



Wendy and the Lost Boys

Barbara Silkstone

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Real estate agent for Miami Beach millionaires, Wendy Darlin, clashes with “SEC Investigator” and world famous archaeologist, Roger Jolley. He follows her out to sea on the mega-yacht owned by Charlie Hook, a Ponzi swindler on the run from federal agents and angry investors. Despite her fear of water, she finds herself a tomb raider on the Caribbean. Will she find the Lost Boys? Will she escape Hook’s clutches? And whom will she find on Nevis Island? Oh... and is Roger a good kisser?

Wendy Darlin Tomb Raider ~ Comedy Mystery series:

Wendy and the Lost Boys

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Wendy Darlin Tomb Raider Boxed Set

Wendy and the Lost Boys Details

Date : Published August 1st 2011 by Books on the Green

ISBN :

Author : Barbara Silkstone

Format : Kindle Edition 191 pages

Genre : Mystery, Humor, Contemporary, Romance, Adventure

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From Reader Review Wendy and the Lost Boys for online ebook

Faith Mortimer says

What a super read! I've always loved Peter Pan and this wonderful story made into a comedy/contemporary mystery is quite unique.

Wendy and the Lost Boys has an intriguing plot and wonderful sparkling characters providing excellent reading.

As a mystery writer myself, I can say that this is not your usual mystery, or a comedy, Ms Silkstone has blended the two perfectly creating a perfect niche for herself.

Well done. I'll look at fairy tales in a different light from now on!

Al says

My memories of the story of Peter Pan are several decades old, so any comparison I make to that story and this one are likely to be inadequate and miss many points of comparison. However, I suspect Silkstone's goal wasn't a retelling of the children's classic, but as a jumping off point for a story of her own, possibly with some of the same lessons to take away. That is just one reason these fairy tales are "fractured." Some of the characters have names from the fairy tale: Wendy, Charles Hook (not the captain, but the owner of the yacht), and Peter Payne, a high school boyfriend of Wendy's who doesn't want to grow up. There is even a dog, named Tinkerbelle.

The plot of "Wendy and the Lost Boys" is a mystery, with plenty of tension and suspense. This provides the needed conflict to keep the reader involved, but it is the humor that makes Silkstone's writing unique. In her book The Love Investigator ..., her humor made a book that could have easily been depressing into an entertaining read. In "Wendy and the Lost Boys," it adds the needed spice to make this more than just another okay mystery. Sometimes the humor comes from being a touch over-the-top. Examples are a problem Hook experiences (which is a good reason for his name to be Hook, since his hands are both intact) and a visit to Hook's roots, which couldn't be much different from his current life. Other times the humor comes from an offbeat observation or smartass dialogue.

"Wendy and the Lost Boys" may be a fairy tale, but I never made the mistake of thinking I should be reading it aloud to my grandkids. A fun read for adults with a sense of humor.

**Originally written for "Books and Pals" book blog. May have received a free review copy. **

Gaele says

AudioBook Review:

This was a really funny, very adult reworking of Peter Pan, with Wendy as the most important character, and

the narrator of the story. While it is totally off-kilter and completely foreign to the original, the seemingly offhanded interlaced quotes and scenarios from the original story work their magic in unusual ways: always reminding the reader of the genesis of the story, while twisting off into several marvellous side streets and alleyways.

The narration provided by Nicole Colburn provides less emotional range than I would normally hope for, her voice is lovely, but should have enhanced story and plot. While not distracting, the delivery of some incredibly clever written words could have been improved with inflection, as it was rather flat in affect and impression. Perhaps even speaking with a smile, for that is always noticeable to a listener, would have improved delivery: there are truly laugh-out-loud moments in this book, and I can't imagine the narrator not smiling herself.

Throughout some truly slapstick moments, the character of Wendy is clearly defined and presented: the reluctant caretaker to an oversexed and pharmaceutically enhanced Hook her offbeat and often smart ass comments and responses combine to spice up the story, providing a break in the never-ending tension that could feel oppressive. Imagery is evocative, the writing and dialogue are silky smooth, and the story is truly just fun. It is my first introduction to this author's work, and most certainly will not be my last.

I received an AudioBook copy from the author for purpose of honest review for the Heard Word. I was not compensated for this review: all conclusions are my own responsibility.

Elizabeth Ball says

Horrible character development

Merri says

A fun charming read

This story takes you on an adventure with a best friend. Wendy Darlin is the friend that acts tough but has a heart of gold and the wit to keep you one step ahead of trouble. I recommend this funny mystery and look forward to reading the next one in the series.

Sarahlouro says

DNF. I don't mind fluffy reads. But this was bad.

Uvi Poznansky says

Fairytales usually start with "a long time ago, in a place far away" and end with "happily ever after," offering metaphors that are universal. In 'Wendy and the Lost Boys' the author, Barbara Silkstone, modified the

classic story of Peter Pan, offering a unique, contrary point of view.

The story is told in the voice of Wendy Darlin, with a gritty language that is modern, contemporary, and full of spunk. When talking about the pirates she says, “One grabbed my round the waist and did a lumbering polka.... He forced his lips on mine. His breath was a lethal combination of onions and salami.”

Peter Payne (note the altered pronunciation, which alters the meaning of his name) was her first love. They were high school sweethearts for one year. Two decades later, she still keeps and old locket he has given her on their last date. “His kisses were as sweet as whipped cream and twice as tasty.”

