



The Dead and Buried

Kim Harrington

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home sweet home...

Jade loves the house she's just moved into with her family. She doesn't even mind being the new girl at the high school: It's a fresh start, and there's that one guy with the dreamy blue eyes...

But then things begin happening. Strange, otherworldly things.

Jade's little brother claims to see a glimmering girl in his room. Jade's jewelry gets moved around, as if by an invisible hand. Kids at school whisper behind her back like they know something she doesn't.

Soon, Jade must face an impossible fact: that her perfect house... is haunted.

Haunted by a ghost who's seeking not just vengeance, but the truth. The ghost of a girl who ruled Jade's school - until her untimely death last year. It's up to Jade to put the pieces together before her own life is at stake. As Jade investigates the mystery, she discovers that her new friends in town have more than a few deep, dark secrets.

But is one of them a murderer?

The Dead and Buried Details

Date : Published January 1st 2013 by Scholastic Point

ISBN : 9780545333023

Author : Kim Harrington

Format : Hardcover 295 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Mystery, Fantasy, Paranormal, Ghosts, Horror, Romance

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From Reader Review The Dead and Buried for online ebook

Katy says

[Donovan, the ex who saw her last. Kane, the good guy friend that was possibly jealous. Faye, the best fr

Maja (The Nocturnal Library) says

There are several things you can count on when you pick up one of Kim Harrington's books. First, that it'll be entertaining, if a bit predictable. Second, that the main character will be likeable enough and that she won't make incredibly stupid choices at every turn. Third, that there's a decently plotted mystery at the center. Fourth, that she knows how to write sweet and believable romances. And last, that you'll forget all the details in about a month or so.

I'll tackle this (more or less) in order, shall I?

Like Clarity and Perception before it, The Dead and Buried is a read-in-one-sitting book. It's rather short, you see, but more importantly, it's well-paced and quite engaging. Because of its shortness, there are no filler chapters, everything that happens is pertinent to the mystery and Harrington gives you no time to relax. If you are to guess, or even just speculate the identity of Kayla Sloane's murderer, your eyes must be wide open at all times. Even the smallest thing might be relevant.

Jade was a great main character, mature and organized, very self-aware. She was never careless or ignorant and she knew how to stand up for herself. I expected no less from Kim Harrington, especially since she didn't need cheap tricks to further complicate the plot. Two boys were interested in Jade, but although she interacted with both, the love triangle never reared its ugly head. It was never a question who she'd end up with, only when and how. I liked how Jade handled that entire situation, and I especially liked how she treated both Donovan and Kane. She was attracted to Donovan from the first time she saw him and she was very much aware of it the entire time. For his part, Donovan was very sweet and outspoken about his feelings. His girlfriend died only six months before Jade moved into her house so of course he had a few issues, but I thought he handled them well overall and I really liked him.

The mystery was a tiny bit predictable, I admit, but whenever I started thinking that Harrington would fall into a painfully predictable pattern, Jade did something gutsy and unexpected that surprised me and put my mind at ease. I suppose there are worse things than an easy-to-guess murderer, especially if the main character is interesting enough and the book is tightly paced.

Lastly, the fact remains that I couldn't remember the details of Clarity to save my life (although I do remember the basic plot and some of the characters) and I have a feeling it will be even worse with The Dead and Buried. It's not a book meant to stay with you, but that's something I can occasionally appreciate.

Annette says

The Dead and Buried had me guessing until the end, as well as spooking me a bit along the way!

Jade is happy in her new house and ready to begin the year at a new school. But when she goes to school, people are whispering and sometimes avoiding her. She finds out that a very popular teen girl died in her new house the previous year, and her death is suspicious.

Jade is understandably having difficulty making friends, but she does have the attention of a couple of boys. One very popular. The other, Donovan, is the boyfriend of the dead girl.

Given that Jade's mother died and her father is re-married, her relationship with her step mom is a bit stressed. However, she loves her little 5-year-old step brother to death. When he comes and tells Jade that he sees a glittering girl in his room, she is suspicious. But when weird things start happening in her room -- things being moved and cold drafts -- she wonders if her brother is really seeing a ghost.

