

Beware the Baby-Sitter

Francine Pascal (Creator) , Kate William

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"Margo makes her move . . ." Margo is making herself right at home in Sweet Valley, setting her evil scheme in motion. She's gotten a job at the day-care center, and is busy perfecting her imitation of identical twins Jessica and Elizabeth Wakefield. She's even fooled Todd Wilkins and Mrs. Wakefield into thinking she's Elizabeth. Now it's only a matter of time before Margo takes over Elizabeth's perfect life for good.

Meanwhile, Winston Egbert was baby-sitting for a neighbor. Now the neighbor has disappeared. What's Winston going to do with a baby?

Book Five in this explosive six-part miniseries . . . Sweet Valley will never be the same!

Beware the Baby-Sitter Details


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From Reader Review Beware the Baby-Sitter for online ebook

Jason says

ludicrous. absolutely ludicrous. but at least with some momentum this time... I'm actually kind of excited to read the conclusion coming up in the final book of this mini-series, The Evil Twin. Kind of. Oh who am I kidding... this whole exercise in nostalgia has been amazing.

Lizzie says

I felt this story was the weakest in the miniseries. I enjoyed the continuation of the story from the previous books especially Margo's obsession with the Wakefields. However I did not enjoy Winston's story. I felt it was a bit far-fetched.

Car says

I love these books. But this one was a little messed up to me personally. Margo's character is already super complex but in this book I think she just losses it based on the stuff she did in here.

Hillary says

It may have taken 99 Sweet Valley High books to get here, but I feel I may finally have reached my threshold for absolute ridiculousness. It is not a good feeling.

Ericka says

5th-8th grades

Pascal created an amazing series for tween girls. All of the series had painted pictures of the people in the stories with the blonde friends on the top. The stories are usually over 150 pages long with rarely any white space. The stories are usually dramatic since it follows the life of young californian teens, where life seems so tough for them. Each book in the series has its own dramatic event for the young girls. This story was about a jealous girl wanting to ruin the Wakefield twins life. Young readers could relate to this because at this age they feel life is so tough and they would love the drama.

Social Studies

Students can learn about the state California to understand location where the characters are from and do a project on various cities from California

?Jinglemarco? ??????? - ??????? (Nursery rhymes enthusiast)* says

Oh, finally I can actually read The evil twin!

This Beware the Baby-Sitter was my second time with a Sweet Valley novel (after Special Christmas) and it wasn't a pleasant experience. I found this book to be a bit boring, shallow and almost totally absurd.

Jessica is almost a bitch as Margo, and that is a lot to say... But Margo is a bitchy girl, and however flat - like every SWH character - I quite like her because she is crazy, while Jessica is a sweet girl only in the words of descriptions in these novels and not really in my opinion.

kylajaclyn says

I took a one-year hiatus from this miniseries last summer after I read and reviewed The Wedding. See, I just wasn't ready to finish this miniseries so quickly. No more Margo in my life?! Ahhh, the horror! I'm not snarking though. These books really are the cream of the Sweet Valley crop. They are the best milkshake at the Dairy Burger times 1,000.

We resume our story with no change on the old frontier (er, beach). Enid reminds us that Sam Woodruff is dead. Really, Enid? Way to be a Debbie Downer. Anyway, wasn't this all five books ago now? Let's get on with it. Jessica certainly has.

Speaking of Jessica, her Ice Palace is defrosting, and she is now endeavoring to speak to her sister again. Liz is all for it... after all, with Todd still pissed at her, if she doesn't have Jessica then she doesn't really have a friend in the world. As usual, Jessica is still refusing to admit to anyone (even Prince Albert), that she is the one who spiked Liz's punch at Jungle Prom. She is also not willing to admit that while she dated Todd she hid a letter from him that was supposed to be his apology plea to Liz. Liz is suddenly a psychic about Margo, but her powers have not given her the clear knowledge of who really spiked her drink that night. While rummaging for clothes in Jess's room one day she does, however, finally find that letter from Todd. And so the Cold War resumes.

