



# The Visitor

*K.L. Slater*

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**The Visitor** K.L. Slater

**Everyone has a secret in their past.**

**Everyone pretends to be something they're not.**

**But someone is always watching... and that someone is closer than you think.**

**Holly** returns to her home town after some time away – she has been through something terrible and now she needs a safe haven in which to recover, and to plan the rest of her life. She finds a room in a quiet and leafy suburban street, in the home of Cora Barrett.

**David** lives next door to Cora Barrett and he sees everything that happens on Baker Crescent. David stays at home, and he watches: he likes to feel safe and he doesn't like to leave the house. He wants to keep his friends and neighbours safe too. So he observes them, and he records every tiny detail of their lives, just in case the information is ever needed.

Both lonely and vulnerable, Holly and David gradually begin to strike up a friendship. But Holly can't shake the feeling that someone from her past might have tracked her down. And David is always watching... But uncovering the secret that could save his new friend and neighbour could be the one thing that destroys him.

## The Visitor Details

Date : Published February 27th 2018 by Bookouture

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Author : K.L. Slater

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Genre : Thriller, Psychological Thriller, Suspense, Mystery

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## From Reader Review The Visitor for online ebook

### Sue says

The Visitor by K.L.Slater is a psychological thriller that is bound to be well received. This is the fifth psychological thriller by this author, and the fourth book I have read... and her novels just get better and better. This is a fabulous read, that will reel you in ...one line at a time...

Everyone has a secret in their past.

Everyone pretends to be something they're not.

But someone is always watching... and that someone is closer than you think.

Holly Newman is a "visitor" following a bad experience in Manchester returns to her home town, Nottingham, 10 years later. She has been through something terrible and now she needs a safe haven in which to recover and build a new future. She finds a room in a quiet suburban area, in the home of Cora Barrett, a lonely old woman who is looking for company and someone to talk to.

"I'm always just a visitor in everyone's life...I come and go, but nothing ever changes."

David is a "little different" but a kind person who lives at home with his mother, next door to Cora, and observes everything that happens on the street. David occasionally does the odd job for Cora. He is considered "odd" by society... an outsider, non-sociable who stays at home and will not go out after dark. He works part time as a car park attendant. In his spare time, he watches and records all activity on the street through the use of hidden video cameras.

Holly and David gradually begin to strike up a friendship... both lonely and vulnerable. But Holly can't shake the feeling that someone from her past might have tracked her down. And David is always watching...

Both Holly and David have dark secrets they would like to keep hidden.

Each short chapter is devoted to one of the above characters, to allow the reader to get to know all three characters in greater depth. They all play a part in the overall picture. The different stories all come together.

This is a fast-paced mystery that is sure to please. I did not expect the most surprising twist at the end of the book...OMG I didn't see it coming. I was probably too engrossed in the story line. This really is an excellent read and I highly recommend it.

Many thanks to my favourite publisher, Bookouture via Netgalley for my copy.

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### Berit??? says

4.25 Secret filled stars ????25

Holly is escaping from something, but what? David won't go out at night, but why? Secrets, secrets, and even more secrets..... this was a character driven, slow burning, thrill of a book.....

Holly is running from her past, trying to start a new life, but her past is not done with her.... David is a grown man who likes routine and Rules... he also feels it is his duty to protect himself and the neighborhood.... he is vigilant and keeps constant surveillance....

Holly and David form an unlikely friendship.... Holly needs David to help her figure out who if anybody is watching her.... David is just grateful to have somebody treat him like a human being.... neither Holly or David were terribly likable or relatable, however that did not matter they were so well developed.... also and this is something I always love in books.... they both became much more likable and relatable as the book progressed... as secrets were revealed you became to understand them and their motivations....

The absolute beauty of this book was I thought we were going in a completely different direction then we ended up in.... and at the end I was quite surprised with the outcome.... this book did not put me on the edge of my seat... but I rapidly turned those pages to find out what secret was going to be revealed next..... well paced, because secrets were dropped throughout the book, keeping you wanting more....