Harrington has weaved an interesting plot with interesting characters. The Dead and Buried is a ghost story and a mystery. Jade soon becomes compelled to find out what really happened in her house the previous year. She needs all the popular kids to talk about what they know, but she doesn't want to hurt Donovan because she is really attracted to him. She also is friends with the "weird" girl Alexa, who is one of my favorite characters.

The plot slowly builds, and we get a few creepy moments with the ghost. I didn't know who the killer was until it was revealed, and I loved the way it ended. Anyone who likes a spooky mystery story will certainly enjoy The Dead and Buried. It's got memorable characters and the pacing keeps you turning the pages. I'll be recommending The Dead and Buried often.

Glory says

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Giselle says

Hauntings! In real life I would die of terror if I came upon a ghost, so naturally, I love reading about them to psyche myself out. And if you think mean girls are awful in life, wait until you meet one in death! The Dead

and Buried follows such a story when Jade and her family move into a murder house--or at least that's what the rumour is.

Even though the culprit becomes obvious pretty early on (I guessed around p.60), being curious of their motive does leave some of the mystery elements undamaged. What's also great are the regular diary entries that shows us just exactly who this mean girl was, and how everything all ties together. The mystery wasn't my favourite part of the book, however, which is fortunate in this case, having figured it out so early. This book was a regular high school dramatics novel mixed in with a ghost story. I don't always enjoy reading about high school social circles, mean girls, and boy trouble, but in this case I found it worked very well. The creepy ghost appearances that become more sinister as the book moves along balances it out perfectly, leaving us fully entertained. Thus, the story itself--straightening out the rumor-filled details--is more interesting than the end result in this case.

At least, unlike some cliché mean girl novels, The Dead and Buried gives us believable characters that are eccentric in nature. Besides Jade who, herself, has a quirky side and does not fall prey to the lure of popularity, the most peculiar character is Jade's very first friend at her new school: Alexa, the school valedictorian and all around oddball. I found this girl highly amusing with her strange behaviours and nerdy references. It's unfortunate that she takes a backseat for the last half of the book, though; she gave it so much charisma. Stereotype does not completely escape the book, however. The cookie-cutter take on a dysfunctional family being one of them. The dead mother, the stepmother who demands Jade calls her mom (then, of course, thinks Jade is making the ghost story up to get attention), the father who takes Stepmom's side, denting his bond with his daughter, all concluded by an epiphany that makes them realize they simply hadn't accepted their mixed families as one. This part felt a little stale to me, forced even. To give more profundity to the story, maybe. Though all I felt was emotional detachment. This also affected how I didn't get to fully *feel* the danger in this novel, which does involve her brother. I understood the predicament she was in, but my heart wasn't in it.

There is quite a bit of romance mingling with the drama and chills: two boys who are both pining for Jade. One of which she's using, the other she truly likes. I didn't approve of how she lead one of them on, at all, just to solve a mystery--but again, my lack of emotional connection towards her motivation surely didn't help her case. I did find the relationship she had with Donovan very sweet, though. Cliché broken boy aside, his personality is attractive. Especially his lack of dramatics. There were a few times where I was expecting jealousy or controlling behavior that, to my delight and surprise, never surfaced.

Ghost who taunts and haunts to get closure may not be the most original story out there--but the journey is still engaging. I would recommend it with a warning that it will probably be a lighter read than you're bound to expect based on the synopsis or tagline.

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An advance copy was provided by the publisher for review.

For more of my reviews, visit my blog at [Xpresso Reads](#)

Shannon says

I actually liked this quite a bit. It reminded me of the books I read when I was a teen and it gave me flashbacks to when we'd have sleepovers and play with an Ouija board and try to have seances.

This is pretty much your standard paranormal YA mystery with mean girls, a love triangle, and the protagonist being the new kid in town but somehow managed to not feel stale or boring. Yes, this has been done a million times before but it actually kept me guessing until the end. I enjoyed the fact that I followed the main character's thoughts and assumptions and arrived at the same conclusions she did. I was also glad that even though this was full of a ton of YA clichés, the characters didn't always do or say the things I thought they would.

