

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Value of Truth Weighed Against Virtue of Compassion in Dynamic Love Story

Lynda Fitzgerald's debut novel, "If Truth Be Told" examines the roles of truth and compassion within relationships between family, lovers and friends, in an enlightening story about a precocious 14-year-old girl's journey to adulthood.

(Atlanta, GA) Maintaining a balance between truth and compassion in relationships, whether with friends, family or lovers, can be instrumental in the success of said relationships. At age 14, precocious Christie O'Kelly hasn't quite grasped this balance, and tends to tip the scales in favor of the raw, unvarnished truth when it comes to her relationships with her mother and sisters. Christie's journey toward understanding the precious balance between truth and compassion is the heart of Lynda Fitzgerald's debut novel, "If Truth Be Told" (ISBN 978-1594145681, Five Star/Thomson Gale, 2007).

Set in Florida's picturesque Melbourne Beach, "If Truth Be Told" begins with teenage Christie gaining a second mother. Though she has nothing in common with her own society-conscious mother and sisters, Christie finds love and kindness in her uncle's new wife, a benevolent woman named Carly. Thanks to Carly's wisdom and influence, Christie is set on a journey of emotional growth, where she learns about the importance of compassion and forgiveness.

Christie's transformation from a gawky 14-year-old to a remarkable newspaper reporter of 28 is filled with typical growing pains, including finding and losing her first love. Early on in the novel, Christie falls head over heels for Carly's handsome college-bound son, Todd, but their relationship comes to a dramatically painful halt, and it's not until tragedy befalls their family that Christie and Todd reconnect.

As the novel progresses, "If Truth Be Told" becomes a suspenseful mystery story as well. The emotional plot thickens when Christie's uncle falls ill, then suddenly dies after being in a stable condition for weeks. When Christie begins to suspect foul play from within the family, her truth-seeking instincts kick in. Though she knows that she must find the truth about her uncle's death, Christie realizes it may cost everything that matters to her. What she finds challenges her beliefs about life and those she loves and requires the most difficult evaluation of truth, compassion and forgiveness that Christie has ever faced.

About the Author

Lynda Fitzgerald resides in Atlanta, Georgia. She studied creative writing at Georgia Perimeter College, where she received a creative writing scholarship, and Emory University. She is currently working on a new, witty, fast-paced mystery series.

"If Truth Be Told" (ISBN 978-1594145681, Five Star/Thomson Gale, 2007) can be purchased through local and online bookstores. For more information, visit www.fitzgeraldwrites.com. Publicity contact: www.readerviews.com. Review copies available upon request.