Absolutely recommend if you enjoy a slower burning psychological thriller with very well-developed characters....

\*\*\* thank you to the publisher and Net Galley for a copy of this book \*\*\*

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## **Gary says**

This is the 5th novel I have read by author K.L. Slater and have found them all very entertaining and extremely well written. This psychological thriller was no different and was so very close to getting a 5 star rating off me. The book was instantly readable and in fact I hadn't planned to read it this weekend but once started I couldn't put it down. Excellent characters, full of suspense and so well paced it is a must read for anyone who like psychological thrillers.

Holly is the 'visitor' having left Nottingham 10 years ago, believing she would never return. But following a bad experience in Manchester she has returned and is staying with Cora. David is 40 years old and lives at home with his mother and will not go out after dark, following an incident that no one will mention. He works part time as a car park attendant but spends his afternoons watching the people on the street, keeping a close eye on their lives under the self appointed neighbourhood watch tag.

Holly and David strike up an odd friendship, both hoping that they can make fresh start. But both have dark secrets that they would like to keep hidden and trouble seems to be the likely outcome.

This really is an excellent read and I highly recommend it.

I would like to thank Net Galley and Bookouture for supplying a copy of this novel in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Selena says**

I received a free e-copy of *The Visitor* by K.L. Slater from Netgalley for my review. A psychological thriller that will keep you guessing. A young woman, Holly who lived in a town with her Aunt and his boyfriend. Holly couldn't stand to be around her Aunt's boyfriend any long and decided to leave town with her friend Markus to Manchester. She wanted nothing more than a fresh start. Holly once thought life with her Aunt was rough, never fitting in at school, always being the odd one out, etc. Now she finds that things are going to get a lot tougher. In Manchester she gets herself in a very bad situation that she needs to get out of. She returns back to her home town with no money and nowhere to go. A widow woman, Cora, takes Holly in and helps her by giving her room and food for her companionship. Holly soon finds that you can't hide from your past. Holly's past has come back to haunt her and it seems everyone has secrets. Cora has secrets, the man next door, David has secrets, Holly has secrets and others in town do as well. So many twists and turns in this book that keep you reading till the very end. Wonderfully written novel that keeps you guessing.

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## **Holly B says**

4.5\*

I LOVE this author!

Review up soon

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## **Debra says**

3.5 stars

"Everyone has a secret in their past."

Holly has returned to her hometown after being away for several years. When she was younger she ran away with a friend in hopes of starting a new life. After years away, Holly is back, and she rents a room from a lonely widow named Cora and quickly finds a job and has hopes of building a future.

Cora is happy to have Holly living with her. She is a widow and is lonely living by herself. She is happy to have someone to talk with and look after. Cora also has David, her next-door neighbor, who occasionally does the odd job for her. He is an adult man still living with his Mother. Since David was a child, Cora has always welcomed him over and baked for him and gave him odd jobs to do.

David is quiet observer of the neighborhood and knows almost everyone's comings and goings. David presents as socially awkward and odd. He likes to follow rules and does not like when his life is disrupted by his Mother's "friend" Brian moving in. His interest is piqued when he learns that his neighbor, Cora has taken in a young woman to live with her.

When Holly begins her new job, she quickly learns that her neighbor, David works there as well. Both are lonely and don't have many people to talk with, so they strike up a friendship. As Holly goes about her days, she begins to feel as if she is being watched - just who is that shadowy figure she has been seeing in the

garden? What secrets does she harbor? What secrets do the other characters in this book have?

The Visitor is a psychological thriller that does have a twist or two. Initially I was not sure how I felt about this book. It is one that I wanted to sit and think about upon finishing the book. As I was able to think about the plot, I began to appreciate the Author's ability to "reveal" secrets and drop little bombs along the way.