James the Dirtbiker is still dating Jessica in order to get the \$2,000 Mandy (Margo) has promised him. He takes her on a date near a cliff, and even almost pushes her off and then catches her to make sure she trusts him. He's got a weird way of testing trust. Margo harasses him daily for information about the twins and their lives. Her obsession with Alice Wakefield takes on a strange lesbian quality in this book. With James relaying information about the twins wardrobe, she is able to replicate it almost exactly. One day she tests out her master plan by changing into her Elizabeth clothes and approaching Mrs. Wakefield on Calico Drive. While Mrs. Wakefield is unloading groceries, Margo walks in and gives her a hug and acts weird. Margo disappears while the real Elizabeth comes back, and Alice asks her why she has changed clothing. Liz gives her a funny look. Honestly, between Alice not knowing her own children and James's brushing off of Margo's weird ways, I am thinking that not even a brick to the head would knock some sense into these people.

Margo has taken a job at Little Darlings Daycare (the name snarks itself) as Marla, a curly-haired and bespectacled geek. Margo is turning into a Kardashian with all these M names she keeps making up. Of

course she hates kids, but she knows that these kids will tell her more about Jessica and Elizabeth. She figures she'll be long gone (as the new Elizabeth), before her employer realizes that she got the job under false pretenses.

There is a Winston plot in this one that actually seems pretty useless (and would be under normal circumstances), but soon Margo comes around to spice it up. Winston's neighbor Mrs. Zvonchenko is a talker who has to go rescue her husband from Central America, and her regular baby-sitter is out of commission, so she needs to leave her baby with Winston. Winston can't get a word in edge-wise, and so he is stuck taking care of baby Daisy while his parents are out of town. Hijinks ensue, and all of Winston's girl friends (and actual girlfriend) fall in love with Daisy on first sight. Amy Sutton bets Winston that he can't take care of Daisy for an entire week, including changing diapers. If she wins, Winston has to wear a huge diaper as his costume to the upcoming Costume Ball. If Winston wins, Amy has to go dressed as a nun. The gang has to take care of Daisy at school one day, and it's very much like an episode of *Saved by the Bell*. Things get interesting when Winston realizes that Mrs. Zvonchenko isn't coming back anytime soon and that he needs to think about taking the baby to Social Services. He stops by the daycare to ask their advice, and runs into Margo at the front desk. He is frantic to find care for Daisy, but Margo is more interested in the fact that this is Winston Egbert, and his friends Elizabeth and Todd are in the car with the baby. Margo gets an angry glint in her eyes when she talks about children being abandoned at birth, and after getting her advice and driving away, Winston gets the distinct feeling that Margo is watching him as they pull away. D'oh. Yes, Winston. Of course she is. It gets better when Margo eventually stops by Winston's house (as the daycare worker) and offers to watch Daisy and relieve Winston of his dad-like duties for a while. This chick should not know his address, and Winston gets this unshakeable fear about her, but he decides what the hell? Sweet Valley is full of people who are remarkably capable of shaking off gut feelings. Naturally, Margo instantly wants to suffocate the baby, or at least makes sure she grows up to have a life as miserable as her. She is in the process of suffocation when Liz pops up to check on Winston and the baby. Margo is speechless that the target of her master plan is right in front of her, and she vanishes. Liz makes no move to follow her, until she realizes that Margo has the same cold, blue eyes of the person in her recurring dream. However, Liz deserves to die for sheer idiocy alone. Winston's friends convince him at the end of the book that Mrs. Zvonchenko is not coming back, and he needs to drop Daisy off at the daycare for good. Again, ignoring his fear about giving the baby to Margo, he drives away, only to arrive at his house... and find Mrs. Zvonchenko! He tells her he just gave the baby away, and they all speed back towards Little Darlings Daycare. Once again, Margo is in the middle of suffocating the baby when Winston and the Zvonchenkos tell her they need the baby back. Margo comes out visibly flustered and vanishes once again. They find the baby with a pillow lying next to it. A big pillow. No cause for suspicion here.

