



Joanna Goodman

The Home for Unwanted Girls

Harper

This provocative novel is filled with love, secrets, and deceit — the story of a young unwed mother who is forcibly separated from her daughter at birth and the lengths they go to find each other.

In 1950s Quebec, Maggie’s English-speaking father has ambitions for his daughter that don’t include marriage to the poor French boy, Gabriel. When she becomes pregnant at fifteen, her parents force her to give baby Elodie up for adoption and get her life ‘back on track’.

Elodie is raised in Quebec’s impoverished orphanage system taking a tragic turn when Elodie is declared mentally ill as the result of a new law that provides more funding to psychiatric hospitals than to orphanages. Bright and determined, Elodie withstands abysmal treatment, earning her freedom at seventeen, when she is thrust into an alien world.

Maggie cannot forget the daughter she was forced to abandon, and a chance reconnection with Gabriel spurs a wrenching choice. Maggie realizes she must go in search of her long-lost daughter, finally reclaiming the truth that has been denied them both.

“Joanna Goodman writes with compassion about human connections.” — Patti Henry, *New York Times* bestselling author