



2008

### Envy: A Luxe Novel

Larysa Bordner

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Godbersen, Anna. *Envy: A Luxe Novel*. Alloy Entertainment, 2009. ISBN 9780061345722.  
\$17.99. 405 p.

Reviewer: Larysa Bordner

Reading Level: Young adult

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Fiction;

Subject: Conduct of life--Juvenile fiction; Love--Juvenile fiction; New York (N.Y.)--History--1898-1951--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

*Rumors*, the second book in the *Luxe* series, leaves readers hanging. Will is drastically killed when he and Elizabeth come back to visit her sick mother. Diana is left alone when Henry marries Penelope to protect Diana from Penelope's jealousy and anger. And, as always, Carolina is still self-centered and self-serving. It is on this dismal tone that *Envy* begins. All of the characters who were scattered in *Rumors* are brought back together in New York to deal with the complicated hardships that seem to control their lives. Elizabeth finds out she is pregnant with her dead husband's child and has no one to turn to. Carolina's benefactor dies leaving her rich but alone. Penelope and Diana are also both left alone when Henry joins the army. Events truly seem to go from bad to worse, with little hope of changing for the better.

The *Luxe* series began with the intriguing story of Elizabeth, her friends, and family. However, the series has continued to be one heartbreak after another. Godbersen's writing style is captivating and keeps the reader involved with well developed characters and an intricate plot. The story may not be appropriate for young or impressionable readers, because it contains many sensitive and sexual situations.

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