



## **Secrets in the Sky**

*Pauline Wiles*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

# Secrets in the Sky

*Pauline Wiles*

**Secrets in the Sky** Pauline Wiles

## **How far should you go to keep a secret?**

No-one ever accused Sophie Campbell of being a coward. From caving trips to rooftop pranks, it appeared nothing could hold her back, especially once she landed a dream job promising travel all over the world.

But Sophie's jet-setting lifestyle is not what it seems and she's been spending more time in the quiet English village of Saffron Sweeting than she cares to admit. When her beloved Great Aunt Wol dies suddenly, Sophie loses one of the few people who truly know her. As friends, family and an old flame gather for the funeral, questions soon follow. Worse, Sophie finds herself increasingly attracted to the man most likely to expose her secrets. Can she manage to guard her past, yet finally follow her long-held dream?

Featuring both new and familiar characters, this stand-alone romantic comedy is set two years before *Saving Saffron Sweeting*. With side helpings of British tea, cake and wit, *Secrets in the Sky* explores how finding the courage to be yourself can be the toughest challenge of all.

## **Secrets in the Sky Details**

Date : Published February 26th 2015 by Pauline Wiles

ISBN : 9780988973121

Author : Pauline Wiles

Format : Paperback 340 pages

Genre : Fiction, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Romance, Mystery, Contemporary

 [Download Secrets in the Sky ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Secrets in the Sky ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Secrets in the Sky Pauline Wiles**

---

# From Reader Review *Secrets in the Sky* for online ebook

## Joan says

First person present tense.

I really struggled with this for the first five or six chapters. Sophie was pleasant enough but I wasn't really sure what she needed out of life. I was tempted to dnf at Chapter 5, but I read on and it was worth it in the end.

---

## Julie Valerie says

Yet again, Pauline Wiles has delivered a novel with warm characters in a delightful setting. In a story that begins two years before Pauline's debut novel, *Saving Saffron Sweeting*, this stand-alone romantic comedy is a showcase of romance, secrets and lies, bravery and courage. For me, the biggest takeaway is the importance of facing your phobias before they wrap around you, smothering your judgment and clouding your world.

I suspect many reviews of this book will focus on the energy between the characters. The cast and crew assembled for this novel is wonderful and they tangle and untangle themselves throughout the story. That said, I'm going to focus primarily on the value of establishing setting, as well as having a smashing great first five paragraphs.

Hands down, one of my favorite aspects of the novel was the chance to delve deeper into the world of Saffron Sweeting, an idyllic village I grew to love when reading Pauline's first book. Since reading *Saving Saffron Sweeting* in 2013, I've often daydreamed about Saffron Sweeting. I'd like to visit it one day, but shucks, it's a fictional village, so I'll have to travel its streets in the pages of Pauline's books. In keeping with this English setting, both books use British spelling and grammar conventions. (Love that!)

I loved the opening at the church and the use of certain town elements (like the church clock). I enjoyed it when the author planted a sense of color from the setting, fleshing out for me as a reader what living in the village of Saffron Sweeting must feel like to the characters. For example, a simple passage in which Sophie describes the difficulty of getting pizza delivered from Cambridge restaurants:

. . . Saffron Sweeting is a bit of a trek for the Cambridge pizza restaurants, and they seem to find the village extraordinarily hard to navigate. We're not so far out of the way their sat nav won't function, but they act like they've had to deliver a Hawaiian to Oahu itself.

These details, carefully crafted in something as "everyday" as pizza delivery, really anchored me in the location of story, a location I've craved returning to since reading the first book. I especially enjoyed the turn of events at the river's edge and loved how this scene was first fleshed-out in a bit of setting before everything unraveled in dialogue and action.

I also really loved the opening of the novel as it relates to the rest of the story. Opening with the girls running late for their aunt Wol's funeral service is brilliant for this story.

## CHAPTER ONE

I race up the gravel path towards the village church and skid to an inelegant halt. I'll be so glad to get these shoes off.

Kit is waiting in the arched doorway, shifting from foot to foot and looking from her watch to the sky. Thunderous clouds have been creeping closer all morning, and now they're convening right above the steeple.

'Where the hell've you been? They're starting!'

As she speaks, I hear the solemn notes of the organ and recognise the first bars of 'All Things Bright and Beautiful'. Beside us, a clump of yellow daffodils nods in time to the hymn.

Wol loved daffodils.

My closing remarks? Tackle your fears and reveal your truth. An enthusiastic 5-stars for what I know will be another smashing hit in contemporary women's fiction.

Pauline, you go girl. You did it again.

---

## **Sally Stackhouse says**

Set in a small English village near to Cambridge this is a well written story.

Sophie has secrets and when her great aunt dies and leaves her some money she struggles to keep up her deceit but she just becomes more and more embroiled in it until things comes to a head.

Good characters, lovely dialogue, well paced and a good read.