Well, since we can't go a Sweet Valley book without some sort of event, we have in this one a Costume Ball. Amy ends up dressing like a nun, and Jessica and Elizabeth (and Margo), all go dressed as Cinderella. Liz can't shake her feeling of impending doom. She takes a walk outside and runs into Margo-dressed-as-Jess. Liz tells Jess that she scared her (fuck, she can't even recognize her own twin!!), and Margo as Jess runs away. Just then, Liz realizes that Jess was wearing pearl earrings when she left the house instead of the rhinestones that Margo as Jess wore. She gasps at the realization for about the 50th time in the book. They should make a gasping Liz doll. Margo is living it up as Jess. She has a wonderful time dancing with Todd (who didn't consider that he could be wrecking things with Liz again by dancing with "Jess"), and now all of Jessica's friends are talking to Margo as if she is actually Jessica. I can't understand why Margo doesn't realize that she'd rather be Jessica (and make a much better Jessica) until *Return of the Evil Twin*, but that's the way it goes.

Josh Smith is in town and gaining on Margo. He overhears about a recent incident in which a lady was ran over and killed by a driver who then fled the scene of the crime. Smells like Margo, in Josh's opinion. He

also hears about a teen getting killed by a drunk driver, but he believes that Margo isn't responsible for that one. It's funny, I used to think that Margo was EXACTLY the person responsible for the Jungle Prom punch fiasco. It seems that dressing up as Jessica and spiking Elizabeth's punch so that she could take over Elizabeth's life is the EXACT kind of thing that Margo would do. Also, I used to love Jessica and never thought of her as that sociopathic. Man, I was so wrong. Oftentimes Jessica puts Margo to shame. So Josh overhears Amy & Lila talking at Casey's about the upcoming Costume Ball. Josh decides he needs to be in attendance in order to catch Margo. He is certain she will be there. He puts together a laughable Sherlock Holmes outfit and hits the town to seek vengeance for his brother.

Josh is about to leave the party when he spots Margo as Jessica running away. He is about to chase after her until he spots the real Jessica (still thinking it's Margo) at the punch table. He confronts her and grabs her arm, while Jessica rightly freaks out and pulls away. She yells at him to get away from her, and her friends pull him away. Josh protests that her name is Margo, while Jessica is all, "No, my name is Jessica, you freak." Josh turns around and runs into yet ANOTHER Margo, but this time it's Elizabeth. He's feeling dizzy at seeing triple and quickly leaves the party. Then Josh becomes the only smart person in Sweet Valley when he puts two and two together. He realizes that the first girl he saw WAS Margo, because she was running away from him. He realizes that it can't be mere coincidence that Margo came all the way to Sweet Valley and discovered her exact replicas. He reasons that it must be part of her master plan, and that the twins Jessica and Elizabeth are in grave danger. Slow clap for Josh Smith, everyone. Slow clap.

Soon I will begin The Evil Twin, which is all Margo, all the time. No complaints here! I'm sick of all this filler.

Dayna says

The fifth book in the six part mini series.

Margo is starting to infiltrate the twin's lives, and the tension and danger are really beginning to rise. Another enjoyable thriller adventure that continues on from the previous books, although I didn't quite understand the point of the whole Winston / baby thing other than another illustration of how psychotic Margo was. I think we get it.

Rachel Brand says

This is the sixth title in the "explosive Prom Thriller mini-series" but can be read as a nostalgic stand-alone. The 99th title in the Sweet Valley High series, in which an evil girl plots to take over Elizabeth Wakefield's life while the twins have been driven apart because of a disastrous incident at prom. Featuring the best sub-plot ever, in which Winston manages to smuggle a baby into SVH!
