



Someone Else's Son

Samantha Hayes

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What would you do if your teenage son was stabbed to death in the school playground? That's a question chat-show host Carrie Kent can well imagine posing to any one of her studio guests. Her daily morning TV show deals with real life in all it's grubby glory - from underage sex to benefit swindlers, cheating partners to DNA testing. It's a million miles away from her perfect, polished existence...But when she gets a call to say that her beloved son Max has been murdered, Carrie and her ex-husband Brody will have to enter a world of poverty, fear and violence if they want to find out what really happened. And when the shocking truth is finally revealed, will they be able to live with it...? A tense and powerful emotional thriller that asks: Do we ever really know our children?

Someone Else's Son Details

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Author : Samantha Hayes

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Des says

This was very good. The moment I started reading this I didn't want to put it down because I just wanted to know what happened. The book goes between the past and the present and is told in different peoples perspectives. I think the story was good, emotional and not a cliché. The ending had me quite shook, I didn't expect it and I'm still quite, wtf over it. Definitely a good one!

Sharon says

I'm never sure whether it's fair to star rate a book that you haven't finished, I guess there's always a chance the book gets better after you've stopped reading. However after 50 pages I simply didn't like this book and so it's getting one star! First couple of pages were really promising then it went rapidly downhill with very unlikeable characters that I felt absolutely nothing for except irritability, and I couldn't be bothered with it anymore. Very disappointing.

Anny Kenens says

Begin veel personages en verleden en heden even volhouden en dan boeiend

Miles says

Within thirty pages of reading Sam Hayes's new novel "Someone Else's Son" I knew I was in trouble – if ever trouble was a good thing, this was it! I don't know why but I distinctly remember thinking that I was going to have problems reviewing this title without giving anything away.

With this in mind I decided that I would include (in the review) only information found on the book jacket and divulge no other secrets held deep within the covers – to spoil a book of this stature would not only be criminal but deny an emotional journey I'm certain readers will enjoy.

The term "emotional rollercoaster" is a phrase widely and often overused, yet here I am using it within a review for "Someone Else's Son" – go figure!

Carrie Kent has it all. Money, trusted friends, a television career and a house in the country - nothing it appears can stop her. That is until one day when she receives a phone call informing her that her only son Max has been stabbed at school. Carrie, famed for her early morning chat show and guests of questionable repute, arrives at the hospital and is greeted with the sight of her ex-husband Brody, slumped in a chair – her world is about to crumble.

The only witness is a teenage girl who is terrified of a gang culture sweeping the neighbourhood. Refusing to talk, the police face an uphill struggle to bring closure to both parents and send those guilty of the crime to

jail.

Carrie comes across as a self-assured woman, in the middle of a highly lucrative and successful career she knows what she wants and how to get it – a multi-millionaire, money is no object but when all is said and done, can it buy happiness?

In the early stages of the book I found it hard to relate to Carrie, certainly before tragedy struck, but once her son died her invincibility wavered and she became human, almost approachable in a way – softened isn't the right description, perhaps a little more dependable on her friends and those close to her. She became more likable and less aloof – re analysing her key relationships with her son and ex-husband key to her moving on.

Full Review on my blog:-<http://www.milorambles.com/2011/01/29...>

Diane Will says

I have read other Samantha Hayes in the past, but this wasn't my favourite. It was a bit depressing and I found that it was dragging on a bit too long before it came to a conclusion.

Max, the son of Carrie Kent TV presenter, is found stabbed to death outside his school. I found her a bit irritating if truth be told...too much time for her job and not enough for her son. His father Brody, lives elsewhere. Max goes between the two parents but neither of them seem to have any clue what goes on in their sons life. Ultimately he is lonely until he meets up with Dayna, who seems to be a lot like him.

The tale drifts in and out of past and present laying the way to the final tragic outcome and the conclusion is possibly not what you would have predicted and if a little disappointing, not quite sure why.

Suzie Flohr says

I LOVED THIS BOOK , COULDNT PUT IT DOWN READ IT IN 4 DAYS. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND IT. SAM MADE ME FEEL LIKE I KNEW THESE PEOPLE...

Bookread2day says

A friend of mine son was stabbed outside a night club. He was very lucky to survive. He went through hell at the hospital being stitched up and could not go home as he had an infection where he had to have his knife wound re stitched up again. It is very worrying Knife crime seems to be on the increase.

Someone Elses Son is a heart-breaking emotional thriller. Carrie Kent had worked in television for only three years. First of all as a news anchor woman and then as an assistant presenter on Crime Hits, a late night satellite production taping the met as they make live arrest.