Harrington has a nice easy flow to her writing that makes me want to seek out more of her books. **If you're looking for something quick to read with mean girls, cute boys, a haunted house, and a mystery to solve, this is a really good standalone book to pick up.**

jv poore says

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It begins with an entry from the diary of Kayla Sloane. She appears to have a remarkably high opinion of herself, coupled with an incredibly low opinion of everyone else. She is the ultimate Mean Girl. It is easy to despise her.....even after learning that she is also the Dead Girl. Of course her death is shrouded in mystery. Was it an accident? Was she killed? If she was killed, who did it? These questions envelop Woodbridge High like a thick, smothering fog. Chasms among the student body are created.

While Kayla's diary entries appear throughout the book to provide insight and clues, we really get the story from Jade's point of view. So enters the New Girl. Jade believes her dream has come true as she prepares to start her senior year in a suburban high school, instead of her tiny hometown school. Jade has the confidence to stick to her beliefs, she is honest, thoughtful, willing to give anyone a chance, and she is loyal and strong.

There are two traits in particular that I feel make Jade a stand-out character. She is completely smitten with her adorable little brother. She is fiercely protective of him, and will do anything to keep him safe, even if it means making a deal with Kayla's ghost. Her "hobby" of collecting gemstones adds that 'something different' that I long for in such outstanding novels. Jade knows what each crystal represents and what powers it is thought to possess.

Ms. Harrington was spot on with the personalities of the supporting characters. We have the Jock and his Little Sis, the (Sorta) Mean Girl, the Robot Girl, and the Sullen Boy. If someone did kill Kayla, surely it had to be one of these people. Everyone had a motive. Everyone had opportunity. Jade must sort this out quickly. Kayla's spirit is angrier and more threatening each day.

This captivating story unfolds at a fast-pace. I hated having to put the book down. When I wasn't reading, I was thinking about when I could squeeze in another chapter. Not only would I highly recommend this book to my fellow readers, I would also suggest it for any teacher and/or parent hoping to get kids to enjoy reading.

♥Rachel♥ says

3.5 Stars

The Dead and Buried is one of my favorite combinations for a story: mystery, suspense and a little romance thrown in for good measure.

Jade is thrilled to be starting school where there's more than thirty students in her whole grade. Growing up she lived in a rural town, and longed to be in a big city and school. Somehow, her dream has come true. Even the house her family has moved into seems too good to be true: new, big and beautiful. When Jade receives strange looks from her classmates, she soon finds out why her parents were able to afford the big and beautiful house. Murder houses are always discounted. Jade finds out the most popular girl in school, Kayla Sloan died under suspicious circumstances, where she now lives. When her little brother, Colby starts seeing a "glimmering girl" in his room, and she is anything but Casper the friendly ghost, Jade must dig further and find out exactly what happened.

As she investigates, Jade finds out Kayla had a lot of potential enemies. She delighted in manipulating and crushing people, so there's no shortage of suspects. Among the possibilities is, Donovan. He's got eyes as striking as blue topaz and a thoughtful personality that intrigues Jade, and she's drawn to him. He provides that little bit of romance that I always crave in my reads!

Jade was an admirable and determined character. She cared more about her little brother's welfare than her own. Even though Jade never met Kayla, her presence is everywhere and still impacting lives, and not in a positive way. If you've ever seen the movie Rebecca* or read the story and enjoyed it, this will appeal to you because there's a lot of similarities. Rebecca is even mentioned as Jade's class assignment. Kayla's presence overshadows everything and everyone, even in death.

The mystery had me guessing until the very end. I had suspicions, but was a little surprised. I had goose bumps reading some of the scenes because some of them were downright creepy, and I loved those suspenseful feelings. This was a fast, addictive, and fun read. You could easily finish this in one sitting.

*As a side note, I recently read Rebecca, and I enjoyed the Hitchcock movie more. The book had me drowning in descriptions, and to me, lost some of the dramatic and suspenseful effect that the movie radiated brilliantly. Hitchcock was the man!

A copy was provided by Scholastic through Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. Thank you!

You can read this review and more at The Readers Den.

