



# The Search Angel

*Tish Cohen*

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**The Search Angel** Tish Cohen

**Bestselling author Tish Cohen returns with a story of one woman's love for her child and the courage it gives her to face her biggest fear**

As the owner of the upscale children's boutique Pretty Baby, Eleanor Sweet is surrounded by gleaming strollers, organic cotton onesies and roundbellied expectant mothers. It's a serene atmosphere of new beginnings—but for the graffiti-splattered record shop next door and Eleanor's fierce desire for a baby of her own. Her wish is finally granted in the form of Sylvie, an orphaned baby en route from earthquake-stricken Baja California. But when Eleanor's husband unexpectedly gets cold feet and backs out, her dream of adopting Sylvie is at risk.

Adopted herself, Eleanor has always been reluctant to search out her birth mother, afraid of what she might find. But she is determined to save the adoption and to give Sylvie the family she deserves. Eleanor hires Isabelle, a search angel, to find her birth mother. What Eleanor discovers about love and family isn't what she expects, but it gives her a new understanding of what it means to be a mother.

## The Search Angel Details

Date : Published July 2nd 2013 by HarperCollins Canada (first published June 4th 2013)

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Author : Tish Cohen

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Genre : Fiction, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Parenting, Adoption, Contemporary

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# From Reader Review The Search Angel for online ebook

## Catherine McKenzie says

In The Search Angel, Tish Cohen explores how the things one desires most are often linked inextricably to our pasts. Eleanor Sweet's pursuit of adoption and the search for her own birth parents is told with compassion, humour, and intelligence—all the ingredients you look for in the best of books.

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## Lindsey says

This book was very misleading in its synopsis. It claimed to be about a relationship between two ladies, but it was something else completely. That relationship didn't even come into play until the last third of the book and then it was muddled up with so many other things that you didn't even care. Not worth the read at all. A total waste. And like the last 50 pages were about trying to get her baby to sleep. What the hell? Also, the synopsis on Goodreads says the baby is named Lily and from Korea. Wrong. Sylvie from California. What even?!

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## Tanis says

Quirky characters. Humorous writing. A quick, light, nice read.

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## Sandra says

I really enjoyed this book. I thought that Isabelle would play a bigger role as she was the search angel, but the story was mainly about Eleanor. This was a short, touching story about adopting and being adopted.

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## Cindy says

True rating - 3.5 stars

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## Linda says

i read it day and half good read

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## **Linda Hoyer says**

As much as I really wanted to love this book I didn't. The storyline was not believable and the plot was predictable. As an adoptee I found it flippant and insulting.

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## **D says**

Warm and fuzzy with substance. The characters and the story had plenty of seriousness, but were related in a light way, with lots of good, gentle humour that brought them to life.

Aside from the occasional too-tidy plot point (i.e. a certain foreshadowed event occurring at exactly the moment when it would evoke the most drama), I felt that Cohen never did me the disservice of resorting to cliches. Nor did she steer so far clear of them that all my expectations and hopes for characters were doomed to be dashed.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book from start to finish, and while I did occasionally need to put it down -- in order to accomplish things like preparing food for my family, or working for a living -- it was a difficult separation every time.

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## **Patrice M. Addeo says**

### **Loved the story**

The process of adoption for those of us who have always had our natural born families is something we can only imagine. I like that this story shares the inner thoughts and feelings of an adoptee. Also how for some who find themselves unable to conceive their own child, still cannot open their hearts. Characters are well thought out with personalities, even though flawed, they are interesting. Their own stories drawing attention. A really good read.

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## **Suzanne says**

I needed a fluffy read this weekend, and The Search Angel met that need exactly. Light, sappy, and a quick read.

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## **Jennifer Nelson says**

Great read for the most part! I enjoyed it although found some parts irritating like the birth mother not staying with her to help her with the new baby and also not acknowledging the central character as her daughter. But I guess that was the point.

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## Louise says

### Story Description:

HarperCollins Publishers|May 27, 2013|Trade Paperback|ISBN: 978-1-44341-082-3

Bestselling author Tish Cohen returns with a story of one woman's love for her child and the courage it gives her to face her biggest fear.

As the owner of the upscale children's boutique Pretty Baby, Eleanor Sweet is surrounded by gleaming strollers, organic cotton onesies and roundbellied expectant mothers. It's a serene atmosphere of new beginnings –but for the graffiti-splattered record shop next door and Eleanor's fierce desire for a baby of her own. Her wish is finally granted in the form of Sylvie, an orphaned baby en route from earthquake – stricken Baja California. But when Eleanor's husband unexpectedly gets cold feet and backs out, her dream of adopting Sylvie is at risk.

