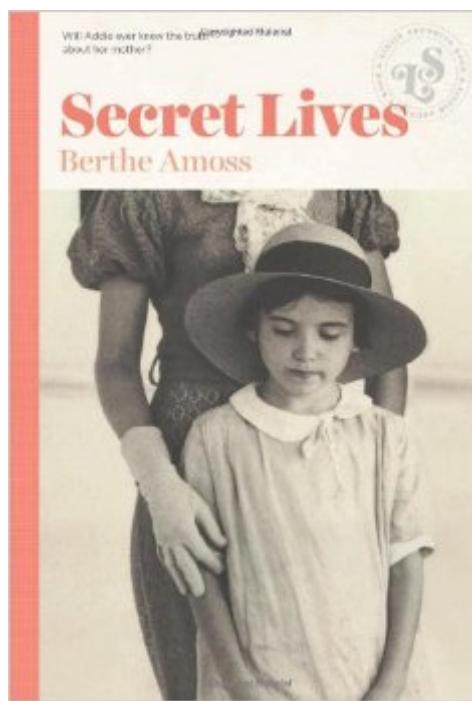


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# Secret Lives



## Synopsis

Set against the backdrop of 1930s New Orleans, Berthe Amoss's 1979 young adult mystery follows twelve-year-old Addie Agnew as she struggles to uncover the secret of her mother's death. Living with her spinster aunts in a house that's practically haunted, Addie was always told her mother was perfect and was swept off to sea with Addie's father in a Honduran tidal wave. But Addie suspects there's something her aunts aren't telling her, and it has something to do with the locked trunk in the attic. What's in the trunk? And what really happened to Addie's parents? In this classic story about family secrets and growing up, Addie will stop at nothing to discover truth about her mother, even if learning the truth will change everything forever. Born and raised in New Orleans, Berthe Amoss has never stopped writing about her home city. She is the author and illustrator of twenty-eight children's and young adult books. Her picture book *The Cajun Gingerbread Boy* won a Children's Choice Award and *The Chalk Cross* was a finalist for the Edgar Allen Poe Award.

## Book Information

Paperback: 200 pages

Publisher: Lizzie Skurnick Books; Reissue edition (April 1, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1939601053

ISBN-13: 978-1939601056

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.6 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #324,831 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 in Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Exploration & Discoveries #2140 in Â Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 and up

## Customer Reviews

This story about a young girl named Addie I actually read as a kid and just re-read recently. It took me forever to finally remember the title and author with the help of the web and people willing to answer questions. :) I really enjoy this story. It's very realistic to how a young girl would act I think in regards to secrets being kept from her. It's about a girl whose parents have both died when she was young, and she doesn't have many memories of them. She lives with her two aunts, has a cousin

she doesn't get along with well, and sets off to find out the truth about her mother. I give this story a thumbs up.

My 11 year old daughter and I both loved this book. There was mystery, conflict, yearning, coming of age, and a boy. Addie is the instantly lovable heroine of this story - she has to deal with a nasty cousin and navigate life with two well-meaning but old-fashioned (and old) aunts, while trying to unravel some of her mother's history. For adult readers, this book captures a fascinating period of New Orleans history, illustrating Catholic rituals and superstitions I've never heard of. For children, the longings and struggles of Addie are so endearing. My daughter was equally interested in both the quest to discover the truth about her mother and the trials of navigating friendships with the eccentric daughter of their cook and the mean-girl cousin.

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