

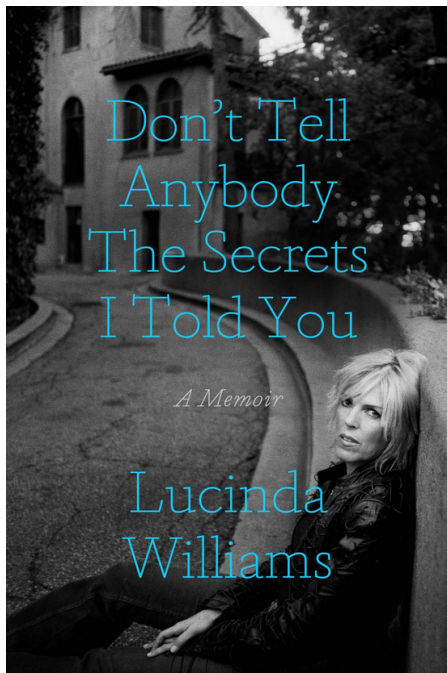
VOGUE

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Book It

Make a date with the best new books.

If you know much about singer-songwriter Lucinda Williams, it's likely through her gorgeous, sometimes gut-punch music, which fuses everything from rock to country, folk to hip-hop. **Don't Tell Anybody the Secrets I Told You (Crown)**, her memoir, comes with



plenty of backstory about how those songs were written and what they're about - but it's her rough-hewn yet oddly precocious early family life that's most intriguing: her mother, plagued by mental illness and alcoholism and often absent; her father, a kind of itinerant academic, leading the family from Louisiana to Iowa, Mississippi, Utah, Georgia,

Chile, New Orleans, and Mexico before settling for good in Arkansas. Williams grew up steeped in a kind of boozy, boisterous literary culture and met many of her father's friends, from Flannery O'Connor to Pablo Neruda, along the way, and her memoir transmutes the wisdom, pain, and hard-won joy of her life into stories that stick with you.