Adopted herself, Eleanor has always been reluctant to search out her birth mother, afraid of what she might find. But she is determined to save the adoption and give Sylvie the family she deserves. Eleanor hires Isabelle, a search angel, to find her birth mother. What Eleanor discovers about love and family isn't what she expects, but it gives her a new understanding of what it means to be a mother.

### My Review:

Eleanor Sweet and her emergency room physician husband, Jonathan are in the process of adopting Sylvie. A little baby left without a mother after a devastating earthquake in Baja California. The morning they are getting ready to hop into the taxi cab to head to the airport to pick up their baby girl, Jonathan backs out of the deal. By the time Eleanor finishes arguing with Jonathan the taxi has gone and they're going to miss their plane.

Jonathan decides this isn't what he wants and he doesn't just mean adopting a baby, he's also not sure he wants the marriage anymore. He ends up moving out and leaves Eleanor on her own.

Eleanor isn't worried about supporting herself as she owns the best baby product store in the country called "Pretty Baby", an upscale children's boutique. She sells the most scrumptious children's and baby things ever described and while reading I could picture the inside of that store in my mind's eye, perfectly.

After much thought and not willing to give up on her dream of becoming a mother, Eleanor hires a "Search Angel", Isabelle, to help her find her own birth mother. Eleanor herself was adopted. Isabelle is a real character unto herself and you'll get a million laughs at her quirkiness.

The woman at the adoption agency, Nancy, has Eleanor attend some additional classes and has her fill out some extra paperwork now that she is adopting a single Mom rather than a family and all goes well.

Isabelle begins the search for Eleanor's birth mother but she doesn't exactly find what she was expecting. I guess we all build up various scenarios in our minds about how things will go and how they will turn out and time and again we're disappointed. At least it wasn't a total bust for Eleanor. Although she was hoping to

learn about families and love she was disappointed on that front but she did learn what it means to be a mother.

The Search Angel was a beautiful, feel-good story that every woman should read. Whether you're in the process of adopting, having your own children, or even not having any children at all, you should read this lovely story anyway. It'll just make you feel good.

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### **Kathy says**

Fantastic story of Eleanor Sweet and what she gives up, and finds, in the quest of adopting Sylvie.

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### **Harpercollins Canada says**

When I was five years old, my best friend found out that she was adopted. I didn't fully appreciate what adopted meant at the time, or understand why it was so important to my friend, but the word did seem to carry a lot of weight. I remember noting that my friend was very curious about where she came from. Now that I am all grown up, I know what adopted means, but it wasn't until after I read *The Search Angel* by Tish Cohen, that I felt as though I better understood the complex emotions that are involved in adoption—for the biological parent, the adoptive parent, and the child.

In *The Search Angel*, Eleanor Sweet experiences adoption from every angle. Eleanor is unable to conceive and yearns for a baby of her own. After a long process, Eleanor and her husband are finally approved for an adoption, and their new baby Sylvie is ready and waiting. But Eleanor's life is turned upside down when her husband suddenly gets cold feet and wants to back out of the adoption. Eleanor learns that she will be approved for an adoption as a single mother only if she has a strong support system intact. But Eleanor is adopted herself, and her adoptive parents have passed away. And so, Eleanor sets out to find her support system—her birth mother—with the help of an expert in reuniting families: a Search Angel...

...Read the rest of Keriann's review on *The Savvy Reader*

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### **PinkAmy loves \u0026#x1f495; books\u0026#x1f4d6;, cats\u0026#x1f63b; and naps\u0026#x1f6cf; says**

Eleanor Sweet and her husband are about to board a plane and fly across country to pick up their newly adopted baby, until he flakes out. Now, in order to adopt as a single parent, she needs a "support system", so she figures she'll locate the birth mother she never knew---huh? Readers are supposed to buy into the premise that a thirty-something woman assumes her birth mother, who she never met, will drop her life, move half-way across the country to be at her daughter's beckon call for the daughter she wants to adopt. Eleanor procures search angel to help her.

I liked Cohen's writing style. Eleanor was engaging and easy to root for. Cohen did a good job portraying adoption complexities. The minor characters were quirky. I had a hard time buying into the sudden search as

it tied into Eleanor's adoption of the baby. The book title is somewhat misleading, THE SEARCH ANGEL only appeared mid book and wasn't the focus of the story.  
Overall a light read.

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