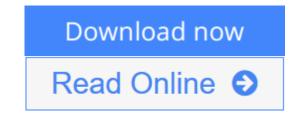
The Rumor: A Novel



By Elin Hilderbrand



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Madeline King and Grace Pancik are best friends and the envy of Nantucket for their perfect marriages, their beautiful kids, their Sunday night double dates with their devoted husbands. But this summer, something's changed, and if there's anything Nantucket likes better than cocktails on the beach at sunset, it's a good rumor.

And rumor has it ...

...that Madeline, a novelist, is battling writer's block, with a deadline looming, bills piling up, and blank pages driving her to desperation--and a desperately bad decision;

...that Grace, hard at work to transform her backyard into a garden paradise, has been collaborating a bit more closely that necessary with her ruggedly handsome landscape architect;

...that Grace's husband, successful island real estate developer "Fast Eddie" Pancik, has embarked on quite an unusual side project;

...that the storybook romance between Madeline's son, Brick, and Grace's daughter Allegra is on the rocks, heading for disaster.

As the gossip escalates, and they face the possible loss of the happy lives they've worked so hard to create, Grace and Madeline try mightily to set the record straight--but the truth might be even worse than rumor has it.

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Editorial Review

Review PRAISE FOR THE RUMOR:

"We've said it before and we'll say it again: Hilderbrand is the queen of the summer. Rich people behaving badly--perfect poolside." ?Susannah Cahalan, *The New York Post*

"It wouldn't be summer without a breezy, sensual Nantucket tale from Hilderbrand, and her latest...doesn't disappoint. Intricately plotted and filled with fast-paced dialogue, it's as sweetly satisfying as a glass of Sancerre."?**Kim Hubbard**, *People*

"The story is packed with the details of the wonder that is summer on the small, chic island off the coast of Massachusetts."?**Catherine Mallette**, *The Fort Worth Star-Telegram*

"The detail is authentic...Expect to find it filled with all the ingredients of a great chick lit read: many characters with intertwined lives, a handsome guy (in this case a landscape architect), complicated romance, and lots of wine."?Georgea Kovanis, *The Detroit Free-Press*

"One of the reigning queens of the summer beach book."?The Connecticut Post

"Be forewarned: scandal and swirling tension aside, Elin's descriptions of the idyllic setting in this perfect beach read may inspire readers to book a getaway."?**Eric Cupido**, *Hello! Canada*

"Queen of the beach read, and her latest [*The Rumor*]...is nothing short of a gift."?Lynsey Eidell, *Glamour.com*

"[*The Rumor*] explores human nature and the truth behind the gossip that people love to be the first to share."?**Laurie Higgins**, *The Cape Codder*

"Elin Hilderbrand, queen of the romance novel, never disappoints her readers--and here she is at the top of her game once again. She details every character superbly, her themes and plotlines are well thought out, and you can picture every scene in your mind so vividly. I read *The Rumor* quickly because I needed to know what ultimately happens and had no idea how it was going to end...Rumor has it that you will enjoy this book as much as I did."

?Vivian Payton, BookReporter

Praise for *BEAUTIFUL DAY*:

"A perfect summer read."?Ladies Home Journal

"A wedding readers won't be able to resist crashing."?Kirkus Reviews

"Hilderbrand's latest is the perfect beach read....[her] straightforward style pulls the reader into the minds of her characters, and all the secrets and sorrows that create the universal messiness of major family events."?*Publishers Weekly*

PRAISE FOR SUMMERLAND:

"Summerland is as readable as any beach book, but with a much bigger heart."?Boston Globe

"The Queen of the Summer Novel...Hilderbrand blends real-life issues - depression, teen alcoholism, bullying - with her signature soapy twists and illicit romances."?*Joanna Powell, People*

"Hilderbrand has once again written an engaging story wonderfully illustrating the often complex lives of young people struggling toward adulthood."?*Booklist*

"A sensitive glimpse into the lives of damaged people groping their way toward healing."?Kirkus Reviews

"Hilderbrand weaves a thrilling tale of friendship and betrayal." ?*Us Weekly*

About the Author

The following rumors about **Elin Hilderbrand** are true: She writes her novels longhand, she is a good cook and a terrible gardener, and she is fighting breast cancer. Everything else is up for speculation. THE RUMOR is her 15th novel.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lucille Daulton:

The book The Rumor: A Novel make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You can utilize to make your capable more increase. Book can to get your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem with the subject. If you can make reading through a book The Rumor: A Novel being your habit, you can get considerably more advantages, like add your personal capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. You may know everything if you like open up and read a book The Rumor: A Novel. Kinds of book are a lot of. It means that, science e-book or encyclopedia or other folks. So , how do you think about this book?

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Norma Wilson:

Typically the book The Rumor: A Novel has a lot of knowledge on it. So when you read this book you can

get a lot of benefit. The book was authored by the very famous author. The author makes some research just before write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you can find the point easily after looking over this book.

Christopher Suttle:

The Rumor: A Novel can be one of your starter books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to place every word into pleasure arrangement in writing The Rumor: A Novel however doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource data that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information may drawn you into brand new stage of crucial imagining.

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