I found this book to be a very fast read due to the pacing and events happening in most of the characters' lives. I enjoy when characters have secrets and watching their secrets unfold is very interesting and adds to the suspense in this novel. This is not your typical "page turner" which is why I needed to sit and think about the story-line upon finishing the book. The action will not have you on the edge of your seat, and yet there is the mystery as to why Holly is back in town, what occurred while she was away, who (if anyone) is watching her and lastly what is her secret?

This is a book which sneaks up on the reader and taps one on the shoulder to let the reader know it is not down revealing its secrets yet. Just wait! There is more to come. I really enjoy when a book can surprise me. I thought I had this book figured out early on and after a couple of twists and turns realized, the Author had a couple of tricks up her sleeve!

Thank you to Bookouture and NetGalley who provided me with a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

See more of my reviews at [www.openbookpost.com](http://www.openbookpost.com)

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## **Brenda - Traveling Sister says**

I was lost in the shadows of the trees in the murky coulee with three of my Traveling Sisters reading The Visitor.

The Visitor is a fast, easy and entertaining story that started off a little slow for us but still kept us interested enough to turn the pages.

K.L. Slater does a good job creating mysterious characters here with our main characters Holly and David. Both characters had us feeling a little uneasy with one who is always watching and the other one pretending to be someone they are not. Like our characters, we started to feel a little vulnerable in the coulee and we kept looking over our shoulders for someone watching us or tracking us down. As secrets are revealed we started to feel a little less vulnerable and the story didn't quite come together for us as well as we would have liked.

Published on March 2, 2018

Thank you to NetGalley, Bookouture and K.L. Slater for a copy to read and review.

Review written and posted on our themed group book blog Two Sisters Lost In A Coulee Reading.  
<https://twosisterslostinacoulee.com>

Coulee: a term applied rather loosely to different landforms, all of which refer to a kind of valley.

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## **Linda Strong says**

Holly is back in her hometown .... almost penniless, homeless. At her wits end, crying, not knowing where to turn, fate takes a turn. An elderly lady, Cora, takes pity on the girl and invites her to stay at her home until she gets on her feet again. Cora loves having the company with someone to talk to and Holly feels safe for the first time in a long time.

Cora's next door neighbor, David, is what most people would call an odd ball. He's certainly different. Forty years old and he's afraid of the dark. He spends a lot of time in his upstairs bedroom watching the neighborhood. He's intrigued by Holly... but Holly has been warned that she should stay away from him, but not exactly why.

Holly has left her old life behind. No one knows where she is.... or so she thinks. Who is creeping around the house? Why is someone blaming her for mistakes at work? Who wrote the threatening letter?

There are so many twists and turns along the way. The ending blew me away .... it was so unexpected. This is a terrific psychological thriller. Each of this author's books are better than the last. Highly recommend to read.

Many thanks to the author / Bookouture / Netgalley for the advanced digital copy. Opinions expressed here are unbiased and entirely my own.

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## **Sandy \*The world could end while I was reading and I would never notice\* says**

EXCERPT: ...she was in no rush. She could wait.

When Holly was prepared to open up a bit and trust her with her personal history, then Cora would tell her the truth.

That was, the truth about what Harold was really like.

Not the other truth.

She didn't intend telling anyone about that until she'd made up her mind exactly what to do.

ABOUT THIS BOOK: Everyone has a secret in their past.

Everyone pretends to be something they're not.

But someone is always watching... and that someone is closer than you think.

Holly returns to her home town after some time away – she has been through something terrible and now she needs a safe haven in which to recover, and to plan the rest of her life. She finds a room in a quiet and leafy

suburban street, in the home of Cora Barrett.

David lives next door to Cora Barrett and he sees everything that happens on Baker Crescent. David stays at home, and he watches: he likes to feel safe and he doesn't like to leave the house. He wants to keep his friends and neighbours safe too. So he observes them, and he records every tiny detail of their lives, just in case the information is ever needed.