Lisbeth Avery {Domus Libri} says

*Just so everyone knows, I'm trying to limit my cursing in this review because someone *glares accusingly at that someone who knows who she is* told me that I do that too much. I'll be substituting every expletive with the name of a fruit or vegetable.*

THE DEAD AND BURIED is a book that I had really high hopes for since at that time, I seemed to think that I have pretty good luck with these sorts of books (I don't really have that good luck with mystery ghost books actually - I have no idea what I was thinking). However, THE DEAD AND BURIED really disappointed me.

The book actually started off really well, like many of the evil books do. The main character Jade was

interesting and compelling. I really liked her gemstone hobby and the fact that she knew useless things about practically every gemstone was awesome. In case you don't know, I collect useless facts so this was right up my alley.

So, I had this crazy idea that maybe, just maybe, the rest of the book might be great too.

Crazy idea, I know. I have no idea what I was thinking at the time. Obviously, not much.

The main problem I had with the book was the romance plot. It was just URGH no. Horrible. I suppose the best thing I can say about the romance was that the two loves interests weren't total mushrooms but that wasn't because they were nice and cute.

It was because they were nothing.

No, what I hated about the romance was Jade. Jade turned into a complete orange when it came to the two guys. Minor spoilers ahead but nothing major really since the whole cheating scandal is treated like it wasn't cheating at all. I'll put the summary in spoilers for those who are really don't want to be spoiled.

(view spoiler)

Ok, I've spent long enough detailing the romance. Onto the characters.

Characters

Jade started off really awesome but that awesomeness tapered until it hit rock bottom and didn't work on climbing back up - at all. After about 40%, Jade as an awesome character slipped further and further until I could barely remember that Jade was an awesome character at one point.

I've already detailed why I hate her somewhat so this will be a fairly short part but there are some other parts which made me see red.

Number one, she was hypocritical. She was saying how horrible a person Kayla the dead person was even though she copied some of those qualities in her own actions. As everyone says, actions speak louder than words. Judging everyone? Check. Cheating? Check.

The next part I hated was the slut shaming. Jade was saying how horrible it was that she slept around. It was obvious that Kayla wasn't a virgin and personally, I found Jade's words to have a minor slut-shaming feel to it.

The rest are simple, everyday YA heroine occurrence which honestly, most of you know about already and there's no reason to talk about them. Pick pretty much any of my reviews and take the qualities from there.

The other characters were unoriginal and bland. I found no personality to them and didn't hate any of them really. Just disliking. No need to cover that really.

Plot and Writing

Plot

The plot mirrored the standard plot of basically every murder paranormal mystery there is - ever.

- Girl moves into haunted house.
- Girl goes to school and everyone is like "OMG she moved into zeh haunted house".
- Girl gets scared.
- Someone (usually little sibling) gets possessed.
- Girl needs to find out who killed ghosty.
- Ouija board.
- Kissing.
- More kissing.
- OMG THAT'S WHO KILLED GIRL?

Yup. That's it. Except sometimes, this can be done really well sometimes.

THE DEAD AND BURIED was *not* one of those cases however. It was done really really badly. And the murderer exposed scene? One of the worst I've ever read. Just terrible and I can't see the person's motive. Seriously people. It's like Harrington said "Umm... we gotta wrap this up quickly so... yeah, that person works. Let's make up some random backstory to it. And we're done." I'm not even overreacting.

Writing

Not terrible, but not fantastic either. Horrible tension building and very little plot twisting. However I have to say that writing is engaging enough to keep me reading. I finished the book in one day because I just had to keep reading!

Likes and Dislikes

Liked:

- The beginning

Disliked:

- Jade
- Plot
- Writing
- Everything

In conclusion

Definite not recommend. In fact, unless you're Ade and can't resist it, don't read it.

ps I made it through a review without any cursing. *party*

Find this review and more at my blog:

Lili says

I went into this book expecting an awesome haunted house tale and instead I am disappointed to admit that all I got was a generic ghost tale that wasn't that well executed. I requested this from the publisher due to my excitement from the synopsis, but the synopsis is ten times more exciting than the actual book.

My biggest problem with the book was the writing. It was very simplistic and choppy. I was reading a middle-grade book as I read this one, and I felt like this one is better marketed as a middle-grade because the writing style was so uncomplicated. There wasn't much detail and I didn't connect to the characters at all because of this.