Carrie interviews a woman, Mrs Plummer, her son was stabbed repeatedly by a gang.

While Carrie is in the TV studio she gets a call from the hospital. When Carrie arrives at the hospital she is told that her son is dead, he had been stabbed within his school gates. A girl who was friends with Max at the school is interviewed by a detective but she claims she did not see who stabbed Max, and that she can not shed any information. I certainly recommend Someone Elses Son, even though this story is with no question

extremely emotional and heart-breaking but it is very well written.

Linda says

FINALLY finished this, seem to have been reading it forever! It was well written but boy, did it drag on! It would have been much more enjoyable if it had been 100 pages shorter.

Lisa-Books Smiles says

3.5 stars!

Lotte says

Spannend boek, zeker een aanrader!

Sara Cole says

The plot summery of this novel sounded very engaging. I really thought this would be a highly emotional and thrilling chase to catch the killer. But it was too long! The length of this novel killed the emotion. It got boring.

I felt angry at both of Max's parents for being so neglectful of their son and the bullying was a bit too much to believe. I also think the modern twist on the Romeo and Juliet story has been done too many times.

Disappointing.

Annabel says

A young boy stabbed.

A terrified Witness.

A mothers nightmare.

It is the story of a young boy who is fatally stabbed at the beginning of the book, and majority of the story is spent trying to uncover the murderer. His mum Carrie Kent is a TV presenter who investigates other people's tragedy, and now that her son is the main topic, she is doing anything in her power to catch the killer. But as she gets closer and closer to finding the truth, she may rather not have found out at all.

I highly recommend this book - to anyone! It is amazing, and will keep you reading for hours on end. It will stay on your mind long after you have finished, and will take you on a journey into the world of gangs, and fear.

Michelle Moore says

Sam Hayes is already on my list of favourite authors, so although I was excited to get hold of an early copy of her latest book, I was nervous as to whether it would live up to expectations.

Thankfully it did. Sam's books are probably best described as emotional thrillers – she says herself that she takes her characters and puts them in terrifying circumstances, and *Someone Else's Son* certainly lives up to this.

Carrie Kent has built an extremely successful career hosting a morning chat show which puts people under the microscope, and under pressure. All the dysfunctional families she looks down on are on her show, as well as victims of crime. What she doesn't expect though, is that instead of someone else, it becomes her experiencing tragedy.

Max and Dayna are two teenagers who don't fit in. They live in a world of bullying and knife crime, and on Friday 29th April, Carrie's world falls apart, as she's informed her son, Max, has been stabbed, and is dead.

Throughout the course of the book, we are taken back and forth, experiencing life both before and after the stabbing. Max and Dayna's relationship is explored, as well as the harsh world they live in. We also find out about the relationship Max's parents had, and how it fell apart, as well as the lives they live now.

At the heart is the issue of the stabbing, how it happened, and who was involved. But surrounding this is the depth of the book – the various relationships and issues involved. It is a book of suspense, with the expected twists, but the key is the way Sam builds her characters. They are so believable, and I cared about each and every one by the end – which makes the suspense and thriller aspects mean more.

The first half of this book may be a little slower than thriller readers might expect, but it's an important part as it allows Sam to introduce and explore her characters. It kept me reading because I wanted to know what would happen next, and by the end it was hard to put down.

Another highly recommended book from someone who remains on my favourite author list. :)

Bev Walkling says

This book is not a "happy" book, so if that is what you are looking for you had better look somewhere else. This book is rather a story of lives filled with pain, and bullying that goes beyond anything I have ever experienced in my own life. Set in the UK. Max spends some time at his mother's house in the upper class area and some time at his Dad's hovel of an apartment in what can only be classed as slums. His father is blind, and his mother is so busy with her job as a presenter on the television show "reality check" (think Jerry Springer). Max feels as if he is almost invisible to them. He left an exclusive boarding school because the other pupils bullied him to a point where he couldn't take it any longer. Neither of his parents had a clue what was going on. Max finally meets Dayna and has something wonderful in his life, but it is too good to be true and the bullies continue to wreak havoc. The end result - Max is killed - stabbed to death while Dayna looks on.

The story is told using flashbacks from the past both far and near. Max's parents consider themselves to be "jailed" and guilty of the crime of his death because there were times that if only they had been looking and listening they could have intervened. Or could they? English was the class that Dayna and Max liked the best, and they were studying Romeo and Juliet, that ill-fated couple. Was Max's death fated too?

Elle Vbk says

Dit verhaal zit goed ineen maar het is wat langdradig waardoor mijn aandacht verslapte. de pointe was geen verrassing en een thriller is het zeker niet. Al bij al 2 sterren