Emblematic of a generation that tried to retain eternal youth, and then had to contend with the realities of aging and responsibility, Peter’s presence in the story is felt despite not having many lines. It is up to Wendy to let go of him, in order to grow up. “I knew the only thing I ever loved about Peter was the memory of him... It was time to let go of something that never really existed.

In this story, the Lost boys are valuable artifacts from ancient Egypt, cut from solid black diamond. Charlie Hook orchestrates a mysterious disappearance of them, for no better reason than the thrill to get away with it. Roger, a freelance archeologist who states that he retrieves stolen antiquities, explains, “This box contains the shadows of twelve of the infant sons of the fourth dynasty pharaoh. These shadows are over five thousand year old.”

This is a mystery wrapped in romance, a coming of age of a woman who is already an adult, but is she really? Clearly, she is attracted to Roger, “He gave me a kiss I could feel in my shoes.” Saving the Lost Boys is a worthy goal, But the real challenge for her is finding herself in her own shoes.

Five stars.

Georgina Young-ellis says

This is not a mystery like your usual mystery, nor is it simply a humorous novel; it is the most perfect combination of the two. Knowing Silkstone's writing, I expected Wendy and the Lost Boys to be clever and funny, but I didn't expect such a wild ride of a mystery and a rapid repeat of thrill, laugh, thrill. Silkstone has really hit on something with her twist on classic tales. It makes the story all the more fun as you compare the characters in Wendy and the Lost Boys to those of Peter Pan.

And while making a fool of myself laughing out loud as I read, I also couldn't help marveling at the evocative imagery Silkstone uses, to the extent that I was actually reminded of Vonnegut at times. The novel isn't just non-stop fun, there's substance here as well. It is truly one of those can't-put-it-down gems!

Chris says

The book reminded me a little of the Stephanie Plum character kind of quirky gets into situations that she had no control over. It is a quick read and does hold your interest. Wendy promises an old employee to look after her daughter when she marries a hedge fund crook unbeknown to her. There are pirates, crooks, old

people, etc. that keep you smiling throughout the book.

Mary says

Barbara Silkstone's grown-up twist on the child-hood classic Peter Pan is a joy to read. This story has a little bit of everything: romance, mystery, and humor. The way the original version of the fairy tale winds its way throughout the storyline is ingenious! Being a fan of the original version, it was fun to see my favorite characters portrayed in different ways and sometimes even different creatures. Even famous, quotable lines are thrown into the book, bringing a smile to my face or often a big laugh. The subtleties of the original story creeping into the plot are a lot fun too. You have to pay close attention; Ms. Silkstone is so clever in entwining these into the storyline that sometimes it is easy to totally miss some of these. All in all, this is a great story that culminates to a wonderfully exciting ending. A fun, laugh-out-loud read. I plan on reading Barbara Silkstone's other book in this series, *The Secret Diary of Alice in Wonderland*, to see how she deals with that fairy tale; I am expecting a lot of laughs from that book as well.

Kimberly says

A great cozy mystery. An easy read, and could have been quick, if I had the time to read it. ;) I liked the main characters and I liked how the names are related to Peter Pan. And, although they had some similar personality quirks, there were differences, too. The story line was good, and I never did guess the killer until the reveal. Can't wait to read the next one.

Angel says

I didn't care for any of the characters, but I was sucked into the story, so, again, I had to read to the end to find out what happened.

David Squires says

Sorry couldn't give this more than 1 star. really not my thing. To cheesy, Real estate agent for Miami Beach millionaires, Wendy Darlin, clashes with "SEC Investigator" and world famous archaeologist, Roger Jolley. He follows her out to sea on the mega-yacht owned by Charlie Hook, a Ponzi swindler on the run from federal agents and angry investors. Despite her fear of water, she finds herself a tomb raider on the Caribbean. Will she find the Lost Real estate agent for Miami Beach millionaires, Wendy Darlin, clashes with "SEC Investigator" and world famous archaeologist, Roger Jolley. He follows her out to sea on the mega-yacht owned by Charlie Hook, a Ponzi swindler on the run from federal agents and angry investors. Despite her fear of water, she finds herself a tomb raider on the Caribbean. Will she find the Lost Boys? Will she escape Hook's clutches? And whom will she find on Nevis Island? Oh... and is Roger a good kisser? see what I mean

Jim says

I have to say that I started of enjoying this novel quite a bit. I do understand that it is meant as a light read and was evaluating it that way. I enjoyed the author working this story with elements of the Peter Pan story. But, the story began to strain as I delved farther into it. I think if the author had kept this at novella length it might have worked better. No, it is not especially long but as I got into it it began to seem longer. I did not find it as humorous some of the other reviewers- some smiles early on but they vanished as the story dragged on.

Thrillers often have somewhat wooden characters but compensate with action. Here you do get the wooden characterizations but the action is just too silly to hold your interest. I am somewhat chagrinned as, at first, I felt another reviewer was expecting to much from what was intended to be a light hearted take on a fairy tale. Even for a fairy tale this story has too many holes.

Yvonne Taylor says

Wendy Darlin is a real estate agent, is kidnapped along with her friend, and an investigator by the evil Hook. Hook, married to Wendy's best friend gets Wendy on his ship when he calls her to tell her friend is dying. Wendy takes along her friend/manicurist Kip and an agent (Roger Jolly) posing as a doctor. Hook kidnaps them and uses them to retrieve the treasure. Wendy soon learns that her husband Crook is alive and trying to steal the treasure from Hook.

This book was very enjoyable and lots of fun. This was my first read from Barbara Silkstone, but it will not be the last.