Both lonely and vulnerable, Holly and David gradually begin to strike up a friendship. But Holly can't shake the feeling that someone from her past might have tracked her down. And David is always watching... But uncovering the secret that could save his new friend and neighbour could be the one thing that destroys him.

MY THOUGHTS: The Visitor by K.L. Slater had me sitting up until 1am doing the 'just one more chapter, then I'll go to sleep' routine. Once started, I couldn't bear to put it down. So be warned, if you plan on reading this, and you should, clear your diary.

This is a slow burner of a book, but from the start you can feel that something isn't right. My grandmother used to say 'I can feel it in my water', and I could. There are veiled references to what has happened in the past, and Slater slowly removes the veils one by one to reveal the truth. In fact, the dance of the seven veils is a wonderful parallel for The Visitor. It is a mesmerising read. It took over my mind so that I could think of little else but this cast of misfits, their secrets and machinations. Because none of them are what they seem. They all have secrets, things to hide. Some you will guess, some you won't. But I defy anyone to guess the ending.

5 mesmerising stars ?????

Thank you to Bookouture via Netgalley for providing a digital copy of The Visitor for review. All opinions expressed in this review are entirely my own personal opinions.

Please refer to my Goodreads.com profile page or the 'about' page on sandysbookaday.wordpress.com for an explanation of my rating system.

This review and others are also published on my blog sandysbookaday.wordpress.com  
<https://sandysbookaday.wordpress.com/...>

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## Kaceey - Traveling Sister says

3.5?????

A new, delightfully creepy thriller from K.L. Slater

Life hasn't exactly been a smooth road for Holly. Running away from what was left of her family, searching for a better life. Problem is, she's running smack into more trouble than she could have ever imagined. But right now, she's simply hoping for the chance to put everything behind her and lead a normal life. A chance meeting with sweet, elderly Cora gives her the opportunity she'd been looking for. Cora has kindly extended a helping hand, inviting Holly into her life and into her home.

David lives in his mother's home directly next door to Cora. He keeps a close, albeit creepy eye on the neighborhood from his bedroom window with his binoculars. And oh goody... he's just spotted Cora's new



house-guest.

David makes it his mission to befriend Holly. But given rumors and whispers of a deep, dark past, everyone is becoming concerned with David's intentions. And of course worried for Holly. No one wants to see the past repeated.

This book reads super-fast, is easy to lose yourself, and will have you constantly guessing what past secrets everyone is hiding.

Unfortunately the ending just didn't...well, you know where I'm going! ?

A Traveling Sister read with Brenda, Susanne and Sarah! ?

Thank you to NetGalley, Bookouture and K.L. Slater for an ARC to review in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Holly B says**

Grab your coffee and get ready for a completely entertaining and captivating novel!

K.L. Slater has become one of my favorite authors that I can depend on for a great story with some jaw dropping twists and a satisfying end! This is my favorite type of psychological thriller. Just plain fun. I never have to worry about overly graphic scenes or gory descriptions with her novels.

This one is well plotted with interesting characters. I wouldn't say it is fast-paced or unputdownable , BUT it is one that held my interest and I looked forward to picking it up. It was like watching an addictive series that you couldn't wait to get back too. I liked the build up of the suspense and the atmospheric tension and anxiety that were a tease to continue.

Alternating POV from the two main characters worked beautifully and I was trying to decide between the two of them just which one would drop the ball first! I had sympathy for both of them for different reasons, but I also wanted to scream at both of them at various times. I could feel that something bad was going to happen, but couldn't figure out what it was. I wasn't able to guess the ending and believe me I was trying, but I didn't know which way to look! That's my definition of a great twist.

If you enjoy getting into the minds of some twisted characters (including the creepy) and trying to figure out which shoe will drop next, you should give this one a go! Loved it!

