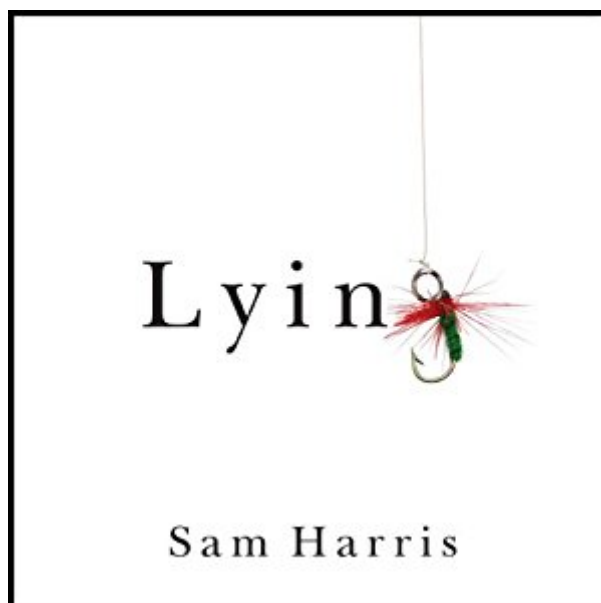


The book was found

Lying



Synopsis

As it was in Anna Karenina, Madame Bovary, and Othello, so it is in life. Most forms of private vice and public evil are kindled and sustained by lies. Acts of adultery and other personal betrayals, financial fraud, government corruption - even murder and genocide - generally require an additional moral defect: a willingness to lie. In Lying, bestselling author and neuroscientist Sam Harris argues that we can radically simplify our lives and improve society by merely telling the truth in situations where others often lie. He focuses on "white" lies - those lies we tell for the purpose of sparing people discomfort - for these are the lies that most often tempt us. And they tend to be the only lies that good people tell while imagining that they are being good in the process.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Have pondered over this question for years and have discussed with people too. I can see so many of my own thoughts reflecting..especially around not having to lie to children because the most valuable 'trust' is at stake. I believe so. We lie and then we punish them for lying to us. That's not just unfair it hampers the health of the relationship. This book gives great insights but still leaves so many questions unanswered. Will it really make it better if we did not lie or is it possible to have a manual that told us when is it OK to lie..assuming everyone is not going to be capable of exercising their independent thinking or intellect. Many people just need to be 'told'...which they'd learn from others in their societies only if others 'knew'. Who is the authority in this ever changing moral landscape? I obviously have to do a lot more reading, thinking and discussing and what I

understand (if at all) is just the tip of the iceberg. This book is a brilliant work to get one know more about this complex subject. Love the interviews of Ron Howard and the readers.

Sam Harris is one of the most articulate speakers/writers of our time. This book will change how you interact with people and really get you to think about how and what you communicate. It's short and to the point, there isn't any fluff. A wonderful read whose principles I've already shared with my young children.

Just to be clear: I am a fan of Sam Harris' other work, so you might want to consider my opinion biased. I truly loved this book. Despite the simple premise, it really made me think. Harris makes a great case against lying, even against the nice 'white lies' we tell each other (and ourselves). It slightly changed the way I think about something as basic as lying. Even if it only nudged my thinking slightly, that's great impact from a short book. One of those rare books that I will definitely read again. If you're even thinking about buying it, you should. I highly recommend it, and really doubt you will regret it. I promise. :)

I was really interested in reading this book because while there are books on ethics in general it is beneficial to read about lying and the corrosive effects it can have on relationships. Before I read the book I was striving to be more honest and open in my relationship and this book helped give the why one should be more honest. A couple of things I would have like to see include a section on being honest with one's self. We tell ourselves lies like "I can quit smoking whenever I want." when we need to be more honest instead ("I need help quitting smoking."). The other thing I would have like is a section on how to get others to be more open and honest with the reader and discourage them from giving at least white lies. It takes a certain maturity to listen to and accept the truth from others but I don't think that this was touched on in the book. Rather, the book focused mainly on the reader being more honest to others.

this is a great way to live life. It is difficult though if you share this with an SO I read parts of it to my wife and she loved it as well only now she asks me if things make her look fat.. this never happened before then she expect me to answer truthfully so Mr. "I will tease them with a sequel" Where is the art of truth-telling book we need now.? on his blog [samharris dot org](http://samharris.org) he has a follow up interview that does give some good ideas on how to tell the truth in difficult situations. What I think though is that it entails a lot of personal self awareness that does not come easily this book has made me

take a look at what I do talk about and how I get myself into situations to start with.. It also makes me look objectively at lying and makes some other fiction books I read not as much fun because you would be surprised at how much an author can rely on people just trusting and lying to each other just because the reader knows the "truth or reality" this is a good use of your money - lots of this book were made for reading aloud so be careful if you read this out loud people will ask you if this dress makes them look fat..

Sam Harris gives us a short work on ethical philosophy for the layperson. Works as a good companion piece to Harry Frankfurt's similarly short books Bullsh*t and Truth.

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