

Life » **Books** » Top 150 Books » Shop for Books

New Voices: Chandra Hoffman, with debut 'Chosen'

Updated 14h 26m ago | Comments 3 | Recommend 3

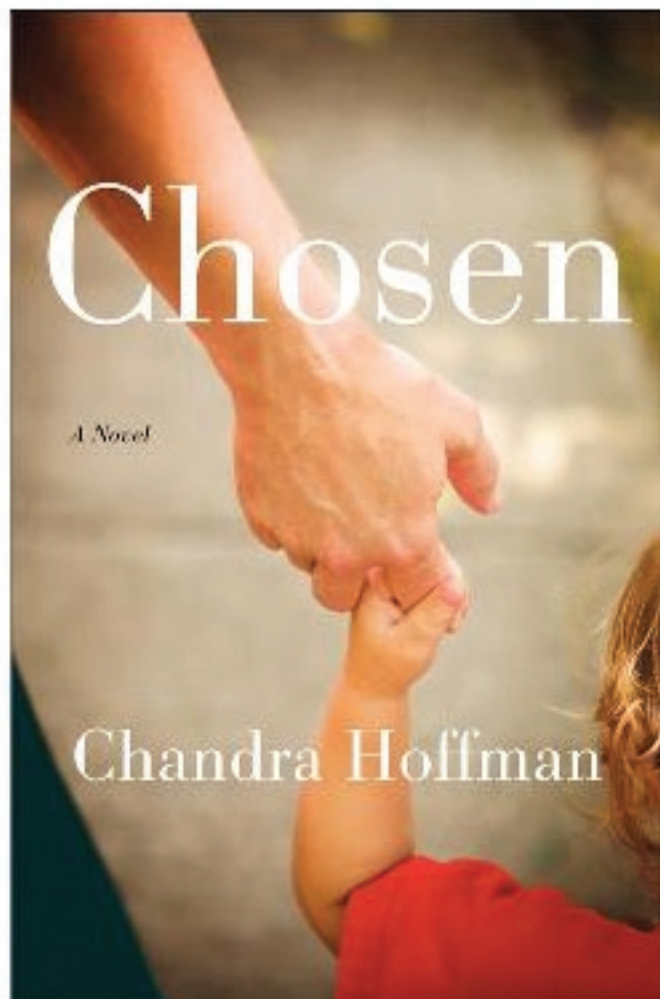
E-mail | Save | Print | Reprints & Permissions | **RSS**



Enlarge

By Robin Trautmann

Chandra Hoffman wrote what she knows; she worked at a Romanian orphanage and a U.S. adoption agency.



Enlarge

By **Carol Memmott, USA TODAY**

The book

Chosen

By Chandra Hoffman

Harper, 307 pp., \$25.99

What it's about: In this debut novel, adoption agency caseworker Chloe Pinter becomes entangled in the lives of birth parents, adoptive parents and a kidnapping case that has a shocking ending.

Why it's notable: The book is informed by the author's experience working in a Romanian orphanage and for a U.S. adoption agency.

A taste: "From the minute you start the adoption process, the telephone takes on a special significance in your life. You anticipate The Phone Call the way another woman imagines the two blue lines appearing on an EPT stick."

The author

Quick bio: Hoffman, 35, her husband, Jonathan, and their three children, Hayden, 8, Max, 5, and Piper, 3, live in Bryn Athyn, Pa., just 150 yards from her childhood home.

Also on her résumé: In the 1990s, she worked as a horse trainer and in the open-air kitchen of Georgetown Hospital in the [Cayman Islands](#), where free-range chickens were frequently underfoot.

Personality trait: "I'm the girl who belongs to [Amnesty International](#) and volunteers at the SPCA. I have a bleeding heart."

On her novel: "Adoption is the backdrop. The juicy, gritty extortion plot is the page-turning aspect, and the theme is the expectation and reality in parenthood. What happens when your expectations of parenthood or placing a child for adoption are different from what you thought?"

Up next: A novel about infidelity. "Like adoption, everybody knows somebody in that situation."

Share

Yahoo! Buzz

Add to Mixx

Facebook

Twitter

More

Subscribe

myYahoo

iGoogle

More