



# Detached

*Wendi Starusnak*

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## **Detached** Wendi Starusnak

I'm Emily Ruth Fleischer and this book written by me is the only one of its kind. I can never let anyone know the horrible things that my father did or the secrets that my family had kept hidden for years. If anyone ever found out then that would mean they would also know what I did. I'm not even sure if I have fully come to terms with all of that yet myself. But I had to get it all out of my head and write it somewhere. So here it is: the worst of what happened in my life (hopefully) and the terrible secrets that I found out in the year 1976.

## **Detached Details**

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Author : Wendi Starusnak

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# **From Reader Review Detached for online ebook**

## **Renata Ess says**

Not sure where this author came up with such horror but I couldnt put the book down - WOW!

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## **Mike Buffett says**

Wow, I'm almost finished with my cousin Wendy Starusnak's novel Detached, and I must say how much I love this book. I have read many, many books and novel, but none of the books I read have I connected to the characters like I have in detached. With every sentence, every chapter I grew closer to the main character, I felt for her, I understood her.

This book will have you crying, laughing, and at times so mad you will want to break something, but its impossible to put down, I had to set an alarm to tell me to put the book down and sleep or eat. You will be so pulled into the story that you wont be able to notice the world around you, I got so into the story when my mom said she was ordering pizza I didn't know till it got to the house, even then I didn't have some till I finished the chapter.

I can not wait until the next book, great job Wendy, I give your book 50 diamond studded gold stars for how well thought out and how well worded your book is, thank you for writing such a great story.

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## **Chandra Eastwold says**

### **Horrific but couldn't stop reading**

I read it in less than 24 hours. It was awful, sad, horrifying, but could not tear myself away. Going to buy the next book asap.

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## **Brandie Holcomb says**

Wendi, You have, by far, outdone yourself yet again. I was hooked throughout the entire book.

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## **Sandra Wells says**

### **Good story but...**

As intense as the story was it seemed like the writer ran out of steam at the ending which should have been a lot more crueler because of the way that the father acted and things that he did

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## **Nona Herrington says**

### **Gruesome**

Hard but unfortunately easy to read. On other reviews I read people said it was not believable but for me I have seen and heard many evils and can see this actually happening which makes this one book I will never read again. Its both horrifying and heart breaking. Though I can't recommend this book. The author is very talented

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## **Carol Bosselman says**

Somewhat confusing, as if written by two different people. First half I went along, enjoying it (if in a horrified way, not for the faint hearted), but then the father's evil escalates to a point where it just gets comical, and none of it shocks you anymore. The writing, which is done from a 12 year old's POV, is done well at first, but that degrades, too, as if there is a hurry to move the story along. The author mixes up the two daughters, referring to Emily as Caroline more than once, and towards the end, Emily's lack of action becomes almost boring. Overall, though, a good piece, somewhat in a VC Andrews vein (before she died and her whole family took over the writing)

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## **Jeanette says**

I would like to thank Wendi Starusnak for sending me 'Detached' which I won through Goodreads First Reads.

This is one of the best books I've read for some time and shall look forward to the next book. From the very first sentence, the book grabbed my attention. What a page turner! It is based around the Fleischer family and I felt as if I was in that house watching them all. Unlike some books being predictable, this book I never knew what was going to happen next. When you think things couldn't get worse, it did. I would certainly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a horrific story.

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## **Alexa "Naps" Snow says**

### **Abusive family never felt that real**

And scary. I spent 3 days with this book but its families abusive relationship had me begging please stop. It feels like you're there yourself and it's horrible. Horrible in a good way because this book grabs you and never lets you go. So good.

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## **Kelsey says**

An absolutely horrific story, but I couldn't stop reading it. Definitely not an easy read, so be warned before

trying to tackle it. It seems strange to give such a story 5 stars due to the tragic and harrowing contents, but it was a 'great read' (can't really think of how else to word it!)

I'm immediately going to start reading the second book.

