

The Good Adoption
Synopsis

The Good Adoption tells the story of spoiled, popular twenty-year-old Austin Langford. He's the boy who had everything—money, intelligence and looks—and learned to use them all to his benefit. After his parents are both killed in a tragic auto accident, he is told by the family attorney that he had been adopted at birth—something his parents were planning on telling him on his twenty-first birthday. He learns that his mother is an Englishwoman who gave him up at birth. Austin copes with the anguish of losing his parents, anger at them keeping his true origin from him, and rage at the biological mother who gave him life but abandoned him.

Austin takes part in an exchange program that lands him at Oxford University. He finds out where his biological mother lives: East London, a working class community which is not exactly the kind of neighborhood to which Austin is accustomed. Austin watches his mother from afar and sees that she has two teenaged sons, one of whom is an avid rugby player. Austin gets acquainted with the coach of the rugby team and positions himself as assistant coach for his half-brother Bobby's team. Not knowing who Austin is, fifteen-year-old Bobby comes to idolize the “cool” American who has taken an interest in him.

When Adair, Austin's biological mother, first meets her son's coach, she has a strong reaction to him—a boy who has an amazing resemblance to a boy she knew twenty years before. Eventually, the truth of *The Good Adoption* unravels in anger, emotion and finally resolution.