Our main character was dry and our ghost was a narcissistic and inconsiderate in both life and death. Originally, I thought the usage of her journal entries at the end of every chapter to help unravel the mystery was cool, but as I realized that she referred to people in a numerical code because she cared so little to use their names, I was disgusted. Sure, it was easy to put a face to a number, but it wasn't right. She's referred to as a huge bully, but she simply believes that she can do whatever she wants. The only character I liked at all was Donovan, but hey, it's hard not to love the broken soul that has to slowly get pieced back together.

Another qualm of mine was the cliches when it evolved around Jade's family. Jade's Dad remarried after her mother passed due to cancer and then they had a little baby boy that is now the family golden child. The step-mom really cares about the child, but never listens to Jade, threatens her often, and is your typical "evil" step-mother. The Father is absent most of the time on business, so this puts very little importance on the family in the book because they're rarely ever around. This cliché is like a recipe for a disaster for books. Marie, the stepmother, had so many character flaws that enraged me. As a parent, you are there for your children and you listen to their concerns as ludicrous as they seem. You don't go and suddenly hate your child because she doesn't want to call you Mom since her real mother happened to pass away. You're a nurse, Marie! Ever think that perhaps having a second Mom literally within a few short years of her real Mom's death is too much for her to handle psychologically? You're demanding and inconsiderate and I really, truly hate parents that are portrayed this way.

For a murder mystery, I didn't see any clues to the real killer either. They pretty much revealed themselves before I had any clue who it was. I wish there was more foreshadowing pointing to the proper murderer instead of a potential decoy that was entirely accidental on the murderer's part. I liked Jade's original hunch about the murderer more than the actual murderer. I understand the motive, but it's not as awesome as I would have enjoyed. When the murder mystery that makes up a murder mystery novel falls flat, you know there's something wrong.

I really have nothing else to say about this one. I managed to get through it due to curiosity, but it was an overall let-down. I don't think this review can possibly put my thoughts into words properly. I'd recommend checking out my trusted friend Krista's review here because hers portrays our similar thoughts beautifully.

Danny says

Read full Review at Bewitched Bookworms

A haunted House and a New Life

Jade moves with her family into a new house, this new life of course also comes with new interesting friends and a new town. But, Jade is excited and always wanted to live in a bigger town. Needless to say that this excitement fast vanishes when she figures out why this house was so cheap... it comes with the murdered ghost of a girl exactly of Jade's Age.. And... this ghost is so NOT a friendly one and needs Jade to find her murder....

Jade - wonderful strong, loyal and genuine

I so so so loved Jade! She was a wonderful protagonist and I feel in love so fast with her voice and characters. The way she loves her family, and especially her Dad and little brother warmed my heart! As we followed Jade on her path getting new friends she easily connected with everyone because she's just an honest and truly and perfectly nice girl who doesn't care about appearances. She befriends people because of their character and not their social status! Even when Jade made a few choices I didn't truly like, Jade never lost me as she was perfectly genuine in her character.

Donovan - arty boy of cuteness and incredible supporting characters...

I absolutely adored Donovan! He's also connected to the murder - somehow - but Jade feels drawn to this vulnerable and sensitive boy right from the beginning. And oh boy, I did too!!! I loved this broken boy and wanted to fix him just like Jade. Hug and make it all right again...

Also, nearly all supporting characters were incredibly flashed out and beautifully developed. Kim Harrington took very good care of each and every character which is always something I especially love...

Murder, Mystery, Twists and Turns

The murder mystery combined with the ghost story was thrilling, creepy and very suspenseful! I was hooked to the pages desperately wanting to know who was the murder. In between chapters were short excerpts of the ghost/girls diary with perfectly added to the suspense! There was some twist and turns I was not expecting and some I did .. a little :)

Jon says

Find this review at Scott Reads It

The Dead and Buried is a modern ghost story that I read recently. Even though I did not have high expectations for this book, I was still disappointed. My major problem is that The Dead and Buried was just way too typical. The whole entire time I kept thinking sarcastically "Haven't seen this before".

