



# Ouija

*Katharine Turner*

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## Ouija Katharine Turner

It's not just a game.

As far as Elaine Morris is concerned, the Ouija board is just a game she played at sleepovers as a kid. But her best friend, Debbie, has been messing around with one recently--and claims she's starting to hear strange noises around the house. 'Laine thinks Debbie is a total dork for getting spooked, until Debbie dies in a horrible and haunting way. Desperate to figure out what really happened to her friend, 'Laine starts using the Ouija board to uncover its mystery. She soon learns that something sinister has come through the board, and it's not ready to say GOOD-BYE.

Read this heart-stopping novel before seeing the major motion picture!

## Ouija Details

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Author : Katharine Turner

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## From Reader Review Ouija for online ebook

### Michelle says

I know I gave this novel a 2 but it was actually an enjoyable read. It was definately a book that was targeted for youths so I found the way in which it was written juvenile. The concept is similar to most teenage thriller type books and movies ei, group of teenagers, scarey place, dropping like flies, one heroine or hero at the end. I can't say much more without it being a spoiler but since the book is based on the movie I'm sure most people get the idea. Regardless, there were a few unexpected twists and turns and it did have its share of creepiness and a few moments when I did feel a little on edge. This isn't a must read novel by any means but if you enjoy easy, slightly predictable, short thriller type stories, then this is a book you may want to read, just for the fun of it.

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### Nicole (taleswithnicole) says

3.5/5 Stars

Sometimes while watching a movie I enjoy it so much I wish it was also a book. This is exactly what happened. Ouija by Katharine Turner is based on the movie screenplay written by Stiles White and Juliet Snowden. A lot of the conversations are similar and their are very few changes to the plot. Although, sometimes I did find the dialogue a little bit kiddish. But overall, I really enjoyed the movie and enjoyed it just as much reading a near perfect representation of it. The characters were familiar, and I loved reading knowing it was going to end the way it was meant to, no surprise twist endings. Since there is already a sequel movie in the works, I would definitely read a sequel book if it ever becomes available.

For my full review, visit my blog:  
<http://taleswithnicole.blogspot.ca/20...>

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### Trisha says

*"As friends we gathered,  
Hearts are true,  
Spirits near,  
We call to you..."*

I am so disappointed. I have a deal with myself to read books before I watch the movies. Sometimes this is a great idea and sometimes, it's just not. I think this is one where the movie....might....be better than the book. I'm not sure, I haven't seen it yet, but it has to be better.

The only good suspenseful moments in this story are when the kids are suddenly not acting right - when Debbie's moment came, that was a bit creepy. Otherwise, there was too much telling and not enough build up. Jump scare type moments just don't translate well on paper and so they didn't feel scary or creepy in this story. The explanation, I think, would look better on screen but felt silly and unrealistic in the book - as each stage played out, it got more and more unrealistic.

I'm disappointed because a good Ouija board story could be so much more.

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### **Jennifer Jones says**

Meh. Teen books are a guilty pleasure for me, but this one didn't really have anything special. It's cool as a companion to the movie, but otherwise...

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### **E. C. McRoy says**

First, the two main reasons that people are going to have issues with this book: **The way this reads like a Middlegrade book and the complete lack of suspense/horror/or anything remotely terrifying.**

Second, the reason they absolutely did negatively impact my rating: **Because the writing was third-grade status. So simple I could have done this just by watching the movie with absolutely no writing skills whatsoever.**

Third, the moment I knew this was going to be bad:

“‘Hey.’ Trevor appeared in the doorway.

‘Oh my god!’ Laine gripped the board tightly. ‘You almost gave me a heart attack.’”

Because, um, why? Nothing happened. Absolutely NOTHING HAPPENED to build up to this “surprise, heart attack inducing” moment.

How many stars do I give this? **Sadly, only 2. Maybe a 2.1, but probably not.**

I went into this book really wanting to like it, but I just couldn't. This is possibly the first and probably only time I will ever say this but, **THE MOVIE IS BETTER.**

I feel like I should be stoned now...

But let's begin with **The Bland And Pathetically Boring Writing.**

#### **What I enjoyed personally:**

Not much of anything, really. I found that this was one of those moments where the writing was TOO simplistic. It made it difficult to read, because it was so easy I felt like I was reading See Spot Run. I mean, why not include pictures, too?

Oh, wait, they did... (Which may have been the best part...)

Seriously though. I've been trying to find something that I really enjoyed in the writing style itself, and I can't find anything. I felt it was boring, stilted, lacked suspense, and felt more like it was meant to be read by

10-year-olds.

### **What I felt was a little questionable:**

Um, everything.

First, the writer didn't seem to understand that *as a novel, not a movie* the writing needed more meat. There needed to be at least a hundred more pages, all of which should have been descriptors. Okay, maybe not \*all\* but a damn lot of 'em. There needed to be more "her heart thumped wildly in her chest as she felt the hairs on the back of her neck rise. She couldn't see it, but she sensed it there, lurking, looming—coming towards her. She couldn't force herself to turn, her body frozen in irrational fear, but in the mirror she caught the reflection. It should have been nothing, but that shadow—" Instead, we get the characters running around doing... well, we don't really know what they're doing because they're suddenly downstairs in the dead girl's room when a second ago they were in the living room. And they're dying left and right, but they only seem mildly affected by this.

