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Pickard, Nancy. The Scent of Rain and Lightning

With a western flavor, Pickard's novel starts with the news that a locally infamous convicted killer has been released from prison. The orphan of his alleged victims, Jody, still lives in the town and has grown up in the shadow of her father's murder and her mother's disappearance. Pickard takes us back to the time of the murder and as the story unfolds, it becomes apparent that more than one person doubts that the truth has ever been told or that justice has been done. Jody wants nothing more than retribution, and in her mind, it's the lifetime incarceration of the man returning to town. Jody's powerful family is behind her, but is it strong enough to withstand the truth? With plot twists to keep you guessing, this highly recommended novel is a gripping tale of small-town mystery and revenge.

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