I just really wanted an awesome and original Ghost Story unlike anything I have ever read before. The Dead and Buried takes all typical ghost story elements and mixes them together unsuccessfully. Most of what I read felt like a rehash of random ghost stories and I felt extremely let down.

Jade is your typical new girl living in a new town. She makes enemies with the mean girls and she hangs out with guys she's not supposed. She even throws a party to "get in" with the popular kids. I didn't like Jade much because she was nothing special and her attempts to be popular irritated me. Hasn't she heard What's popular isn't always right?

The other characters also seemed familiar, maybe because they are the generic stock characters from YA literature. We have the jock who is really troubled and is a bit of a jerk. Also we have his nemesis the artsy guy who also has a bit of a troubled past. Did someone say love triangle? The love triangle in TDaB was nothing new to me and it really was a bore to read. Does every book have to have a love triangle?

The plot was extremely slow paced and I think certain scenes were unnecessary. Another thing that bothered me about the plot was the ghost scenes, or rather lack of. There was really only one awesome ghost scene and I wish it went on longer. Another thing was that The Dead and Buried wasn't scary at all and I expected to be scared even a bit.

Even though The Dead and The Buried was nothing new, it wasn't terrible. I wouldn't recommend this to any of my fellow Goodreaders due to it's lack of originality and slow pacing. One thing that really was the best part of the book was the ending. The ending was so much better than the entire book for some odd reason and it felt alot better written than other sections of the book. The Dead and The Buried wasn't a very good reading experience and I doubt I would read any other Kim Harrington books.

2.5 stars

Rose says

Initial reaction: Solid YA mystery with paranormal elements. I'm usually fond of ghost stories and I found something to like not only in Jade's respective journey, but also in the unfolding murder mystery that kept the ball rolling right up to the very end. There are some familiar YA elements in this, but somehow I thought they wove themselves pretty well in this when it was all said and done. I'd probably give this a solid 3.5 stars.

Full review:

Before I say anything else going into this review, you guys should know that I love ghost stories. It's one of my favorite subsections of paranormal (If it weren't enough that I'm a fan of "Ghostbusters", reading YA books like "Wait Til Helen Comes" and "Time Windows", among others. So it was a given I'd come across Kim Harrington's "The Dead and the Buried". It's my first read from her.

I'm really surprised by how much I enjoyed this book from beginning to end. I think there are parts of it that are formulaic with respect to juggling affections and some side eye glance moments. However, the mystery

in this is rather solid, and the author does a great job balancing the stakes. The story toggles between Jade, a "new girl" moving into town with her family - father, stepmother and little brother. Jade especially has a great relationship with her little brother Colby, though a rather tense relation with her stepmother.

Jade has a very interesting affinity towards gemstones. I thought that was a nice touch in the narrative for what they represented and the character's passion for them. They come in handy when Jade faces off against - well - a ghost.

The ghost isn't just any run of the mill haunting, but rather the spirit of a girl who used to attend Jade's school. It's interesting to note that the ghost used to be the ruler of the school, a subsequent mean girl who was killed. When said ghost realizes Jade can help her, she will stop at nothing to get Jade to comply in helping her find the killer. Even if that means she has to manipulate Jade's family to do it.

Harrington does a great job of having Jade pick up what pieces she can in the overarching mystery, while at the same time navigating some rough relationships in order to discover the truth. I definitely enjoyed the writing here, and found it stronger not just in the prose, but also in the flow compared to some novels of its type I've read in recent sittings. It kept me guessing throughout the narrative up until the end, and there were some points in this that were downright creepy in an awesome way. It certainly makes me want to check into more of Harrington's works in the future, and I would definitely recommend this for those who like YA ghost stories with a helping of creepy and an overall decent mystery.

Overall score: 3.5/5

Note: I received this as an ARC from NetGalley, from the publisher Scholastic.

Dianne says

She was the IT girl in school, everyone wanted to be her friend and she knew it. She was pretty, wealthy, smart, talented and everyone wanted to be close to her, but it was more out of fear than friendship. Kayla had it all on her terms and she knew it. But when she mysteriously fell down a flight of stairs and died, she became the poor girl who died, almost saint-like, and her boyfriend was suspected in her death.

