**Praise for Tanya Selvaratnam and *The Big Lie***

“Set aside the ‘mommy wars.’  This work is for the women who have been left out of the discussion until now…Many will cheer on Selvaratnam’s ultimate points. Sure to invite discussion among feminists.”

**--*Library Journal***

“She’s intelligent (she’s a Harvard grad), passionate (she’s a feminist and activist), and artistic (she’s a documentary and theater producer). And she wants to share her hard-won wisdom so that young women in the future don’t make the same mistakes she did.”

**--Booklist**

"Producer and activist Selvaratnam, a self-defined casualty of the second-wave feminist idea that biology should not define destiny, responds with a provocative mix of solid information and palpable anger. ... This wakeup call... is controversial, but few would argue with Selvaratnam’s suggestion that women get the facts before making family-planning decisions."

**--*Publishers Weekly***

"In *The Big Lie: Motherhood, Feminism and the Reality of the Biological Clock* Tanya Selvaratnam presents her own story of “heartbreak and self-discovery” relative to her attempts to become a mother at the relatively advanced age of 40 after having experienced three miscarriages. She notes that women tend not to talk among themselves about failed pregnancies, and overall women are not “conditioned to feel the urgency of fertility... The message repeated throughout this and later chapters is that women need to have much more information about their fertility and its limitations …[Tanya] is to be applauded by her attempt to see the many dimensions of feminism and motherhood…”

**--New York Journal of Books**

“*The Big Lie: Motherhood, Feminism, and the Reality of the Biological Clock* by Tanya Selvaratnam has a very important message...Fundamentally, Selvaratnam believes that Western, working women have gotten complacent about the possibilities of late childbirth…The book itself is a combination of memoir and scientific information. The memoir is particularly well-done, with Selvaratnam managing to elegantly discuss very personal parts of her life that must still be quite raw. ..”

**--Geek Mom**

“A courageous, deeply personal, and unapologetically feminist exploration of delayed motherhood and infertility. This enlightening and empowering book should be required reading for *every* woman”.

--**Hillary Jordan, author (*Mudbound*, *When She Woke*)**

“The Big Lie is such a brave, rigorous, and deeply honest work. Tanya Selvaratnam’s personal journey speaks to a whole generation of women raised to believe we could have it all – only to realize, too late, that with every choice comes something not chosen. If you care more about truth than ideology, read this book.”

--**Danzy Senna, author (*Caucasia*, *You Are Free*)**

“With vulnerability, insight, and honesty, Tanya Selvaratnam uses her personal journey with health, fertility, and career to illuminate one of the biggest issues of our era. Have women lost out on fundamental happiness by following the call to have it all -- a family and career? How can women and men re-shape the losses of our time into better choices and better outcomes? Tanya takes us inside her medical and emotional journey, and uses the stories of women across the country to examine how to put an end to “the big lie.”

--**Farai Chideya, television and radio journalist, author (*The Color of Our Future*)**

“The ability to choose to become a mother, or not, is playing itself out in real time everyday and there is no question in my mind that the right to plan one’s family on one’s own timetable continues to have more pros than cons for this generation. However, it is also important that we examine the impact of a societal shift of this enormity. There is great potential in Tanya Selvaratnam’s journey to bring similar stories of disappointment, frustration, and hope to light. In sharing there can also be healing.”

--**Christy Turlington Burns, founder, Every Mother Counts; director/producer, *No Woman, No Cry*; author (*Living Yoga: Creating A Life Practice*); global maternal health advocate, model, mom**

“The Big Lie will leave readers with many big truths—about women's wants and desires, and revelations about our limitations. The book is part memoir, part maternal health manifesto; taken together, an important read for anyone contemplating and assuming future motherhood.”

**--Amy Richards, author (*Opting In: Having a Child without Losing Yourself*)**

“As a fertility specialist, I am confident that this book will be a wake-up call for the many women who are (voluntarily or involuntarily) postponing reproduction. I applaud the desire of Selvaratnam to dispel myths and tell the truth about the “biological clock.” We cannot “rewind” it, but today we can stop it with egg freezing. This technology is powerful, revolutionary, and will change the lives of women in the twenty-first century.”

--**Pasquale Patrizio, MD, MBE, professor, reproductive bioethicist, and director, Yale Fertility Center; coeditor of *A Color Atlas for Human Assisted Reproduction***

“40 may be the new 30, and women are looking and feeling younger than their years, but try telling that to your ovaries!  There is a disconnect between what women see in the mirror and what’s happening to their reproductive organs. Tanya’s book will help women better understand their biological age and fertility health.  It will also educate on the incredible advances being made in fertility treatment so that women are informed about their fertility options and choices.  So pleased that Tanya is furthering this dialogue.”

--**Carole Kowalczyk, MD, board-certified reproductive endocrinologist; director, Michigan Center for Fertility and Women’s Health; founder, in Harmony Healing Center; founder, Seasons of Life Fertility Foundation.**

“Through detailed research and personal insights, Tanya Selvaratnam sheds light on one of the most important issues facing women in today’s society: infertility. The path to parenthood is not linear and Tanya delicately yet passionately reminds us of this. As an infertility consultant and advocate, I believe knowledge is power when it comes to facing this issue and Tanya bravely shares her story so that we can all reexamine our notions of how a family is built. This book not only arms us with the information, guidance, and support to face infertility but also the honesty, vulnerability and hope to comfort us.”

**--Mindy Berkson, Infertility Consultant, Lotus Blossom Consulting**

“We all have to take responsibility for our choices but what happens when we don’t know we are making a choice? What if we thought we were solving WHEN but realized the question was WHETHER OR NOT? Tanya Selvaratnam bravely shares her heartbreaking, exhausting, and ultimately enlightening experience of being blindsided by fertility problems. Haunted by hindsight, she perseveres in her desire to have both a successful artistic life and a baby. Tanya engages us without sentimentality or self-pity, and in the process, she helps us all understand that there are ways to achieve our personal hopes and dreams when given honest information, guidance and support.”

--**Catherine Gund, documentary filmmaker and cofounder, Third Wave Foundation**

“The worldwide trend towards delayed motherhood is supposed to empower women. But does having children later in life really give more life choices and freedoms for women worldwide? Using her creative insights and keen intellect, Selvaratnam tells her personal story. Read this book and reflect on her unique Asian-American journey.”

--**Soon-Young Yoon, UN representative for the International Alliance of Women and Chair, NGO Committee on the Status of Women/New York. Co-editor, “Gender, Women and the Tobacco Epidemic”**