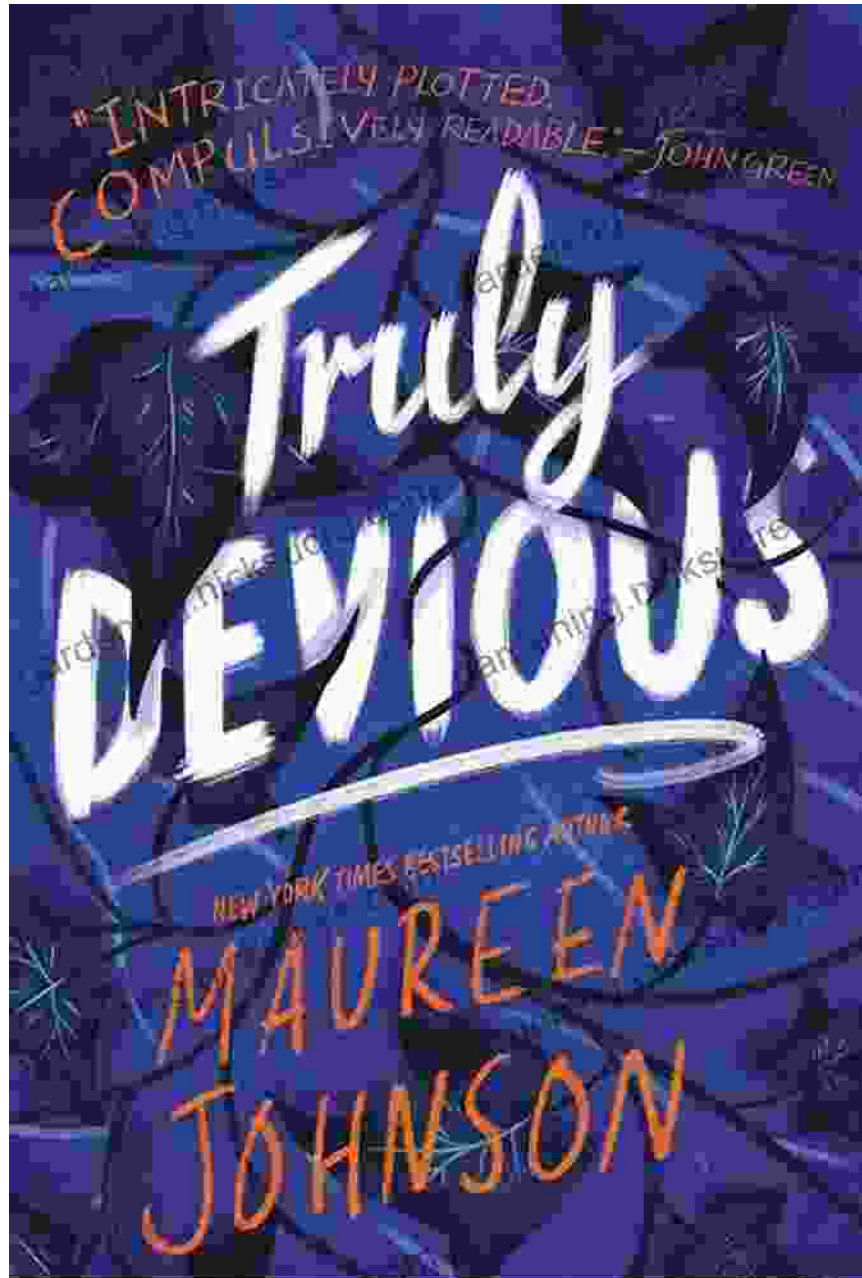


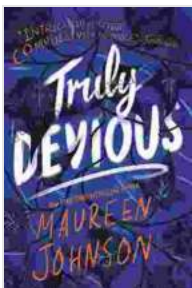
"Truly Devious": An Enthralling Mystery by Maureen Johnson



A Mysterious Beginning

Maureen Johnson's "Truly Devious" captivates readers from its very first page, introducing the enigmatic Ellingham Academy and the sinister events

that have plagued it for decades. At the heart of the story lies the unsolved murder of Alice Ellingham, the founder's wife, in 1936. Seven key suspects, each with their own secrets and motives, were present at the time of the murder, but the culprit remains unknown.



Truly Devious: A Mystery by Maureen Johnson

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

- Language : English
- File size : 5664 KB
- Text-to-Speech : Enabled
- Screen Reader : Supported
- Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
- X-Ray : Enabled
- Print length : 423 pages



Stevie Bell: The Unconventional Detective

Enter Stevie Bell, a brilliant and eccentric teenage detective who is fascinated by the Ellingham Academy case. When Stevie arrives at the boarding school, she immerses herself in the mystery, determined to uncover the truth that has eluded everyone else. Armed with her sharp wit, keen observation skills, and a passion for solving puzzles, Stevie embarks on a dangerous journey to find the killer.

An Intricate Web of Suspects

As Stevie investigates, she encounters an intriguing cast of characters, each with their own secrets and connections to the past. There's David Hastings, the enigmatic headmaster; Macon Leigh, the charming but troubled professor; Hayes Montgomery, the wealthy and arrogant playboy;

and Janelle Shane, the secretive and enigmatic classmate. Each character has their own motives, alibis, and hidden connections, making it increasingly difficult for Stevie to unravel the truth.

Hidden Clues and Secret Societies

In her pursuit of justice, Stevie follows a trail of cryptic clues left behind by the killer. She deciphers coded messages, unlocks hidden passages, and uncovers a web of secret societies that have been operating within the academy's walls for generations. The line between past and present blurs as Stevie discovers that the events of 1936 are inextricably linked to the present-day mystery, adding an extra layer of complexity to her investigation.

The Thrilling Climax

As Stevie's investigation reaches its climax, she finds herself in a race against time to prevent another murder and unmask the true killer. The tension mounts as she pieces together the final clues, confronting the killer and revealing the shocking truth behind Alice Ellingham's death. The ending is both satisfying and thought-provoking, leaving readers with a lingering sense of intrigue and wonder.

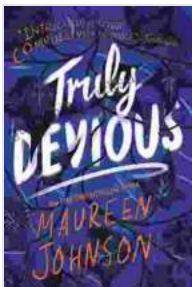
Beyond the Mystery

"Truly Devious" is more than just a gripping mystery novel; it is also a poignant exploration of friendship, ambition, and the complexities of adolescence. Stevie Bell is a relatable and inspiring character, whose determination and passion for justice will resonate with readers of all ages. The novel also sheds light on the dark underbelly of elite boarding schools, revealing the secrets and power dynamics that can lead to tragedy.

Critical Acclaim and Legacy

"Truly Devious" has received widespread critical acclaim for its intricate plot, compelling characters, and suspenseful atmosphere. It has been praised for its originality, its ability to keep readers guessing until the very end, and its exploration of timeless themes. The novel has won numerous awards, including the Edgar Award for Best Young Adult Mystery, and has been translated into multiple languages.

Maureen Johnson's "Truly Devious" is an exceptional mystery novel that will captivate readers from beginning to end. With its clever plot, unforgettable characters, and thought-provoking themes, it is a work that will stay with readers long after they finish the last page. Whether you are a fan of mysteries, boarding school tales, or simply great storytelling, "Truly Devious" is a must-read that will leave you both entertained and intrigued.



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