



Lie in Plain Sight

Maggie Barbieri

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It's a busy day at the bakery Maeve Conlon owns when she receives a phone call from the high school saying Maeve's employee's daughter, Taylor Dvorak, is ill. Taylor's mom is out on a delivery and Taylor has her own car, so harried Maeve gives the school nurse permission to send Taylor home on her own. But Taylor never makes it: Somewhere between the school and her house, she just vanishes.

Not only does Maeve feel responsible, but she can't shake the feeling that there's more to Taylor's disappearance than meets the eye. So Maeve decides to take matters into her own capable hands. She finds that Farringville has a lot more to hide than most small towns, from the secretive high school girls' soccer coach to Taylor's estranged father and her troubled mother, and she gets to work shining a light on all these mysteries.

Balancing this dark undertaking and her relationship with a local policeman, Maeve will have to walk the fine line between justice and revenge carefully if she hopes to prevail in the next suspenseful novel from Maggie Barbieri.

Lie in Plain Sight Details

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Author : Maggie Barbieri

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From Reader Review Lie in Plain Sight for online ebook

Suzy says

Great series. I love the characters.

Ruby Stiff says

In some ways I enjoyed this novel more than the first in the series, I feel like the character was a lot tighter or perhaps I'm becoming more familiar with how she operates. Some brilliant plot twists, some I saw coming some I absolutely did not. I do feel like the author spent a little less time writing/editing this one, it feels a bit more hurried than the first one. Overall a very good read

Melissa says

This is book three in a series that I haven't read, so maybe my opinion of this book was slightly impacted by this fact. However, I just didn't enjoy this book. And to me, the end was really a mess, with the last few chapters wrapping things up way too quickly and haphazardly.

Marla says

Third in a series...each a great read.

Sierra W. says

2 1/2 stars.

Ally Yohn says

Really enjoyable. I hadn't read either of the previous books in this series, but Barbieri threw in just enough detail about the prior plots to keep me informed but not overwhelmed.

Maeve is a strong character. I will say I was confused a little about the end of one plot line- a little more explanation on the missing girl and why she was taken, what the villain meant to do, would've made this 5 Stars.

Amy says

I am a fan of this series and will continue to follow it. However, this was my least favorite. Less of a storyline and more of a way to move the characters along in their timeline.

Kelsi H says

Please check out all of my reviews at <http://ultraviolentlit.blogspot.ca!>

Lie in Plain Sight is the third in a series of books about bakery owner Maeve Conlon, who finds herself at the centre of every crime that takes place in her small town. She acts as an amateur sleuth in these cases, but they also all involve her personally – it seems like too many dramatic incidents to happen to one woman. It would probably be better to read these books in order, otherwise there are some parts of Maeve's back story that are missing; however, it can be read on its own as a surface-level crime novel.

When Maeve needs help at her bakery, she hires the mother of another student at her daughter's school. The new employee is down on her luck and desperately needs work, but there is something suspicious and really unlikeable about her as well. Soon after she starts work, the employee's daughter Taylor gets sick at school. The school calls the bakery, and Maeve gives the girl permission to go home – but she never arrives. Now the mother and much of the community blames Maeve for the girl's disappearance, even though Taylor is eighteen and weeks away from graduation – more than capable of making her way home in the middle of the day.

Conveniently, Maeve is dating a local cop, so she uses what little information she hears from him about Taylor's disappearance to launch her own investigation. Maeve's crime-fighting initiative seems to come out of nowhere, although apparently it happened before in her previous novels. During her search, many local characters become suspects, but none are all that believable. Really, that was my problem with the entire novel – none of it seemed very likely, and the whole scenario was too far from reality.

Maeve is a completely unlikeable character, which is fine – but I just couldn't even identify with or understand her motivations, which made it hard to become immersed in the story. There is no explanation of why she thinks she can act as an amateur detective, and no plausible reason for why she gets away with her vigilantism, especially with her police officer boyfriend hanging around – apparently, he isn't very observant. The story started out with an appealing and provocative mystery, but it didn't really follow through. Perhaps it would help to read the first two books in order to identify with Maeve, but this novel just didn't work for me.

I received this novel from Minotaur Books and NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Julie says

“Lie in Plain Sight” By Maggie Barbieri

This series has been one of the more interesting I've discovered in a long while, mainly because the first

book, where we are introduced to Maeve, a baker, turned amateur detective, is pretty much a standard mystery. I sincerely liked Maeve, but was thrown off balance by her sudden descent into the dark side in book two.

As “Lie in Plain Sight” opens, we find Maeve still dealing with the events that took place in the previous installment, and we catch her in the act of making a disappointing mistake.

However, when a local teen goes missing, Maeve inserts herself into the investigation, while trying to run her busy bakery, jostle her complicated love life, and deal with her hostile teenage daughter, Heather. Maeve’s focus on the missing persons case, while a little obsessive, has given her a renewed sense of purpose, has sharpened her focus in regards to Heather, and her relationships with her ex-husband and boyfriend.

Small town secrets and lies always make for an interesting read, and with Maeve involved, it’s even more delicious, with just a pinch of dark humor on the side.

The author has put a darker spin on the amateur detective trope, and it has grown on me, with this installment being the strongest in the series. For Maeve, justice is justice, and her brand of it is controversial, but it does get the job done. However, I was thankful Maeve's disturbing thoughts tapered off, plus, she seems to have found a balance in her life, at long last.

