

- [About Us](#)
- [Advertising](#)
- [Readership](#)
- [Booking Deadlines](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Terms & Conditions](#)

was the nature of our relationship that I should always disappoint you. You expected it, and so it came to be."

Her story changes from addressing him in the second person, mostly accusingly, to a third-person narrative in which she remembers the past from a child's point of view. The effect of these juxtapositions is mostly striking, but at times it jars and irritates.

IOL

- [About IOL](#)
- [Jobs @ IOL](#)
- [Advertising](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [International](#)



Lily has always wanted to atone for her betrayal of Tom. They haven't spoken in 30 years. His memoir opens many wounds and exposes a sense of unfinished business for others which he has not bargained for. To his distress, a confrontation with the people intertwined in his story becomes inevitable.

The second part is told by Tom himself, now a successful director of an NGO, who has put the past behind him, or so he thinks. After years in the struggle, he has forgiven Lily's betrayal and the resulting 12 years in prison, and he wants to move on. He enters into a relationship with Louise, a trauma counsellor, who too often treats him like one of her patients, not only confusing Tom but sometimes exasperating the reader.

Tom's memoir also attracts the attention of one of his former lovers, Miranda. Lily and Tom's narrations are interspersed with letters written by Lily to Miranda and by Miranda to both siblings. In the end, Tom has to face all the women in his life, each demanding something of him in her own way. Confronted with fatherhood, impending loss of his position because of affirmative action and a devastating revelation from the past, the anger he has kept at bay for such a long time threatens to consume him again.

My Brother's Book is a richly told story which manages to keep it secrets well hidden until the very last. Above all, it can be read as a meditation on truth, its unstable and highly individualised nature. The last part of the novel, told from Pop's perspective, offers a consolatory glimpse into the future of his fractured family and leaves one with a sense of hope and closure.



E-MAIL STORY



EASY PRINT

People

» more

TV & Radio

» more

prescribes news that is truthful, accurate, fair and balanced. If we don't live up to the Code please contact the Press Ombudsman at 011 788 4837 or 011 788 4829.

» 2006 Sports Diary

IOL dating.co.za

Date Your Destiny

I'm a 20 year old man looking to meet men between the ages of 18 and 26.



Select Province

and click on the first letter of your school:
 A B C D E F G H I J
 K L M N O P Q R S
 T U V W X Y Z

SA Reunited .co.za

RSS Feeds | Free IOL headlines | Newsletters | IOL on your phone
 Group Links



THE SUNDAY INDEPENDENT © 2008 Sunday Independent & Independent Online (Pty) Ltd. All rights reserved.

Reliance on the information this site contains is at your own risk. Please read our [Terms and Conditions of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

Independent Newspapers subscribes to the South African Press Code that to the Code please contact the Press Council

