



Crying Wolf

Peter Abrahams

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It was more than a white lie. It was deception on a grand scale. But the motive was admirable—to save the bright future of a deserving young man. And the victim, too, was deserving—an arrogant billionaire who would hardly notice his loss, crumbs from a vast fortune. All the plotters needed was a believable story, desperate and frightening, but false. Nothing bad was supposed to happen. They were only crying wolf. But what if the wolf were real?

For Nat, a shining all-American boy with blue-collar roots, acceptance to New England's exclusive Inverness College seems like the opportunity of a lifetime. The chilling events that follow are nothing like what he imagined.

It begins at Christmas break. Nat, unable to afford going home for the holidays, remains alone on the deserted campus. Alone—until he meets Grace and Izzie Zorn, twin sisters who, although biologically identical, are utterly different. Thrown off by the irresistible attraction of this astonishing pair, Nat's moral compass starts to fail him. How could it not, as he enters a seductive new world of private Caribbean islands, personal jets, and endless possibility? A world where folly, even crime, now seems right.

When classes resume, Nat and the twins fall under the influence of a charismatic philosophy professor with dangerous ideas and a secret of his own. His teachings will be used to justify a bold scheme, plotted deep beneath the school in the lair of a forgotten social club, banished for almost a century.

But someone in the underground shadows is listening, someone who thinks he deserves a future just as bright as Nat's. Suddenly a risky but basically innocent game will take a horrifying turn.

Crying Wolf Details

Date : Published May 1st 2001 by Fawcett (first published January 1st 2000)

ISBN : 9780345435033

Author : Peter Abrahams

Format : Mass Market Paperback 352 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Suspense, Thriller

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From Reader Review Crying Wolf for online ebook

U.L. Harper says

I know now that I have a habit of dropping books. I'm going to add this book to my bad habit. About forty pages in I decided there was no point to go on. Yep, forty pages. It doesn't even seem fair. I was willing to give the story a shot. No problem there. What I'm not going to give a shot is the writing style. Mr. Abraham's who apparently is usually very good, simply rambles his way through the character development. It's not crisp, not flowing, and it drags, yes, even at about page forty. Maybe his style makes sense later on in the story but I don't have the patience. There are great books to read and I plan on finding at least an okay one to read.

Thank you for your time.

U.L. Harper

Mark Soone says

I read this about 4 months ago, so my memory of all the details is a little hazy (not that I give many details anyway). I had never heard of Abrahams prior to reading Pressure drop just prior to this. I was at the library on one of my occasional binges, and saw that Stephen King said Abrahams was his favorite author (Not sure that is true or not). I like King, I loved him as a teenager and my early 20's now I only really like him a lot (Although I enjoy his older stuff more than most of his newer stuff), so I thought this might be worth checking out..It was.

This propelled me on a 3 book binge of Abrahams, that I will revisit in a few months time.

Judy Price says

Way more foul language than necessary, story line gets lost in the 'back and forth'.

Brian O'Leary says

good start, for the first 25 pages, then it drops off a cliff and is bad.

Rhondakimball says

Very suspenseful

Lori says

I spent the first 20 pages in a state of *deja vu*. Everything was vaguely familiar.

I spent the next 20 convinced I'd read the book before, though I could remember zero specifics. So I decided maybe it was just that the tone is so *The Secret History*-esque.

Twenty pages later, I gave up and checked my Palm list. Read it in 2003. (I should really update my GoodReads archives, eh?) Without remembering specifics, though, it was certainly worth the snarky fun of reading it again.

It's not great literature by any stretch of the imagination. But it's a fun ride.

Jamie Barringer (Ravenmount) says

This book was not shelved as YA in our library, but it ought to be. In this book two young men and a pair of twin sisters are figuring out who they are, discovering sex and relationships and other important stuff like how to navigate their first year of college life and how to fence stolen electronics. One of the young men meets the girls and when he needs money they hatch a plan to fake the kidnapping of one of the girls to get ransom money to help the young man. What could possibly go wrong? They are all idiots, but no more so than many college freshmen I've known, and the story is entertaining, if a bit predictable.

Nina Ylinen says

I knew this book wouldn't be good, I knew it, and yet I decided to give it a try. It really wasn't worth it.

I found the structure of the book very confusing, the themes (deciding your own future? Money? Missing fathers?) got lost in the way, too many insignificant characters, too long a beginning (with nothing really happening), and especially the lack of interesting characters: I couldn't care less what happened to them. They remained plastic and boring, especially the main trio (twins + Nat). Even more, Nat seemed rude, (can't understand why the twins loved him so much).

