

Book Review

Books For Youth - Fiction - Mystery

Every Single Lie

By Rachel Vincent.



Jan. 2021. 352p. Bloomsbury, \$17.99 ([9781547605231](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9781547605231)).

Grades 9-12.

[REVIEW](#). First published December 1, 2020 (*Booklist*).

Months after dealing with her father's overdose death, Beckett Bergen regrets a hasty breakup with her supportive boyfriend, Jake. Then she discovers a dead baby in a gym bag in the girls' locker room at school. Beckett becomes a suspect despite being merely a witness. She becomes the target of vicious rumors that spread not only through her small Tennessee community but also nationwide via a new Twitter account that seems—to Beckett and her police detective mom—to know too much about the investigation. Beckett wants to clear her name and find the baby's parents, but everyone around her could potentially be the guilty party, which results in missteps along the way. As Beckett narrates, the identities of the baby's parents are revealed in real time. Along the way, she also discovers how easily rumors are embellished with unfounded opinions and learns the truth about her family's tattered reputation. Clues and omissions of truth make this a razor-sharp mystery that speaks critically about the cruel corners of social media and small-town biases. Issues include alienation, post-war PTSD, painkillers and addiction, shaky family bonds, and the fragility of friendships. Beckett's decisions drive the plot, leading her and the reader through enough twists and turns that there is no way to stop turning the pages. — *Jeanne Fredriksen*



Booklist Editors Recommend

Titles similar to *Every Single Lie*

- *Before I Let Go*
- *Broken Things*
- *Sadie*