---

## **Sandra Kent says**

### **Romantic story**

A good story about relationships, secrets, fears, and lies to protect it all. The only thing I didn't like was the weakness of the main character. How could she allow herself to be so manipulated? I love when she finally stepped up. Would like to read the next one in the series.

---

## **Tracey Gemmell says**

Feeling frazzled? Head for Saffron Sweeting! This fictional English village, created by the talented Pauline Wiles, will have you soaking in the bathtub long after the bubbles have disappeared.

As a British expat living in the US, I enjoyed Ms. Wiles' first novel, Saving Saffron Sweeting, in part a humourous rendition of cultural differences between the US and UK. I wondered if I would enjoy Secrets in the Sky as much. Guess what? I did.

Secrets in the Sky visits Saffron Sweeting again through new eyes, but with the same comfortable vibe Ms. Wiles does so well. Gossip, evenings at the pub, flying phobias, quaint buildings and teashops – it's all a lovely break from the chaos in today's headlines. Just when I started to think the tale may be too small-world, I found myself flying – literally – into a tangled web of small lies leading to bigger lies leading to disastrous marriage proposals leading to the sweetest romance. The relationship between Sophie and her leading man is delightfully portrayed – just the right amount of romantic tension. I read the little speech about how one should feel before getting married at least ten times. It could make a fortune on Hallmark cards. Worth the price of the book all by itself! I look forward to visiting Saffron Sweeting again.

---

## **Yvonne Mendez says**

In a tarot reading, getting the Death card is not as bad as it seems. It means change, it is telling the person that one aspect of the their life is coming to an end and a new one will begin.

And for Sophie Campbell, that is exactly what happens when her Aunt Wol dies, forcing her to confront her

secrets, especially when people from the past and her own mother constantly show up to disrupt the protected life she had under Aunt Wol's roof in the village of Saffron Sweeting.

Sophie's big secret may seem like no big deal at the beginning and then one layer is peeled off and some things make sense, but it still seems too trivial to make such a big case out of it. Then another layer comes off and then another, yet things don't quite make sense. There came a point when I wanted to shake Sophie and tell her "Seriously? you're gonna do THAT to protect your secret? What are you thinking???" And of course, eventually, when it all made sense I thought, "Oops. Sorry for yelling at you Sophie."

And while we learn more about Sophie's secret, we also get the romance part with two very handsome and very different hunks. We have the adorable village, the lovely pub, the busy bodies and my favorite side character Amelia, the local real estate agent and scene stealer extraordinaire. We also get a quick trip to Scotland, which is such a treat for me as the reader, even though Sophie had to confront very painful facts from her past.

Overall, this is a very entertaining story, with memorable characters, real-life situations, lovely settings and once again leaves me sighing for the life in a small village like Saffron Sweeting.

---

### **Meredith Schorr says**

I became a fan of Pauline Wiles after reading *Saving Saffron Sweeting*. The author wrote that book with such charm and humor and continued the trend with *Secrets in the Sky*. *Secrets in the Sky* takes place two years before *Saving Saffron Sweeting* and is about Sophie Campbell, a young woman who has been keeping a secret, several secrets actually, and basically living a lie. For reasons kept from the reader throughout most the book, Sophie will do basically anything to protect the secret even if it means facing down her fears and building a future she doesn't even want.

This book was definitely a page turner and there were moments I wanted to scream at Sophie to come clean and to see what was right in front of her, specifically when it came to her two love interests - one of whom I found to be quite irresistible. Sophie was flawed yet very likeable and I applaud the writer for pulling that off. I loved the subtle humor and Sophie's inner thoughts. The secondary characters were adorably quirky.

Another charming read by Pauline Wiles. I can't wait to see what she has in store for us in her third novel.

\* I was provided a free copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

---

### **MB (What she read) says**

I have absolutely no respect for this woman. Her weakness and stupidity totally ruined this book for me.

I already struggle with books where the heroines are such silly spineless idiots. I don't understand Sophie's reasoning or mental ability in choosing to live a life of lies for such stupid and inadequate reasons. I really don't enjoy being inside the head of people who are so mentally messed up. Grow up girl, and get a spine and a brain reset!

If I hadn't already enjoyed another book (Saving Saffron Sweeting) by this author, I'd never have made it past the half-way point of this book.

*Authors, PSA from me to you:*

*If your heroine is in her mid- to late 20's, she should have learned some basic adulting skills by now. Up to and including sticking up for yourself, being true to yourself, setting boundaries (particularly with family members), choosing men who aren't users and/or useless, and just being an actual adult who takes responsibility for herself and her life. I'm tired of reading about women who are still in arrested development mode by that age.*

*Don't get me wrong, self-improvement is something we all should be doing as a continuous process, but seriously, by your mid-20's you should have at least made a **start** with that!*

This heroine was so weak, so much the opposite of someone I could respect, that I came to despise her. I feel sorry for the hero.

---

### **Nicole Hughes-Chen says**

Wiles has written this book like a pro. I cannot believe this is only her second novel; she writes like she has been doing this for decades.

