



The Beginnings

Rebecca Aaron

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Note: This is part one of a five part story.

“Something is wrong with this town...”

On the surface, Haven Park seemed to be the perfect picture of Americana. Nestled in the heart of Wyoming, its 517 residents were close knit, hard working and God fearing people. The city had never known major scandal, and the last violent crime committed was over ten years ago. Normal, right and honorable were upheld and all seemed to be quite harmonious...until the night of July 4, 1966, when the walls came closing in and the secrets could not be kept any longer.

It started with a murder. Carol Mathison, a lifelong resident and the only daughter of retired police chief Stanley Rogers, was found strangled in the park on the morning of July 5, leaving the community stunned. By all accounts, Carol was vibrant, well liked, outgoing and cheerful – making her murder all the more senseless. However, as the days drug by, more and more began to be revealed about Carol’s darker side...and the many, many people who might have wanted her dead.

The killer is closer than they know...

The Beginnings Details

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Author : Rebecca Aaron

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From Reader Review The Beginnings for online ebook

Gayla Drummond says

This is a solid, absorbing read with intriguing characters and a well-plotted mystery.

Highly recommend it.

Julia Crane says

Very interesting read. The author leads you down several roads trying to figure out who the killer is.

Jo says

I liked the story, however I would have preferred to see the characters developed within the narrative, rather than the introductions before the story began. Because these character descriptions were set apart from the content, it made it harder to remember important facts about each person because these things were taken for granted once the narrative began even though they had never been discussed in the actual story. I prefer character building within the story, rather than being told who everyone is and what they are about in a separate venue.

Jacqueline Hopkins says

Great character development by first time indie author. She weaves a story with a lot of people, their lives and events leading up to, during and after the 4th of July. I liked this book very much, it kept me interested and wanting to know what happened to certain people in the book, I came to care for some of them and not for others. This book held my interest enough to want to read the second one. Now, after having read the first two, I am anxiously waiting to know how it all ends, Lady Bex. Where is the third book?

Judith says

Peyton Place again

These characters are totally unsympathetic. I have no interest in them ,nor do I care what happens to them. The " cliffhanger"ending is so trite and unoriginal.

Debra Odom says

This is not the best book that I have ever read, but it is pretty good. It is one of those you don't know "who done it" books. And just when I thought I was going to find out, the book ends....lol

The book is 300+ pages long and Aaron does a good job of explaining who the characters are. The book begins with a murder and then backtracks in various chapters how it all happened. I downloaded this freebie from B&N and guess what I did. I downloaded book 2 and am looking forward to reading.

In the author's notes, it is mentioned that his is a 5-part series. It is going to be interesting how the reader's attention will be held through each part.

Teno Q. says

May I suggest an alternate title - *Independence Day, Book One: Marital Problems*? Because that, in my opinion, gives you a better summary of the contents.

This short novella is about the unforeseen murder of a woman named Carol. Afterwards, instead of an investigation, we're given...one hundred-plus pages with exposition about the relationship issues between the couples who were friends and relatives of Carol. A lot of arguing and yelling and angsting ensues. The murder's not actually solved at the end, unsurprising considering no clues were ever unearthed and the only detective who had any intention of looking for clues was dropped from the case because he had a conflict of interest.

Really, what is the point of this book? I got it because it was a freebie on Kindle, and obviously it's just another ruse to get people to buy the sequels. The thing is, that only works if the first book actually pulls you in and makes you want more, which this one doesn't. Not recommended.

Deann says

Very interesting and can't wait for the next part!

Deborah says

I did not realize there were five books to this story or I would not have picked it up until they were all out. *Independence Day* begins with the first murder in ten years in the town of Haven Park Wyoming, population 517 residents who are close knit, hard working and God fearing people. Carol Mathison, a lifelong resident and the only daughter of retired police chief Stanley Rogers, was found strangled in the park on the morning of July 5, leaving the community stunned. With her murder the secrets come out and this close knit community has much to hide. The mystery is well developed, and the author choose to focus more on the question of who is responsible for the murder rather than focusing on the suspense of the murder. The story is skillfully written and well-worth reading, but having only one part of the story available is more of a teaser than an actual book.

Gretchen Fatouros says

Do not even bother! Terrible waste of time!

Starts out & think maybe it is a murder mystery, but reads like a soap opera. Thought it might be good & wanted to see what happened. Well, you won't learn that in this book & when it jumped back to Christmas - 6 months earlier I was ready to just be done with this. I stayed up to finish hoping it would end with answers. Nope! Nothing!

Going to completely delete from my kindle & store.

Mel says

I gave up around page 31. I couldn't tell the characters apart and every one of them was a total mess. As far as I could tell there wasn't a single redeeming quality among them. In order for me to invest my time, I have to care about *somebody*. It wasn't happening.

Jack says

Enjoyable mystery. Though it was a bit frustrating to discover that it's book one of a story rather than a series; I was obliged to buy book 2 to see what happens next

Mike says

Overall, I liked this book and thought the interaction between characters was particularly good. This was a quick read that left me wondering what would happen next.

Tracy Walters says

I liked the premise of this story....intriguing and a bit spooky type murder mystery. The characters were all introduced at the beginning with a little blurb about each one. I found this to be problematic in the reading of the book because there were so many characters to keep track of and I had to keep going to the front of the book to figure out who was what, etc.

The book did jump around a bit and basically every single character was messed up in some way or another....more so than your average person. There was also a lot of yelling and screaming between the characters which got a bit old after awhile.

I thought it was interesting that Carol was supposed to be a sweet & well-liked gal from what the summary of the book was saying....but she was a beotch who was basically an ugly rude person....so it was interesting that people still thought highly of her and chose not to see the ugliness of her dark side.

I would like to read the second part just to see who actually got to kill Carol....it could be any one of the characters in the book....and each one would have a good point in why they did.....I just don't know if I want to wait that long for the second part to come out. Only time will tell if I will hold out.... :)

Kendra says

This was a decent book. It's strength was also its weakness - it jumped around a lot, giving it a soap opera sort of effect. However, I believe seeing what was going on from various points of view was really useful and important to the story. It also jumped around date wise. The author tried to avoid confusion by keeping dates at the beginning of each section, but I still found myself confused about what I was reading from whom and when. However, it was a pretty good book. Hated how it ended so cliff-hanger like. It really is like a soap opera.
