



Kiss Her Goodbye

Wendy Corsi Staub

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Woodsbridge, New York, is the sort of upscale community where the American Dream is alive and thriving - shiny cars, beautiful homes, and safe, tree-shaded streets.

For Kathleen Carmody, Woodsbridge is an escape from memories of her own rough childhood and a place where her 13-year-old daughter Jen will have everything Kathleen didn't. But suddenly, the sleepy, affluent suburb is gripped by fear: One by one, teenage girls are disappearing from the "safe" streets.

Kiss Her Goodbye Details

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Author : Wendy Corsi Staub

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From Reader Review Kiss Her Goodbye for online ebook

L8blmr says

What is there to say about this book that hasn't already been said by other reviewers? Not much. It was suspenseful, but it lagged in places. There was a large cast of characters (which caused confusion when the author jumped from one to another frequently) and yet, none of them were very likable. I especially was troubled by the fact that there was not one stable marriage in this story nor a teenager who didn't lie, sneak out of the house, skip school, and worse. I have a hunch this was deliberate so the reader had plenty of potential suspects that could not be trusted. However, there were too many red herrings to count, and when the big reveal took place, I felt cheated because a very minor character who was only mentioned once (twice at the most) turned out to be to be, really, the main character (the antagonist). I also think the story should have been about 50 pages shorter without some repetition that occurred while various characters were alone with their thoughts.

Having said all that, I must, in fairness add that Ms. Staub has a lot going for her; she is not a bad storyteller. I'll give her work another try.

Scott says

The ending was just awful. The sister kills 4 plus people because she was jealous. Come on the story was so unbelievable it was frustrating to even finish.

Melanie Lopata says

I was bored for awhile but after the halfway point it got better and I did enjoy the plot twist and suspense towards the end. Couldn't figure out why two of the characters were even part of the book so much because it didn't make sense but at least the ending was good. Not a 5-star book in my opinion.

Joyce says

A book that quite hard for me to put down. Loved it !!!

Andrea says

I have only read one work previously by this author and that was part of a trilogy.

There must be some way to interpret the sudden switching of characters, many presented with only one name. I am reading about Jen (almost 14 years old) and her family, then suddenly here is Lucy (Lucy who)? And why did she try to commit suicide? The plot jumps back and fourth, only the dates tell you the story is

advancing. I keep forgetting that Stella is the mother of the twins for whom Jen babysits, and that Kurt is her swarmy husband.

Everything is written very darkly,

Kathy says

One of my favorite authors - but I'm not into her 'Lily Dale' series. I like the thrillers and a good murder or two.

Jennifer says

This book was ok, it had some swears that bothered me, and the story was suspenseful and intriguing. But I have to say I figured out who the killer was in the beginning, I just hadn't figured out the motive. Just trying to figure out why made me keep reading and wondering until the end. I liked the way the book ended, I guess you could say I'm a sucker for happy endings. Overall I would say this was like reading a script for a soap opera with all the affairs and mix ups with birth parents, but I liked how I could sort of relate to the moms in the book and how they felt about their physical appearances and worries over their children. Seriously though the author should be writing for soaps or television shows.

Andi says

Kiss the whole lot of them goodbye, what a whiny self centered poor pitiful me bunch. Simply written, unappealing characters, disjointed mess of a book. I kept thinking it would get better. I was wrong.

Lissa Wells says

This was my first time reading this author, so I didn't really know what to expect..I found it to be a good story and a quick read. As I usually do, I figured out who did it early on in the book, and many other things were too predictable. The writer brought in too many characters and tried to intertwine them leaving the reader a little confused. Also I found quite a few typos which annoyed me. However all in all , the story of a neighborhood in an affluent suburb with teenage girls disappearing and shattering secrets that come to light many years later make for a decent read.

Agnes Muscoreil says

Not one of my favorites from Staub. Very few likeable characters and a drawn out storyline.

Sandi says

Good mystery. Did not guess the outcome.

Julia says

This was a confusing, overly complicated story. There are a lot of characters, and when the bad guy is revealed, it seems to come totally out of left field.

Someone wants to kill Jen. Why? We don't know until the very end. Who is it? Same deal, we don't find out until the very end. Along the way, several other people get murdered. And what is the horrible secret Jen's mom is hiding? By the time it is finally revealed, it seemed a little anticlimactic. The last third of the book started moving pretty fast and was interesting, but the first two thirds of the book were a little slow for me.

Rhea says

This book was what I'm coming to know as "classic Wendy Corsi Staub." The characters are well-developed and feel real whether you like them or not, the relationship dynamics are realistic and the plot is smart and well thought out. This book was suspenseful and had twists and turns to keep you guessing. Maybe it's because the author writes a lot of YA novels but books with teen characters are always so well done, though I think her teens seem a bit mature and insightful for their age (or maybe I don't hang around such cognitively developed teens). I highly recommend this book.

M.M. Strawberry Reviews says

This was the first Wendy Corsi Straub book I had ever read, and I was not disappointed. The writing style is nice and concise, with a interesting mix of characters and minor conflicts (aside the major one, of course) make for a very interesting tale while you wonder about just who some of the characters are and their motives.

I felt bad for Jenny because she lost her friend, but this was a rather thrilling book. I could not stop reading it and finding out just who was behind all the crap that was going on, and just who on earth would want to hurt poor Jenny. The person who is after her... well, I don't want to spoil it for you folks, but it certainly wasn't anyone I would have *ever* expected, that's for sure. A solid, thrilling and enjoyable read, two thumbs up!

Michael says

I've never read Staub's work before, but I found this at a Goodwill, liked the blurb and gave it a new forever home. It took me about a year to read it due to my love of digital books, but I finally figured I may as well pull it off the shelf. On the surface Kiss Me Goodbye looks like a decent thriller, but it's not, at least not as a whole. The book moves far too slow, and the characters seem to be less like a part of the overall story and

more like a device to move the plot forward. Jen is the main focus of the novel but she's a bit boring, and her mother is way too overprotective. Turns out, she has every reason to be because there's someone lurking in the shadows watching her. There's a lot of questions in this book, and the frustrating part is the answers don't come as quickly as I would have liked. When they do come, it's a bit confusing.

I get what she's doing, but instead of building tension she's just making us hate her. Well maybe not her, but her book which is unfortunate because this had the potential to be a really great book. The set up was nearly perfect, but as it is, it just feels phoned in. There are far too many elements that are added, and they don't go anywhere. Even the end had me swearing because this was supposed to be the big reveal, and it showed off, blew my mind, yet it just had me shaking my head wondering what the hell happened.

Kiss Her Goodbye is one of those suspense novels looking to cash in on the success of other writers who do books like these far better, and know how to create a story that hooks you, and then goes for the knock out punch at the end. Instead, we have a book that shows a great deal of promise, but doesn't deliver. Staub does have talent, but the story just fails to build any real momentum. I haven't given up hope, and yes, I will read one of her other novels to see if she improves, or maybe she's a decent writer who just fell a little short with her goals of creating a tight suspenseful novel. Either way this was a bit of a dud which saddens me because I love this genre and hate it when a book is just a tad thrilling and not very suspenseful.
