



Until Dark

Mariah Stewart

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From *New York Times* bestselling author Mariah Stewart comes a novel of sexy romantic suspense for fans of Nora Roberts, Catherine Coulter, and Karen Robards.

A skilled compositor for the FBI, Kendra Smith has a way with witnesses, helping them to remember crucial details about their attackers they might otherwise have forgotten. She believes her work helps to provide closure for the victims and their families—closure that has eluded *her* for the eleven years since her brother was kidnapped, his body never found.

Determined to put her painful past behind her, Kendra throws herself into every case one hundred percent. Now she is called in to sketch the face of a man the press is calling the Soccer Mom Killer. It's a difficult investigation made even harder by the presence of Special Agent Adam Stark, a man with whom she once had a brief, passionate affair. As the number of victims continues to rise, and with a killer always one step ahead, Kendra will learn a lethal lesson: You can run from the past, but you can't hide. . . .

Until Dark Details

Date : Published (first published January 1st 2003)

ISBN :

Author : Mariah Stewart

Format : Kindle Edition 416 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Mystery, Suspense, Thriller

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From Reader Review Until Dark for online ebook

Kathleen Amick says

A little too much side story at times. I also did not like how the main character, a FBI agent, did not pick up on simple clues, making her seem dumb. This took it from a 5 to a 4 in my eyes. Aside from that, it was a quick read with a decent bit of suspense.

Shiela says

This book had me engrossed from the first page and I could not put it down. The non-stop action, the chilling suspense and the unpredictable plot twists were just what I needed for the weekend. Although Until Dark is classified as a novel of "romantic suspense," the romance aspect of this story was not central to the plot and did not slow down the action at all, which I find is a rare treat. Oh and the "predictable" ending...not so predictable, you'll never be able to guess who the killer is. This novel is definitely a thriller and a good one at that

Karen says

Pleasantly surprised. Hard to put down. The only aspect I did not like was the main character acted so naive and dumb a few times. She Sketches faces for the FBI? Would you really not know "why" when the killer is focused on you, you should not be alone so flippantly at home? A few other "DUH" moments. Ignoring that, the plot was suspenseful.

Chella says

I just found this book to be quite boring. The only reason why I read it so quickly was because I wanted to get it over with. I like to feel the adrenaline, the highs and lows of a really good book but I figured who the killer was early on in the story. Kendra is an artist profiler for the FBI. Her little brother and cousin have been missing for years and presumed to be dead. Both parents have also passed away, leaving her alone with no family except her aunt that she hasn't spoken to since the young boys became missing. She begins to work with a past male companion (FBI agent) to help find a serial killer, pegged "The Soccer Mom Killer". Their relationship rekindles, and her "partner" soon realizes that this serial killer has an interest in Kendra.

Melissa says

This was a great suspense book. The characters were great. The story and subject matter were amazing. I love Mariah Stewart. This is one of her best novels. A must read for a suspense reader.

Randy says

A good fbi novel. Interesting plot twists. Realistic characters. I enjoyed this novel and would recommend it. I will be grabbing the next entry in this series. You do not have to read book one to read this book, it is perfectly able to stand alone. If you're a fan of criminal minds, you would like this book.

Janet says

A villain so evil I don't think I want to meet up with him again, even in a book. A heroine that growls and roars; I am loving it!!! The character of Adam was okay, but just that. Felt pretty much the same way about Miranda

Would've liked to see more of Selena's gift, but I understand that her reluctance was part of the storyline.

Also would of liked to see a little more humor, but then again that's just me.

I guess, as a whole, book was okay but certainly did not "grab" me.

I'm being kind. It was really 2 1/2 stars.

Lynn Demsky says

"Sketch artist Kendra Smith, has experienced more than her share of sorrow: her father died of cancer, her brother and cousin are presumed murdered and her mother recently committed suicide. Still, she agrees to lend her skills when her ex-boyfriend, Special Agent Adam Stark, asks for her aid in searching for the Soccer Mom Killer, who targets blonde single mothers. The sexual chemistry between Adam and Kendra simmers on the back burner as they work the case, which may disappoint those looking for more sparks. But when Ian's watch shows up near one of the murder scenes and victims turn up bearing crosses and butterfly clips identical to the ones Kendra wears, tension of another sort heats up. Savvy readers may immediately suspect who the killer is, but this thriller packs a few extra punches for those who are overconfident in their powers of deduction."

This one was good, a lot of stuff going on but was a tad too long and a lot of the romantic junk could just have been left out! But will check out the next in the series!

Nell says

A great romantic suspense. A good twist at the end.

Louise says

This is the second Mariah Stewart novel I've read and I'm quickly becoming a fan. Her novels are heart pounding and riveting.

"A skilled compositor for the FBI, Kendra Smith has a way with witnesses, helping them to remember crucial details about their attackers they might otherwise have forgotten. She believes her work helps to provide closure for the victims and their families, closure that has eluded her for the eleven years since her brother was kidnapped, his body never found.