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### **Sharon says**

E-book gifted by the author for review

Emily Ruth Fleischer is a child that has grown up with a family that loves her, but not in a way a child should be loved, Emily's family is full of secrets that can kill. Emily starts hearing a voice that she thinks is her imagination, but it is far from it. Will this be the help Emily is hoping and praying for, or will it be the final thing that pushes her over the edge into the craziness that seems to affect her parents?

The one thing that kept going through my mind when I read this story is, torment and abuse become okay when a sane mind accepts it as normal. Emily's story is not an easy read, but one that you just don't want to put down. The author is able to grab hold of the reader and draw them in so that you become a part of this family. My heart went out to these children and the abuse handed out to them by their horrid father. Their mother, unfortunately, is not much better, she seems to either not know what is going on right under her nose or she just doesn't care. But just when you thought this story could not get any more twisted, Emily finds out secrets about her family that will change the way she thinks about all of them and herself.

The only thing I would have liked to see done slightly differently is when "the voice" is talking to Emily if the was printed in a different font. At times I read it thinking it was part of Emily's story only to realise it was "the voice."

This story is not for the faint hearted or for readers that do not like reading about domestic violence/sexual abuse. However, if you like to read stories that reach in and touch your very soul then this is a book worth taking a look at.

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### **Sarah Chmielewski says**

This book is messed up to say the least. If you have a weak stomach don't read it.

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### **Pamela says**

A very morbid, shocking, chilling, and horrific tale of the goings on in the Fleischer home told from the POV of an eleven-year-old girl named Emily. Please be advised that the contents of this book are so disturbing that if you are unable to handle the subject matter of physical and/or sexual abuse, this novel is not for you.

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## **Matthew says**

### **Beyond Mental**

A very amazing book this was. The entire plot is not for the faint of heart, but if you are interested in the book do consider keeping a strong stomach.

My only complaint would be the pacing, but once I came to the end it fit the story quite well.

I recommend this book to anyone that likes a slow burn of a suspense novel with a satisfying ending.

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## **Dsjm Reviews says**

Reviewed by Jetana Mutter

\*This book was provided for an honest review

The world can be an undeniably horrific place when it wants to be- using people as the real life demons they portray themselves as. Everyone is capable of committing good and bad; for every light there is a darkness. The unfortunate truth is that some people allow the darkness to take over them- feeding on the fear and power they get from their victims. Abuse can happen at any time, to any person... there is no certain 'thing' a person has that will make them a victim other than being in the wrong place at the wrong time. A victim of abuse should never accept that they are the ones that caused it to happen, but most eventually do accept this as a reality because sometimes, it's easier to believe the lie.

Detached is centered on our main character, Emily, who lives on a farm with her mother, father, two brothers and a younger sister. None of the Fleischer children go to school- they are home schooled and learn about real world issues like how to tend to the farm and how to pay bills. Never having friends around makes Emily lonely and long for more freedom to be a normal child, even if it's as mundane as going to school. She doesn't know of family outside of the house since nobody talks about them; but some secrets are best kept from family, especially when it's family that the secret is about. Emily longs for the day when she can be away from her daddy who hits everyone in the house, and she longs even more for the nights her daddy leaves her alone. One night, it is taken too far and something seems to snap inside of John Fleischer, forever altering the course that Emily and the rest of her family is on. Can Emily escape her personal hell or will she detach herself from reality irreversibly?

Wendi Starusnak boldly goes out in Detached, talking about issues that happen every day with no talk about it. We all know that domestic abuse exists in many forms, and that it does not only affect women- it can affect children and men too- but it isn't something that is widely acknowledged. More than physical, sexual abuse can be just as damaging or more so- especially when it happens to a child. While not too graphic in description, the fact that it is in the story can make this disturbing for people; there were a couple of times I wanted to put down the book but I didn't, I kept going to see how Emily's fate turned out. Everyone should read this, if only to learn the devastating effects abuse can have on a person's psyche.

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