

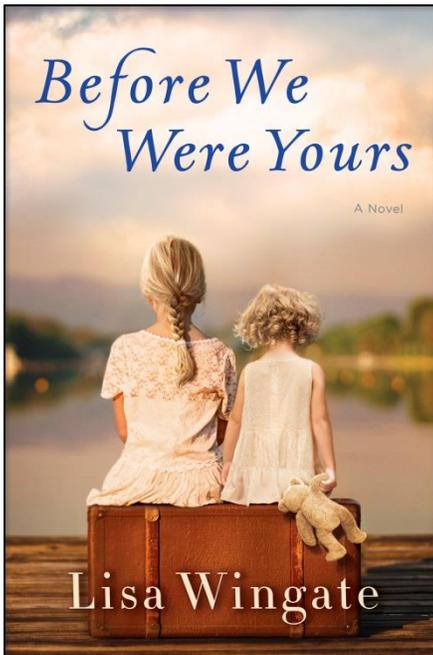
# Lisa Wingate

Lisa Wingate is an award-winning journalist, magazine columnist, popular inspirational speaker and a national bestselling author. Recently, Lisa's Blue Sky Hill Series received national attention with back-to-back nominations for American Christian Fiction Writers Book of the Year Award for A Month of Summer (2009) and The Summer Kitchen (2010). In 2011, Lisa's Novel, Never Say Never, won the American Christian Fiction Writers Book of the Year Award. Lisa is also the author of The Tending Roses, Daily Texas, Moses Lake, and the Texas Hill Country Series.



Selected among BOOKLIST'S Top 10 for two years running, Family Fiction's Top 10, and an RT Booklover's Magazine Reviewer's Choice Award Winner, Lisa Wingate writes novels that Publisher's Weekly calls "Masterful" and ForeWord Magazine refers to as "Filled with lyrical prose, hope, and healing." Lisa is a journalist, an inspirational speaker, and the author of a host of books and magazine pieces.

## Book Synopsis: *Before We Were Yours*



This masterful, harrowing and ultimately redemptive novel uncovers and brilliantly fictionalizes a devastating slice of little-known American history... and tells a story of a family torn apart by a shocking betrayal.

*Memphis, Tennessee, 1936.* Docked aboard the family's shanty boat, the Arcadia, the five Foss children find their lives changed forever when their parents leave them alone one stormy night. Rill Foss, just twelve years old, must shepherd her four younger siblings as they are wrenched from their boat on the Mississippi and thrown into the care of The Tennessee Children's Home Society, a notorious system of orphanages ultimately deemed responsible for the kidnapping and selling thousands of children in illegal adoptions.

*South Carolina, Present Day.* Born into a world of wealth and privilege, Avery Stafford seems to have it all. A loving daughter to her father, a U.S. Senator, with her own ambitious career as an assistant D.A. and a handsome fiancé waiting for her in Baltimore, she has lived an admittedly charmed life. But when Avery returns to Aiken to help her father weather a health crisis and a political attack, a chance encounter with May

Crandall, an elderly woman she's never met before, leaves Avery deeply shaken. Avery's decision to learn more about May's life will take her on a journey through her family's long-hidden history, illuminating what's at the very center of Avery's story and buried deep within her own heart.

Based on first-hand accounts of the true stories behind the Tennessee Children's Home Society and the infamously cruel Georgia Tann, who ran the orphanage largely unchecked thanks to friends with deep pockets and far-reaching political power, Wingate has created an incredibly riveting, heart-wrenching read.