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## **Susanne Strong says**

3 Stars.

Holly is a woman with a past which haunts her. Now she returns to her home town with an agenda. Finding a place to live is easy. A woman named Cora takes her in. Little does Holly know, Cora has secrets too. David, Cora's next door neighbor lives with his mother. He keeps tabs on everyone in the neighborhood. He even has cameras setup outside of his home (not that anyone knows that) and he also fills a notebook with

everyone's daily activities. It's kind of like a neighborhood watch to the extreme. Over time, Holly and David become friendly. When both of their pasts catch up to them, they need each other's help. And then, well, something wicked this way comes.

David is creepy and his actions kind of scare you, but then so do Holly's. She is twisted and wholly unlikable. "The Visitor" by K.L. Slater was a well written mystery/suspense though I found it to be somewhat predictable, which was unfortunate. It was however a fast-paced, easy, enjoyable read.

This was a Traveling Sister read. For full group reviews, please see Brenda and Norma's blog: <https://twosisterslostinacoulee.com>

Thank you to NetGalley, Bookouture and K.L. Slater for an ARC of this novel in exchange for an honest review.

Published on NetGalley and Goodreads on 3.24.18.

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### **Louise Wilson says**

Everyone has a secret in their past. Everyone pretends to be something they're not.

Holly returns to her home town after some time away - she has been through something terrible and now she needs a safe haven in which to recover. She finds a room in the quiet suburban street, in the home of Cora Barrett. David lives next door to Cora and he sees everything that happens on Baker Crescent. David stays at home and watches, he does not like to leave the house. He wants to keep his friends and neighbours safe.

Is it just me or is there a lot of books just now where there is someone who can't/won't leave their home., but like to people watch and record what they see.? Holly has left her old life behind but feels someone from her past has tracked her down. There is lots of twists in this fast paced book. The story tells us about her living and working in Nottingham and her ordeal when she was living in Manchester. This book has suspense, mystery and most important for me, we get all the loose ends tied up.

I would like to thank NetGalley, Bookouture and the K. L. Slater for my ARC in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Pauline says**

The Visitor by K.L. Slater is a psychologist thriller that has you on the edge of your seat. It has plenty of twists and turns and keeps you guessing until the end. Holly has had a bad time in Manchester and returns to the place she grew up to make a new life for herself. She meets Cora, who gives her a room in her house because Cora is lonely and wants some company. Cora's next door neighbour is David who still lives with his mother. David is a nervous person who doesn't like to go out and spends most of his time spying on his neighbours and recording their habits. David takes a special interest in Holly. This book is full of secrets and deception with interesting characters. I would like to thank NetGalley and Bookouture for my e-copy in exchange for an honest review.

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## Carrie says

The Visitor by K.L. Slater is a psychological thriller that once I began reading I found very hard to put down. Having read several other books by this author I was not at all surprised to find once again wonderful writing that pulled me right into the story.

The story starts off with introducing David who is a bit of a loner with a lot of issues still living with his mother at forty. Usually keeping himself shut away other than to go to his job at a local department store as a parking attendant David often thinks of himself as the keeper of his neighborhood spying from his bedroom window.

When David sees an unfamiliar woman wandering around the home next door belonging to his elderly neighbor he immediately becomes curious knowing Cora doesn't have any grown children. Soon it becomes apparent that Cora has taken in a border in Holly who is running from her own secretive past.

The book is one that reads at a rather fast pace while changing the point of view mostly between Holly and David. You just know while going along that there are going to be plenty of secrets to come which of course keeps the pages turning quickly. As it goes along there are glimpses into the past to get to know the characters better but this flowed very easily with the current events.

Being one that reads a lot of thrillers I had my suspicions as usual as to the outcome of the story as I went along. I'm happy to say though while I guessed a detail or two the ending was one that came with quite a bit of excitement and of course an extra little twist or two to wrap it all up quite nicely. Definitely still a fan of K.L. Slater and will look forward to what she publishes next.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.com/>

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