Firstly I have to acknowledge the brilliant grammar and punctuation which is absolutely flawless in this book, well done Wiles.

The story is set in a little village where everyone knows everyone, and follows the journey of a woman as she deals with loss, phobias, love and difficult family relationships. With so much going on the story is well arranged and told, with enough characters to make it interesting without being confusing.

It was refreshing to read about phobias; I have not read a chick lit. that focused on phobias previously. It was also refreshing to have a bunny boiler portrayed as a male as opposed to a female!

I will be recommending this book, and will be tempted to buy a physical copy in the future. I will definitely read more from Wiles - please keep writing and keep up the high standards.

---

### **Candice Allen says**

#### **Cute story**

This is a cute story about how you can fall into a trap when you start lying and the crazy process to get yourself back to the truth. Sophie was a likable character. And you can't help but fall in love with Tom.

---

### **Angie Hackett says**

I really grew to love this book. The setting was beautiful and the characters were interesting.

I initially had trouble because of the complexity of the sub plot but I carried on. I did think the main character was a bit daft for her decisions but I did kind of understand her motivation for what she was doing.

In the end I had a near happy tear in my eye as I finished this book. It was definitely good and worth the read.

---

## **Maria says**

### **Oh so funny**

This is the first time I've given a 5-star rating to a contemporary romance. I'm not a prude but they seem to follow a pretty predictable smutty path or they're so corny that I roll my eyes. But I loved this book. I loved the witty dialogue and the way Sophie observes the world. Made me laugh out loud at work!

---

## **Shiraloo says**

\*\*I received an ARC from LibraryThing as part of their Members Giveaway program in exchange for an honest review.\*\*

I rated this one 4.5 stars out of 5.

Women's fiction, affectionately known as "Chick Lit," often gets a bad wrap. Sure, chick lit novels sometimes aren't as wordy or ironic as what's passing for literature these days, but these books are no less fulfilling, emotional, and beautiful reads. Sometimes you need a book with a bubbly protagonist whose own emotional life issues mirror your own, with characters so stereotypical in their supporting roles that you just have to laugh at their ridiculous antics, and with a heartwarming conclusion that sends tingles into your fingers and toes and does in fact warm your heart. And that's why I devoured this novel like I have my other women's fiction favorites, wholly and without pause. In fact, I was so concerned about the plight of Sophie Cambell and the village of Saffron Sweeting, I read over 85% of the book in a handful of hours. I just couldn't put it down.

Sophie Cambell has many secrets, and for awhile, she was comfortable keeping all of them. When a death in the family sets off a chain reaction of events, her whole ability to keep telling the lies protecting these secrets is put into jeopardy. The entire book revolves around the idea of coming home and trying to establish who you are in the face of people who have the wrong idea of who you've been. This conflict sets Sophie off on a journey that eventually ends in acceptance, love, and a new found sense of self she was waiting for.

The story itself is a pretty common one in women's fiction. But what sets Wiles' novel off from the rest is her biggest supporting character, the village of Saffron Sweeting. Each character Wiles introduces has a role: the town gossip, who also works at the post office; the estate agent who is glamorous, but shows Sophie that the image one portrays isn't always correct; the pub owner with a heart of gold. And with each character, you welcome yourself into this village. I could almost imagine myself walking down the cobbled streets (I imagine them to be cobbled), and passing the familiar faces in the warm sunshine, while I nibble on a sausage roll from Brian's bakery. And in their own way, each of these characters play an important role in creating the evolved Sophie Campbell that we meet at the end of the book.



I enjoyed Wiles' mastery of dialogue, especially the English and Scottish mannerisms and language. It was never too hard to understand the meaning, even if the words weren't familiar. I also loved the central romance, and was rooting for it until the very end. Many times, as the two lovers tried and failed to get together, I was heartbroken with them as they navigated their way back to each other. Ugh, I get chills just thinking of it!

I would recommend this book in a heartbeat to anyone that enjoys a fun read with a rewarding conclusion. I've not read Wiles' debut novel, *Saving Saffron Sweeting*, but given my love for the village, I am planning on picking that one up right away!

---

### **Kamylyon says**

#### **Not a carbon copy!**

Lovely story of familial love, loss and secrets kept too long.

Sophie's mother, in fact the entire village, thinks that she's an air hostess. What happens when she admits her fear of flying, and the fact that she isn't is all part of the magic going on in this delightful tale.

Just an aside, it's 'wracking my brain', not 'racking'. One means searching, the other is a place to put things.  
?

---

### **Jacqueline says**

Dear me. This is what happens when I try to find a nice, easy, undemanding read to lose myself in while accompanying my mum to her hospital appointment, a place where there's no wifi and so no way of downloading an alternative once I realised I'd chosen a dud.

Six hours we were there, with only this tosh to keep me sane. It was supposed to offer me an escape, but instead it aggravated me. Zero chemistry, daft decisions and improbable situations. And as if that wasn't bad enough, there was no smut. None.

Gah.

Complete story, at least it was a freebie.

---