Where's the drama? Where's the suspense? Where are the friggin' ghosts already?! Seriously, even they didn't manage to be effective in this novel—which is bad, given that it's basically a ghost story.

### Moving on to The Rather Hobble-Cobble Story.

### **What I liked:**

The relationship between Debbie and Laine. It was the closest thing to a really functioning storyline that we could grasp on to and it was the only thing that was convincing as a motivator for the unfolding events. Unfortunately, it didn't have the sort of depth that it needed to be really \*great\* or effective and it left everyone feeling sort of... well, maybe like Debbie and Laine should have been dating and the two guys should have been thrown to the wolves.

Regardless, the best part (in the sense of storytelling) was Debbie's apparent suicide. There was the promise of real depth there when her friends are initially grieving. They attempt to deal with her death in their own ways, wondering how they "missed the signs". This was the most genuine part of the whole story—and it was only there as a backdrop to the rest of what was going on. Really disappointing.

### **What I didn't like:**

Most of what happened.

The Ouija Board has the potential to bring some real creep factor to any story—and yet it utterly failed here. There was no sense of foreboding, there was no feeling that they were playing with fire. Instead it was all this "oh, and by the way, a serial killer ghost is after you, kay, bye now". I mean, that was the feeling I got from this novel and it really left me wishing that more had happened in the story. I think this is more a result of the writing than the actual plot, though I think there are holes there, too, and I think if we'd been offered a little more time to explore what was going on and given a few more details, I would have enjoyed the story more.

### Next, Le Characters.

### **What was good:**

The relationship between Debbie and Laine. *And* the relationship between Laine and Sarah. Both of these bonds were very brief, because the whole story was brief, but they offered the most development and tangible feeling in the whole novel. I also would have liked to explore the Laine/Pete dynamic, because it was, strangely enough, stronger than most here. More compelling. At least, it had the potential to be. But again, it was wholly underdeveloped, leaving it more like this weird “did I imagine a connection there?” thing.

### **What was bad:**

There was almost no character development. No one really changed—or even had the chance to. We actually got the most change from Trevor, I think, and not in a good way. He shifted from the loving boyfriend to aggressive and unstable. But we only get a glimpse of that and the next moment he’s all “but I love Laine so much! Even though I think she’s nuts!” It was really disappointing.

The friendships between each of the characters had so much room for development, but instead they fell flat. I was left thinking that these characters were just cardboard cutouts of people, stand ins for the real things that had yet to arrive.

### Finally, a section for **Tropes and Other Much Hated Things:**

There’s the **Missing Parents** trope. I think this novel counts as YA and falls into the same **My Teenager’s Running Rampant, But I Really Can’t Be Bothered As A Parent** trope. There’s also the **My Boyfriend Takes Over My Life** trope, though in a very small capacity. There’s the **I Had To Grow Up Too Fast To Take The Place Of My Absentee Parent** trope, always a fun one.

There weren’t a lot of Horror Tropes here, though fans of the genre will notice some. The Final Girl(s) being the main one, but also some “playing with something we shouldn’t” and “it’s just a game”.

Would I recommend this? No—there just isn’t enough here to be bothered with, sadly enough.

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### **Andromeda says**

This book. I have no idea where to even begin with it. It’s so short, but in the short length the author makes you feel the suspense in an extremely strong manner... In my opinion for too long. However, literally everything else about it was spectacular.

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### **Shae R says**

I selected this book because I found it in the library in downtown Wakefield. Discouraged that I could not find the novel "Asylum" by Madeleine Roux at the time, I looked in the "Young Adult" section to find a chilling novel to get me into the Halloween spirit of October. When I was about to stop looking for a horror or thriller book, "Ouija" by Katharine Turner caught my eye. I remember seeing the movie trailer in the theaters when I was younger. I was terrified whenever the trailer came up, but I wanted to see the movie even though I was too young. Because I loved the chilling feeling it gave me when I was younger, I was ecstatic when I found the novel. However, it took me more than half the book to get into it, and I never got the feeling that I could not put the book down. Also, the book was not as frightening as I thought it would be,

and I did not enjoy the novel as much as when my younger self viewed the trailer.

In "Ouija" Elaine Morris and her best friend, Debbie, have messed around with the Ouija board before when they were young at sleepovers; they thought nothing of it. However, using it once again, Debbie claims to hear weird noises and acts extremely distant. Elaine thinks Debbie is insane and overthinking everything, until Debbie is found dead. Determined to figure out why Debbie died, Elaine and a few of her other friends use the Ouija board to try to connect with Debbie's spirit. But once they start using the board, Elaine's friends start getting killed off one by one. While trying to figure out the mysteries of her friends' deaths, Elaine must use the Ouija board and destroy the connection she has with the spirit. Question is: What if the spirit is Debbie? And what if she is not ready to say good-bye?

