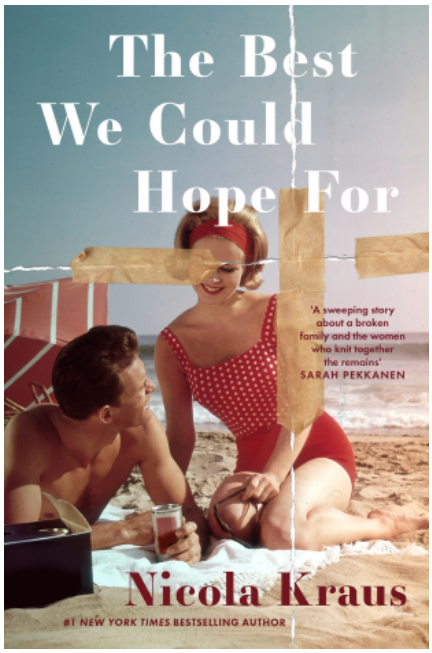
VERVE BOOKS



THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR

NICOLA KRAUS

MARKETING & SALES POINTS

From a #1 *New York Times* bestselling author comes a powerful novel about family, the weight of secrets, the choices we make and the repercussions of the decisions made for us

For fans of Claire Lombardo's *The Most Fun We Ever Had*, Anne Tyler's *A Spool of Blue Thread* and Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney's *The Nest*, as well as readers of Mary Beth Keane and Emma Straub

An accessible literary novel packed with topical book club themes – this deeply felt family saga compassionately looks at the dark side of a generation of children born into a world of privilege and emotional neglect

Nicola Kraus is the author of over ten books including co-authoring the international #1 best-seller *The Nanny Diaries*, which was adapted into a hit film starring Scarlett Johansson and Laura Linney. Nicola's books have sold over 6 million copies and been translated into 32 languages

VERVE will publish simultaneously with Little A in the US. UK audio edition by W F Howes

THE BOOK

When Bunny Linden abandons her three children with her older sister, Jayne, in 1972, she knows Jayne will be the perfect mother. The mother Bunny, a teen runaway, could never be.

As months turn into years without word, Jayne and her husband, Rodger, a rising star of New York's journalism scene, strive to give the children the opportunity to flourish and feel loved. When Jayne and Rodger finally have a child of their own, a seemingly stable home is built. But then, after nearly a decade, Bunny resurfaces and sets a chain of events in motion that detonates all their lives.

As adults, their children try to reassemble the pieces and solve the mystery that has always haunted them: who were their parents? What really happened between them? And who is ultimately to blame for the destruction?

PRAISE FOR *THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR*

'Kraus perfectly captures the ache and stretch of adolescence, the grief and rage of middle age and the loss and doubt that form the drumbeat beneath it all. Consistently surprising in all the best ways, this book is a beacon!' - **CATHERINE NEWMAN, author of *Sandwich***

'A unique, deeply moving story told with heart, depth and humor' - **REBECCA SERLE, author of *In Five Years***

'So heartbreaking and so good I couldn't stop reading... Like Ann Patchett, Kraus gets at the heart of how people can disconnect from their truest selves, and how, if they're lucky, they can find their way back' - **CAROLINE LEAVITT, author of *Pictures of You***

'Writing with grace and intelligence, Kraus explores the complex intersection of memory and loyalty in a sweeping story about a broken family and the women who knit together the remains. Perfect for book clubs' - **SARAH PEKKANEN, author of *House of Glass***

'Kraus deftly shows how the fog of generational trauma can finally give way to clarity and understanding when the grown children in a uniquely blended family learn how their mothers' painful pasts shaped them all' - **LAURA ZIGMAN, author of *Small World***

NICOLA KRAUS

Pub. Date:	6 May 2025
Price:	£10.99
ISBN:	978-0-85730-913-6
Binding:	Paperback
Format:	B (198 x 129mm)
Extent:	288
Weight:	
Publishing Rights:	Exclusive: UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada. Open Market: RoW. excl. North America
Sales Rights:	Exclusive: UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada. Open Market: RoW. excl. North America
Market:	American Fiction, Book Club Fiction, Family Saga, Literary Fiction
BISAC Code:	FIC019000: Fiction : Literary FIC045000: Fiction : Family Life
THEMA Code:	FBA: Modern & contemporary fiction FXB: Narrative theme: Coming of age FS: Family life fiction FT: Generational sagas
Country of Manufacture:	UK
Rpt. Code:	IP

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Tel: +44 (0)208 829 3000
www.turnaround-uk.com

vervebooks.co.uk/the-best-we-could-hope-for

ISBN 978-0-85730-913-6
9 780857 309136

Nicola Kraus has coauthored, with Emma McLaughlin, ten novels, including the international #1-bestseller *The Nanny Diaries*, *Citizen Girl*, *Dedication* and *The Real Real*. Nicola has contributed to the *Times*, *New York Times*, *Redbook*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Glamour*, *Town & Country* and *Maxim*, as well as two short story collections to benefit the War Child fund: *Big Night Out* and *Girls' Night Out*. In 2015 she cofounded the creative consulting firm The Finished Thought, which helps the next generation of aspiring authors find their voice and audience. Through her work there, she has collaborated on several *New York Times* nonfiction bestsellers.