Long after he was cleared, Donovan remains a pariah at school, until the new girl moves into Kayla's house. Jade had no idea the house of her dreams was the scene of a freakish death and her brother younger brother Colby insists there is a girl who talks to him and he is scared. What Jade discovers is the ghost of Kayla haunts her home and she will do anything to get rid of her. The key to getting rid of her is finding out what she wants, is it justice? Is it possible she was pushed down the stairs? If it wasn't Donovan, who was it? And WHY?

Just in time for Halloween, **The Dead and Buried** by Kim Harrington is a great young adult mystery that includes all of the angst of high school, the gossip, and the recklessness of youth as one ghost who was mean-spirited in life, has retained her evil ways even in death. Follow Jade as she defies her family and searches for the truth before Kayla can hurt her brother again.

Kim Harrington has a ghost story topped with all of the pitfalls of being a teen, definitely an interesting and very "scary" combination! A quick read, not too dark, but definitely twisted, this mystery is a killer!

I received this copy from Scholastic, Inc. in exchange for my honest review.

Publisher: Scholastic Inc. (January 1, 2013)

Publication Date: January 1, 2013

Genre: YA Murder Mystery

Print Length: 309 pages

Available from: Amazon | Barnes & Noble

For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Melanie says

See more reviews at YA Midnight Reads

I am a wuss. Lemme just tell you that before you bother to continue reading this review. The Dead and Buried isn't necessarily a spooky book, it's just it awakened my fears of everything and I started to hyperventilate. So while this could've been a one night read, it turned into two as I couldn't bare finishing it off without squealing at every creak in the floor. *shudders at the thought*

Me gusta this cover. I mean seriously, that purple and that chick there...it is so damn creepy and beautiful at the same time! Even though my favourite colour is blue, I am a big fan of purple covers as they just add a whole new level of attractiveness and tone. Hmm..maybe that's why I got my blog to have a purple theme...hmm...

The Dead and Buried was a horrific deadly ghost story that kept me clinging to my dear life each time I turned the page. Jade has just moved into a new house-- it's everything she wanted, a large, expensive looking one, a rich neighbourhood and a posh school. However, something's up, everyone is giving Jade weird glances, whispers erupt whenever she enters a room. Then the secret is out. Her house is haunted. And everyone seems to be hiding a bigger secret too, something that Jade needs to find out.

Immediately, when I started reading this purple galore, I already liked Jade. She's a little like me, head strong, impulsive and protective of her brother. (In my case sister) A very good choice of personalities for a main character, I'm so glad that Jade wasn't a shallow, naive teen!

And there, at the bottom, was what she had wanted me to find.

I closed my eyes tightly, the paper trembling in my hand. I didn't want it to be this. Anything but this.

I reopened my eyes, but the words remained the same.

Death by unnatural causes.

I was living in a murder house.

One thing that irritated me at the beginning was that we got introduced to so many people simultaneously that it began to be hard to remember and unnecessary. While it was nice to get a little bit of everyone's characteristics, some were just irrelevant. MAY CONTAIN TINY SPOILER***However, this does create more complication when I was trying to figure out who the heck was the killer. It broadened the chances of identifying the murderer and kept me second guessing. SPOILER ENDED*** It was so damn suspenseful!

I liked the plot line, it was rather simple though. I felt like Kim Harrington could've had a twist or

unexpected addition to the work, only till the last page, I realised that there wasn't. *sighs* Great attempt though, something simple but nothing too dark and twisted. Also, not too much romance drama, there is a bit, but not too much that it just dominates the novel.

Okay, something I've been trying to steer clear of showed up in this book, if you haven't guessed it already, it is....*drumroll* insta-love! *throws it angrily* I really really really really...HATE INSTA-LOVE! It is unrealistic, shallow and lacks depth! *takes a deep sigh* WHY?!?!

Overall, The Dead and Buried was a entrapping read that I recommend to people who are wusses that want to have a quick taste of spooky stories and ghosts. For the brave, this is a very light read that will keep you second guessing to the end. Deliciously intriguing and otherworldly!