Determined to put her painful past behind her, Kendra throws herself into every case one hundred percent. Now she is called in to sketch the face of a man the press is calling the Soccer Mom Killer. It's a difficult investigation made even harder by the presence of Special Agent Adam Stark, a man with whom she once had a brief, passionate affair. As the number of victims continues to rise, and with a killer always one step ahead, Kendra will learn a lethal lesson: You can run from the past...but you can't hide...."

Alberto says

lovely book, narrative fluid and immersive, a veritable turn-page. Well balanced and engaging.

Michelle says

Single mothers are being killed by a man no one seems to notice. The FBI is brought in to catch the killer. The FBI also brings in a sketch artist, Kendra. As more women are killed, the FBI notices the serial killer is trying to get someone's attention. But who? And why?

This was another good mystery that is light on the romance. Just like the author's first book I had a feeling about who was behind it but I still managed to fall for a couple of the red herrings - at least for a little while. I liked Kendra and the FBI special agent, Adam who was brought in to lead the investigation. The secondary characters added to the story without overpowering it. Switching perspectives between Kendra and the serial killer also added interest.

Judi says

This is my first read from author, Mariah Stewart and won't be my last.

Kendra Smith is an FBI sketch artist and has been called into a case with FBI Agent Adam Stark..Kendra had just returned to her hometown following the suicide/death of her Mother. Kendra also married quickly after the Mother's death to a former college love. This marriage just didn't last. Eleven years prior, Kendra's brother and cousin were found missing.Thought to be a victim of kidnapping and murder - there bodies never found.

When she is called into the case - "The Soccer Mom Killer" she is reunited with Adam (her former boyfriend),whom she never stopped loving.

This case will bring Kendra's past back to her.

I loved Kendra's friend - Selena and would love to read more about her.

This is just a great, not to be missed book. I think you might be surprised at the ending!!!

Biba says

This was an okay book. Not perfect but not bad either. There were a few things I didn't like. I didn't get too attached to Kendra, but I liked Adam. Although I didn't see the big deal of them together, there was almost no romance, even if they had a thing before, I just didn't care for them as a couple. Also, I wasn't a fan of the end at all. At the end I was like, that's it? I thought there would be more to it, but nope. The end was a very big let down, especially after everything that happened, especially with Kendra.

I did like the other characters though, especially Selena and Miranda. Also, I was glad to see John, even if it was really quick. I love seeing old characters.

Trying to decide which one of Mariah's books I'm going to read next.

Cruth says

Author: Mariah Stewart

First published: 2003

Length: 394 pages, 5554 kindle locations

Setting: Contemporary.

Sex: Explicit. Infrequent.

Hero: FBI agent, former NFL.

Heroine: FBI artist.

Trigger: Violence and Rape. Child abuse. Paedophilia.

Paranormal: psychic neighbour

Romantic suspense with more suspense than romance. A few stupid moments and some unnecessary paranormal/psychic twists (will Selena get her own story, perhaps?). Sometimes quite graphic.

Readable but not too intense.

John Mancini:

Book 1 Voices Carry - Genna Snow and John Mancini

Book 2 Until Dark - Kendra Smith and Adam Stark

Book 3 Dead Wrong - Mara Douglas and Aidan Shields

Book 4 Dead Certain - Amanda Crosby and Sean Mercer

Book 5 Dead Even - Miranda Cahill and Will Fletcher

Book 6 Dead End - Annie Marie McCall and Evan Crosby

Book 7 Cold Truth - Cassie Burke and Rick Cisco

Book 8 Hard Truth - Lorna Temple and T. J. Dawson

Book 9 Dark Truth - Nina Madden and Wes Powell

Book 10 Final Truth - Lester Ray Barnes and Regan Landry

Book 11 Last Look - Dorsey Collins and Andrew Shields
Book 12 Last Words - Mia Shields and Gabriel Beck
Book 13 Last Breath - Dr. Daria McGowan and Connor Shields

Chesapeake Diaries:

Book 1 Coming Home - Grady Shields and Vanessa Keaton
Book 2 Home Again - Dallas MacGregor and Grant Wyler
Book 3 Almost Home - Steffie Wyler and Wade MacGregor
Book 4 Hometown Girl - Brooke Madison Bowers and Jesse Enright
Book 5 Home for the Summer - Lucy Sinclair and Clay Madison
Book 6 The Long Way Home - Ellie Chapman and Cameron O'Connor
Book 7 At the River's Edge - Sophie Enright and Jason Bowers
Book 8 On Sunset Beach - Carly Summit and Ford Sinclair
Book 9 That Chesapeake Summer - Jamie Valentine and Daniel Sinclair
Book 10 Driftwood Point - Lisbeth Parker and Alec Jansen
Book 11 The Chesapeake Bride - Cassidy Logan and Owen Parker

References:

Author's website: <http://www.mariahstewart.com/books.html>

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