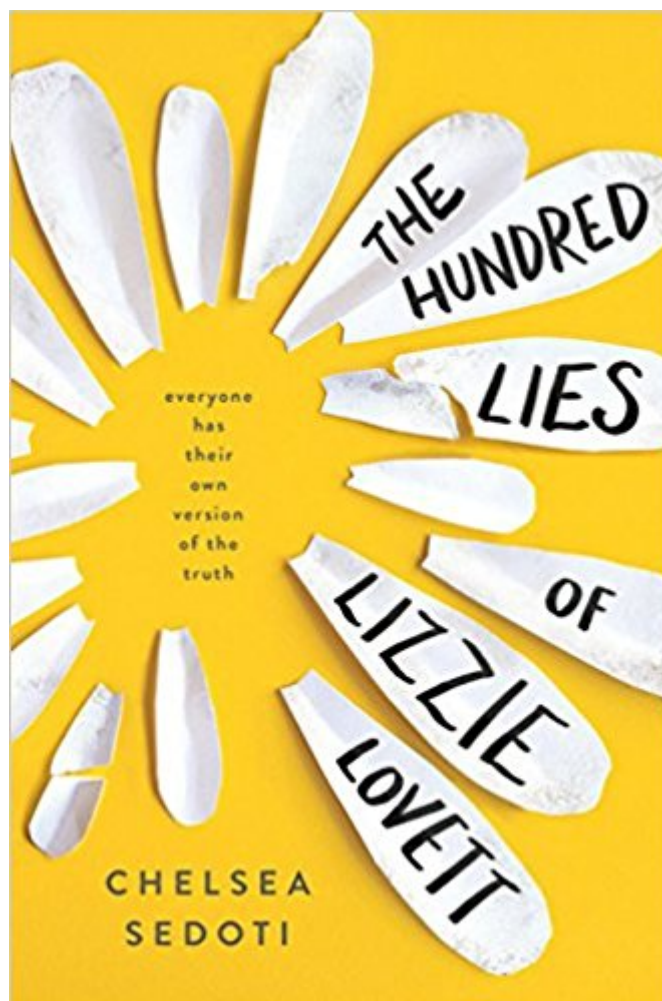


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# The Hundred Lies Of Lizzie Lovett



## Synopsis

Hawthorn wasn't trying to insert herself into a missing person's investigation. Or maybe she was. But that's only because Lizzie Lovett's disappearance is the one fascinating mystery their sleepy town has ever had. Bad things don't happen to popular girls like Lizzie Lovett, and Hawthorn is convinced she'll turn up at any moment-which means the time for speculation is now. So Hawthorn comes up with her own theory for Lizzie's disappearance. A theory way too absurd to take seriously...at first. The more Hawthorn talks, the more she believes. And what better way to collect evidence than to immerse herself in Lizzie's life? Like getting a job at the diner where Lizzie worked and hanging out with Lizzie's boyfriend. After all, it's not as if he killed her-or did he? Told with a unique voice that is both hilarious and heart-wrenching, Hawthorn's quest for proof may uncover the greatest truth is within herself.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up • Lonely misfit high school senior Hawthorn Creely finds respite from pressure at school and at home by searching for a missing student: popular Lizzie Lovett. There are no clues, burning secrets, or great reveals surrounding Lizzie's disappearance. Instead, Hawthorn's wildly creative imagination and humor drive this mystery's plot forward. In a somewhat disturbing turn of events, she steps into Lizzie's life, taking the missing girl's old job and becoming involved with her boyfriend, Enzo. Hawthorn's insecurities and eventual self-discovery comprise the central themes of the novel as she navigates dates, dances, mean girls, and social isolation. Ultimately, Sundog, a visiting hippie, gives Hawthorn sensible spiritual guidance: "Some people are born knowing their

paths from the start. The rest of us take a while to get there." Sage advice indeed. Some readers may be put off by the lack of a traditional whodunit story line as well as by Hawthorn's sometimes odd responses to situations, while other readers may find her eccentricities refreshingly honest and recognize an authentic teen voice. Some mature situations, including sex and drinking, are woven throughout. VERDICT Recommended for teens who appreciate a protagonist with a lively imagination and an acerbic tongue. —Eva Thaler-Sroussi, Glencoe Public Library, IL

