book and would recommend it to those who enjoy the mystery genre.