Something that I did not like about the book was that it was extremely slow getting into it. It gave a lot of background information in the beginning and moved slowly regarding the Ouija. In the beginning, the book focused on Elaine and her friends plotting; at the end, it crammed everything supernatural or frightening in. Along with moving slowly until the end, the book was very choppy from one section to another. I felt it never fully completed one thought before moving onto something else.

Overall, I liked the book. I would not read it again, but I am pleased that I finished it. I loved the end of the book when Elaine was really exposed to the supernatural aspect of the novel and the chilling characters.

However, I did not like how I found it difficult to get myself to read when beginning the book, and I did not take away anything from the novel. Also, I did not enjoy the fact that I was never truly frightened, and the feeling I got when watching the movie trailer when I was younger was never fulfilled.

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### **Stephanie ((Strazzybooks)) says**

Mindless entertainment with a few good horror moments.

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### **Bert Zee says**

You've really got to hand it to the authors that are given the job of turning a cheesy horror film into a novel... Novelizations are a pet favourite of mine, I love to collect them and the worse the movie is the more I must own the novelization, there's something so cool about them and the fact that they are really only printed once makes them a kind of rarity and a must have for booklovers and film buffs like myself.

Ouija is very fast paced and super easy to read, I read each page in under a minute most of the time, over 200 pages and I read it in under a day, those are my favourite types of books, the ones that can be read in an afternoon. If you've seen the movie Ouija you'll know what the book is about, it follows the movie scene for scene, probably not the most creative thing for an author but I guess they aren't writing these kind of books as passion projects - as a novelization it does what it sets out to do, put the film in book form...

It's not really scary or overly original and the writing is very basic but if you're a collector of horror movie memorabilia like me you will find something to enjoy about this book.

"GOODBYE"

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### **Ash says**

Um.

I'm just trying to figure out exactly what I read. The author, Katharine Turner, novelized this from the screenplay by Stiles White and Juliet Snowden. My thinking is that White and Snowden are at fault for this convoluted mess. After a while, Ouija became hella confusing.

On the surface, a Ouija board is making anyone who plays it commit suicide. Unless, the person or people follow specific rules, which, by the way, means NOTHING because the people who did play did follow the rules.

Except the one girl, Debbie. She started the whole shenanigans by playing in a graveyard...maybe? The main girl, Laine, was guessing. Anyway, then it becomes some sort of ghost story involving a medium and her two daughters, one of which was used as a conduit between us and the spirit world.

Confusion and boredom ensued.

Ouija could have been creepy. It was a good idea but a lot was left unexplained. Like why were the victims committing suicide? Surely, we would get some back story on that? Nope! Maybe screenplays are such for a reason. Perhaps, there was no real need for a novelization of this. Maybe Ouija is better as a movie. Or maybe it won't but I'll still see it anyway.

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### **Lani Kaye says**

Definitely worth the \$2 I spent on this book at Books-A-Million, but it's also kind of disappointing. I have to keep in mind that this is a young adult book and that the seriousness of playing with an Ouija Board is heavily downplayed. Throughout the book there are a few creepy moments that reminded me of the reasons I don't mess with Ouija Boards in the first place. I would have loved for this book to be longer because everything felt so rushed to me. The ending frustrates me a lot, I mean, after everything you just went through, why would you do it again? I would love to read a full-length, more in-depth novel. Perhaps then it wouldn't feel so rushed, and it would keep me awake at night.

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### **Sugari Pocky says**

interstring plot and a good book

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### **Amber James (ambitiousbibliophile) says**

This book was SO CREEPY but so GOOD. I caught myself so many times reacting or gasping out loud. I can only imagine the movie being even creepier! Now I want to watch the movie, then get some friends together and play a Ouija board. I really enjoyed the ending, it left you wanting to know MORE.

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**Empress Reece (Hooked on Books) says**

Ouija- Never Break the Rules...

This was quite the little page turner and definitely worth the bargain basement price of \$1.97 that I paid for it at Books-A-Million. Don't go into it thinking you'll be scared out of your mind though because it is a teen/YA book and seems to be watered down accordingly. There is some creepiness to it though and it'll make you think twice about playing with a Ouija board.

The book was too short though. When I got to the end I was wanting more, more, more! An 'adult' version with a little more depth and horror would be perfect. I definitely could go for that! I'm dying to see the movies now- the original that is based on this book & the prequel that's in theaters. The original movie, I'm planning to watch tonight so I'm looking forward to that. I imagine it will be quite a bit scarier then the book. This is just one of those stories that needs some on screen theatrics.

If you like a little bit of paranormal horror but not too much then this is the perfect book! You can get your 'scare me' fix and still sleep at night!

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**siobhan Quinlan says**

Fun and fast pace Ouija had me sat at the edge of my seat and needing to read more. I read this book in a matter of hours and could not put it down.

When Debbie dies her friends try to solve why. This leads them down a dangerous path. will they live to see this to the end?

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