These books should be read in order to fully enjoy all the nuances and I think those who have been following along will agree, that if this is indeed the end of the series, it ended on a very high note. 4 stars.

Reviewed by Julie Whiteley for Suspense Magazine

Kathy says

4.5 stars.

Lie in Plain Sight, the third installment in **Maggie Barbieri's** series featuring baker (and amateur sleuth) Maeve Conlon, is another perplexing and complex mystery.

When Taylor, the daughter of her newly hired employee Trish Dvorak, goes missing, Maeve cannot help but feel responsible. Although Maeve's boyfriend, Detective Chris Larsson, is on the case, she knows both Chris and the small town police department are out of their depth so she begins investigating the disappearance on her own. When she discovers another teenage girl from a neighboring town vanished without a trace under eerily similar circumstances the previous year, Maeve is convinced there is a connection between the two cases.

Maeve is still a little impulsive and it does not take long for her to become obsessed with trying to find Taylor. She often acts without thinking and while most of the time this is not a problem, she occasionally ends up in some rather dangerous situations. Determined, intelligent and headstrong, Maeve does not hesitate to act on her suspicions which often results in some rather unpleasant confrontations with the town's residents. Despite her slightly off center moral compass, Maeve has the best of intentions when she begins her investigation into Taylor's disappearance and it is impossible to find fault with her reaction when she uncovers the truth.

Maeve's personal life remains a bit of a mess and her relationships with daughter Heather, ex-husband Cal and boyfriend Chris continue to be complicated. She and Heather are often at odds and their moments of closeness are fleeting since it does not take much for their interactions to rapidly deteriorate. Ex-husband Cal's current marriage unexpectedly hits a rough patch and Maeve's somewhat turbulent relationship with

him becomes even more awkward and tense. Her romance with Chris begins to falter under the weight of her dark secrets and her inability to completely honest with him about certain aspects of her life. Throw in Maeve's lack of confidence in Chris as a detective and their relationship becomes even more rocky.

Fast-paced with an intriguing storyline, *Lie in Plain Sight* is a riveting mystery that fans of the genre are sure to enjoy. With a long list of suspects and plenty of small town secrets, **Maggie Barbieri** brilliantly obscures the truth about Taylor's disappearance until the novel's dramatic conclusion. It is another wonderful (and quite possibly, last :() installment in the *Maeve Conlon* series that I absolutely loved and highly recommend.

Jennifer says

Just awful!

Pam says

Tripe! I hope Maeve gets in her silent Prius and drives away. I lost count of how many times her car was mentioned. God I hated this book and Maevy. Oh and I noticed a mistake when Maeve was thinking about the dinner she shared with her daughter the night before and the two pages later she referred to it as being three nights ago???

Tai Evans says

Just awful. Dry. Repetitive. The characters are two dimensional and predictable. The story limps in circles and never goes anywhere. I was bored out of my SKULL. I struggled valiantly to finish it but died of boredom in the end.

Carlene Inspired says

ARC provided via Netgalley.

You can find my reviews at [Carlene Inspired](#).

Maeve Conlon agrees to let her employee's teen daughter walk home from school when her mom is out on delivery, but when she's not home hours later things turn sour. She's just vanished and there's no solid leads. Maeve feels responsible, she feels guilt, and she knows there's more to Taylor's disappearance than meets the eye. Maeve takes things into her own hands and finds that the small town of Farringville has more secrets than one would ever expect.

What a perplexing mystery! I've had *Lie in Plain Sight* in my Kindle for a little while and when I hit a reading slump this week I picked it up because I knew it was set to be released soon. Color me surprised when I couldn't put it down. Not only is the story-line complex, but the characters were so secretive that I couldn't stop turning the pages in hopes of getting farther beneath the surface. The mystery was not one I could have easily guessed, while there were times I thought Maeve was on the wrong track, nothing could

have prepared me for the twists Maggie Barbieri inserted into this book. The characters were all very realistic, like anyone you'd meet in your local coffee shop, but with masks hiding the reality. As I read I found myself really seeing and feeling what Maeve saw and felt; she's a character that's too impulsive, but has the best of intentions. Her past is definitely dark and I actually liked that her past haunted her so much that it drove her to fight for justice and revenge. I enjoyed that Maggie Barbieri really showed how Maeve and her family fell apart as Maeve got obsessed, it felt realistic and I had a lot of compassion for her. And I seriously can't get over how many secrets were uncovered in this book, they just never stopped, and they affected everyone, it was a big spider web of lies.

I didn't have any idea that this was the third book in a series about Maeve Conlon, amateur sleuth, but I certainly want to read all of them. While it didn't affect my overall enjoyment of the book, I do think the previous novels would be better to read before picking up *Lie in Plain Sight*. This was a great suspense mystery and I would absolutely recommend it.

Susan Miller says

I did not particular care for this book. It seemed to skip around quite a bit. Perhaps I feel this way because I took so long reading it. I had to keep adjusting to who the characters were. There was mystery involved, but it was rather a hodge podge of situations presented. I had not read the previous two books in this series and while I got the gist of the main characters background, it all seemed rather disjointed. I could not identify with any of the characters and they all seemed paper thin.

So many good books to read, that I most likely will not read another by this author.

I borrowed this book from the Live Oaks Public Library.
