



Sweet Tooth: A Novel

By Ian McEwan

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A New York Times Notable Book

One of the Best Books of the Year: *San Francisco Chronicle, Seattle Times*

Cambridge student Serena Frome's beauty and intelligence make her the ideal recruit for MI5. The year is 1972. The Cold War is far from over. England's legendary intelligence agency is determined to manipulate the cultural conversation by funding writers whose politics align with those of the government. The operation is code named "Sweet Tooth." Serena, a compulsive reader of novels, is the perfect candidate to infiltrate the literary circle of a promising young writer named Tom Haley. At first, she loves the stories. Then she begins to love the man. How long can she conceal her undercover life? To answer that question, Serena must abandon the first rule of espionage: trust no one.

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Sweet Tooth: A Novel By Ian McEwan Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Amazon Best Books of the Month, November 2012: One of McEwan's finest female characters, Serena Frome—"rhymes with plume," the author tells us in the opening line—is both clever and beautiful, a speed-reading lit geek and a math whiz, a 1970s version of the Harvard MBA types who launch life-changing Internet startups. But in the dark and troubled Cold War days in London, there were few options for bright young women. So when a mysterious lover recruits her for the British intelligence service, MI5, Serena throws herself body and soul into an undercover operation code-named Sweet Tooth. What unfolds is a mystery, a romance, and a dazzling display of literary workmanship. Though the action slows to a crawl at times, McEwan is a brilliant and entertaining storyteller whose lines—sometimes laugh-out-loud funny, sometimes wickedly wise—had me reaching for my highlighter. --*Neal Thompson*

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review McEwan's attentive audience can never anticipate what his next novel will be about, but because his fans know that any McEwan book will offer a wildly creative plot carried by complex characters and an elegant yet ironically muted writing style, they are willing, whenever a new novel appears, to go with the author wherever—historically and psychologically—he leads. This time that place is the spy world of British intelligence in the early 1970s. (Remember, although WWII is over, the Cold War is definitely not.) With grace, assurance, and credibility, McEwan assumes a female persona in this first-person remembrance, narrated from the vantage of 40 years later. Serena Frome is a smart, attractive, Cambridge-educated young woman who is recruited by her older lover for the MI5 intelligence agency. She is slotted into a secret program called "Sweet Tooth," designed to cultivate writers likely to produce novels ideologically in tune with the government. Spycraft is, of course, fraught with betrayal, and Serena is not immune to that common pitfall. McEwan readers can rest assured that, in common with its predecessors, this novel has a greatly compelling story line braced by the author's formidable wisdom about—well, the world. **HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY:** Promotion strategies listed for McEwan's new book are expectedly wide-ranging, including, of course, national media appearances for him. --*Brad Hooper*

Review

"Effortlessly seductive." —*The New York Times*

"McEwan's most stylish and personal book to date. . . . The year's most intensely enjoyable novel." —*The Daily Beast*

"Ian McEwan's delicious new novel provides all the pleasures one has come to expect of him: pervasive intelligence, broad and deep knowledge, elegant prose, subtle wit and, by no means least, a singularly agreeable element of surprise." —*The Washington Post*

"It's Jane Austen meets John Le Carré meets John Barth. . . . Remarkable." —*The Boston Globe*

"A tightly crafted, exquisitely executed page-turner—a post-modern hall of mirrors asking savvy questions about identity (with an unreliable narrator and a Martin Amis cameo), all concealed in the immersive trappings of a Victorian novel complete with a marriage plot. There's such rich pleasure and vulnerability in McEwan's storytelling, such style and heart in his well-honed sentences." —*USA Today*

“Extremely clever in both the British and American senses . . . his most cheerful book by far.” —*The New York Times Book Review*

“McEwan has pulled off something remarkable here: *Sweet Tooth* is a suspenseful plot-and-character-driven novel with an unexpected postmodern twist. It’s Jane Austen meets John Le Carré meets John Barth . . . [Its] delights turn out to be considerable.” —*The Boston Globe*

“What could be a better match—Ian McEwan and a spy story? The English writer is a thinking person’s best-seller, whose intelligent, tightly plotted novels, narrated in careful prose, address the pressing social and political issues of our days.” —*San Francisco Chronicle*

“An espionage story that, at its heart, is about literature. . . . Ruminat[e] on writers, writing, and the power of stories.” —*Entertainment Weekly*

“Spy novels often boast plenty of twists but few real surprises. *Sweet Tooth*, however, includes a plot development at once unpredictable and plausible. Such is McEwan’s dexterity in crafting this game-changer, that not only does it mesh with the story but also enrobes what came before with an extra layer of meaning. . . . Life-affirming and almost defiantly romantic.” —*The Miami Herald*

“An engaging book that’s as much suspenseful drama as it is romantic love story.” —*NPR Books*

“Ian McEwan’s delicious new novel provides all the pleasures one has come to expect of him: pervasive intelligence, broad and deep knowledge, elegant prose, subtle wit and, by no means least, a singularly agreeable element of surprise.” —*Kansas City Star*

“The novel’s pleasures are multiple and, as always with McEwan, they begin with the storytelling.” —*Bloomberg Businessweek*

“McEwan, a contemporary master of narrative . . . brings suspense and wit to the telling. . . . *Sweet Tooth* moves elegantly toward its inevitable conclusion.” —*The Seattle Times*

“A wisecracking thriller hightailing between love and betrayal, with serious counter-espionage credentials thrown in. . . . This is ultimately a book about writing, wordplay and knowingness.” —*The Sunday Telegraph (London)*

“Thoroughly clever. . . . A sublime novel about novels, about writing them and reading them and the spying that goes on in doing both. . . . McEwan has spied on real life to write *Sweet Tooth*, and in reading it we are invited to spy on him. . . . Rich and enjoyable.” —*Financial Times*

“McEwan fans won’t be disappointed by *Sweet Tooth*, and newcomers to the author will be meeting him at the top of his game.” —*The Globe and Mail (Toronto)*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Elizabeth Brown:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important action, like

looking for your favorite book and reading a book. Beside you can solve your long lasting problem; you can add your knowledge by the reserve entitled Sweet Tooth: A Novel. Try to face the book Sweet Tooth: A Novel as your friend. It means that it can being your friend when you feel alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than ever before. Yeah, it is very fortunated for yourself. The book makes you more confidence because you can know almost everything by the book. So , we need to make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

Jessica Keith:

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open or perhaps read a book entitled Sweet Tooth: A Novel? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have various other opinion?

Derick Heinz:

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. The advantages you got of course the knowledge the rest of the information inside the book that will improve your knowledge and information. The knowledge you get based on what kind of reserve you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want experience happy read one having theme for entertaining like comic or novel. Often the Sweet Tooth: A Novel is kind of e-book which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

Joseph Russell:

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