"A dark, comedic mystery about a girl's quest for proof that ultimately helps her discover some truths about herself. We officially love Hawthorn. One minute, our heart was breaking with her raw, aching loneliness, then we were laughing with her crazy sideways wisdom. Like Thorny, this book is offbeat, smart and awesome." - Justine Magazine  
"A solid coming-of-age novel with light spunk and individuality" - Kirkus  
"Sedoti's debut offers an enlightening look at the dangers of relying on outward appearances to judge someone's character, and Hawthorn's first-person narrative, filled with obsessive thoughts and, eventually, meaningful reflection, is a lively, engaging vehicle for the story... Fans of character-driven novels will appreciate this." - Booklist  
"Hawthorn's wildly creative imagination and humor drive this mystery's plot forward... Recommended for teens who appreciate a protagonist with a lively imagination and an acerbic tongue" - School Library Journal  
"Sedoti deftly pulls readers into [Hawthorn's] head where her yearning for excitement, angst about the future, and insecurity bring further depth to her character. Hawthorn and Lizzie both emerge as surprising, intricate characters whose stories are resonant and memorable." - Publishers Weekly  
"Hawthorn is one of the most relatable characters in recent young adult literature. Her unhappiness stems from her inability to connect to people her own age and her subsequent boredom. She lives mostly in her own head, choosing to find magic in movies, books and her imagination rather than the world around her. — This mystery is less about finding a missing girl as it is about finding happiness and purpose in a complex, often contradictory world." - BookPage  
"Hawthorn is an engaging young woman with a vivid imagination... With an interesting and diverse supporting cast, this novel is full of topics that are relevant to teens: bullying, self-esteem, family dynamics, and suicide. Highly recommended" - Shelf Awareness

Although she barely knows the young woman, Hawthorn, named after the tree not the writer, becomes obsessed with the disappearance of a recent graduate, Lizzie Lovett. Thinking she may be able to solve the mystery, she takes a waitressing job where Lizzie worked and befriends Lizzie's boyfriend, who some people think murdered Lizzie. What could possibly go wrong. Chelsea Sedoti

knows how to write with strong voice. I was immediately drawn to Hawthorn's quirky, nerdy narration and assumed I'd love the character. Unfortunately her lack of filter was often downright mean. She was so narcissistic that she thought of Lizzie's disappearance almost as entertainment. She was constantly unkind to even her friend and family. I could easily see why she only had one friend. Hawthorn seemed to realize but not care that her mouth was the cause of much of her social awkwardness. Sedoti created unique, multi-dimensional minor characters. I was disappointed I never got a real feel for Lizzie, although that might have been part of the point. THE HUNDRED LIES OF LIZZIE LOVETT started strong but faltered once Hawthorn became convinced Lizzie had turned into a werewolf. I was surprised her parents didn't make her go to therapy, she badly needed it. I loved the premise that of the story, but the execution disappointed me. Don't read this book expecting an enthralling mystery. Hawthorn's character outshone the plot.

It was an okay read. The writing itself was incredibly good but the story was so so.

From the very start, The Hundred Lies of Lizzie Lovett feels fresh, humorous, and unique. The main character, Hawthorn, is delightful to follow as she tries to solve a local mystery while also navigating the perilous seas of personal relationships. I read this book in two days and would recommend it to anyone!

Lizzie Lovett's disappearance is all anyone at Griffin Mills High School can talk about. Hawthorne Creely can't believe all the attention Lizzie is getting. She was a cheerleader and homecoming queen. Nothing bad ever happens to people like Lizzie. Plus, she graduated and moved away three years ago. Don't people have something better to obsess over? Hawthorne imagines Lizzie somewhere safe, laughing as hundreds of people show up for her vigil. But as everyone else moves on from the gossip and the search parties, Hawthorn becomes more intent on finding the truth. She stumbles into Lizzie's old job as a waitress in a diner, then starts hanging out with her boyfriend and searching for clues to the disappearance. While the book's title and the search parties focus on Lizzie Lovett, this story is really about Hawthorne, a girl who's disappointed by high school's failure to live up to its billing as "the best years of your life" and unsure of her future. Hawthorne is the perfect combo of girl who doesn't fit in and snarky commentator on high school life. She pulls the reader into the story with her keen insights on the shortcomings of the people around her as well as her obliviousness to

her own shortcomings. She's someone anyone in high school or who's been to high school can relate to. *The Hundred Lies of Lizzie Lovett* is a fun and absorbing read. Hawthorne will drag you with her on her search for the truth about Lizzie, and along the way, find the truth within herself.

Have you ever met someone who left a lasting impression on you - good or bad? You're always wondering about them in the back of your mind, almost creating this fictional persona for them as they take up permanent residence in your subconscious. They become some sort of measuring stick that you hold yourself up against. This is how Hawthorne has operated for the last few years since she first met upperclassman, Lizzie Lovett as a freshman, and has continued even after Lizzie has graduated. Hawthorne has always felt like an oddity. She lives inside her head most of the time conjuring up theories and scenarios for entertainment and to escape her reality. This makes her seem rather immature and self-absorbed. A lot of that stems from her sense of alienation at school, although I do think that the wall she built around herself has only served to insulate her. When she hears that Lizzie has gone missing, she becomes obsessed with the case. She comes up with wild fantasies about where Lizzie has gone or what she's become, even going so far as to infiltrate aspects of Lizzie's life. She's so consumed with Lizzie that it disrupts her relationships with everyone else and borders on worrisome. *The Hundred Lies of Lizzie Lovett* is altogether strange and absorbing, where Hawthorne's behaviour at times becomes so confounding that you wonder what exactly she's attempting to pull off. Even with all that weirdness, it was hard not to become engrossed in this fantasy she had created. In the end, not only does she learn the truth but she figures out something about herself. A definite read if you're up for a mystery and something a bit offbeat.

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