The only character that had some personality in him was Freedy. Did I like him, no, but was he interesting, certainly.

Overall, not worth reading.

Barbara Elsborg says

I like Peter Abrahams a lot. This one - not so much. The writing was stellar as usual but the plot... I wasn't sure I understood the title until the last maybe tenth of the book when it was obvious and yes, all points before had led to this but I kept thinking - have I missed something. Does the title have more significance than that final act by the twins and Nat?

I have mixed feelings on the way Freedy kept coming in and out with no obvious connection until quite late on but he was a well drawn psychotic individual that gave me the creeps. But then the twins gave me the creeps too and I wasn't sure whether that was intentional. It didn't feel much like a suspense story until the end, until that point it was more a social commentary, a character study. But the book held my interest though it didn't set me on fire.

Suzyn says

One thing I love about Peter Abrahams is that he gives us the villain's perspective. He does a lot of that here, though it is probably the least interesting villain he's ever written about. I am doing my best to read all of the old Peter Abrahams I can find because I like him as an author, but he was just off on this one. A lot of it is that his female characters are really off here, which is too bad given that he draws the women pretty well in my favorite of his books "A Perfect Crime."

His storytelling is better than his writing, and he still kept me interested, though.

Laine The Librarian says

It was more than a white lie. It was deception on a grand scale. But the motive was admirable-to save the bright future of a deserving young man. And the victim, too was deserving-an arrogant billionaire who would hardly notice his loss, crumbs from a vast fortune. All the plotters needed was a believable story, desperate and frightening, but false. Nothing bad was supposed to happen. They were only crying wolf. But what if the wolf were real?

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I actually couldn't make it through the book. It had so much sex scenes that it was really giving me a headache. Sorry!!

Jharmon says

Read this because my daughter read his YA books and she loved Abrahams so much she got her hands on this adult book. Good complex plot with interesting twists. But not appropriate for my 11 year old. Lots of

themes she was clueless about.

If a parentnts of that entitled world, this is an excellent tool to let them at least think about some of the people they will probably meet. I respect very much the challenges offered students at top schools, but at one point, the uber successful businessman dad says, "I never hire form schools like this. I only hire form the top 5 % of public universities." - it's an idea that a kid going into the job market, and simply acquiring life skills, needs to be aware of.

Mistiema1 Downs says

Peter Abrahams's *Crying Wolf* doesn't read like a typical "thriller." Sure, it's apparent from the beginning that the two main characters, protagonist Nat and villain Freedy, are being set on some collision course, but this may be lost on the reader. Mr. Abrahams takes his time setting things up, introducing and rounding out the characters, and giving the reader a good amount of insight into the motivations driving good and bad guy alike.

Where he lost me was with the female characters. I know, I know! It's difficult for men to write convincingly for women (and vice versa). However, it didn't seem like Mr. Abrahams really tried to make any of the girls in his book more than prizes to be won by the men. Izzie and Grace were quirky and energetic--quite loveable! So did Mr. Abrahams really have to sell us the timeworn good twin/bad twin storyline? It was disgusting enough to wallow through chapters devoted to chauvinistic, psychotic Freedy without having one of the heroines trying to trick poor, naive Natty boy into sleeping with her. But, in the end, strong and energetic Grace gets hers too, right? And Nat still gets the girl, despite having slept with her twin sister. Let us not forget that he'd already spurned Grace's advances once and had absolutely no trouble knowing that she wasn't her sister then, after only a brief acquaintance with them both.

I enjoyed the story up until the kidnapping plot came into play, but everything suddenly felt out of character for nearly everyone involved.

Henry says

I wouldn't normally rate this type of book so high, but Peter Abrahams captured my attention and the ending was unusual enough to make it special. I really enjoyed reading this book.

Kaitlin says

This doesn't read like a typical suspense novel. In fact, it isn't "suspenseful" at all until the last 50 pages. That's fine with me and actually made me like it more. However, the suspenseful part was garbage. It was too rushed and seemed thrown together. It's a shame because I really enjoyed the character building and the premise of the book. I liked Ned, the main character, and his two partners in crime and could sympathize with them. I also REALLY liked how it was narrated in parts from the bad guy's perspective. Like I said, though, the end ruined it for me and made all the build-up feel like a waste.
