

The background features a complex network of white nodes and lines, resembling a constellation or a data network. The nodes are connected by thin white lines, forming various geometric shapes and patterns. The background color transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. There are also several small, scattered white dots throughout the image.

A Family of Strangers

Written by Emilie Richards

Published by griefconvention

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A Family of Strangers

By Emilie Richards

A Family Of Trees Wanting To Be Haunted

Could a lifetime of memories...be a lifetime of lies?

A Family Of 5

All her life Ryan Gracey watched her perfect older sister from afar. Knowing she could never top Wendy's achievements, she didn't even try. Instead Ryan forged her own path while her family barely seemed to notice.

A Family Of Four

Now Wendy shares two little girls with her perfect husband while Ryan mourns the man she lost after a nearly fatal mistake in judgment. The sisters' choices have taken them in different directions, which is why Ryan is stunned when Wendy calls, begging for her help. There's been a murder--and Wendy believes she'll be wrongfully accused.

A Family Of Ohs

While Wendy lies low, Ryan moves back to their hometown to care for the nieces she hardly knows. The sleuthing skills she's refined as a true-crime podcaster quickly rise to the surface as she digs for answers with the help of an unexpected ally. Yet the trail of clues Wendy's left behind lead to nothing but questions. Blood may be thicker than water, but what does Ryan owe a sister who, with every revelation, becomes more and more a stranger?

A Family Of Orientation Is Best Defined As

Is Wendy, who always seemed so perfect, just a perfect liar--or worse?

I have read all of Emilie Richards books and even though this is a slight change from her normal genre, it's fantastic and my favorite of all of her books. Her past books have been women's fiction but her new book has a central mystery that keeps you guessing until the end.

Though Ryan and Wendy are sisters, they were never close because there were so many years between them. Wendy was ready to start college when Ryan was born. Wendy was a successful business woman who helped her dad run the fami I have read all of Emilie Richards books and even though this is a slight change from her normal genre, it's fantastic and my favorite of all of her books. Her past books have been women's fiction but her new book has a central mystery that keeps you guessing until the end.

Though Ryan and Wendy are sisters, they were never close because there were so many years between them. Wendy was ready to start college when Ryan was born. Wendy was a successful business woman who helped her dad run the family business. She was married to a military person who was gone for long periods of time in submarines and they had 2 young daughters. Ryan had a successful podcast about cold cases. Out of the blue, Wendy calls Ryan and says she can't come home because she may be accused of a murder and asks Ryan to move into her home (4 hours away) and take care of her daughters until she can get home. That is all she tells her! Ryan has to try to keep the truth from her mother and her father who is recovering from a heart attack without worrying them. The two little girls are not overly friendly to Ryan and as she tries to win them over, she is spending most of her time trying to figure out what is really going on with her sister. The more she learns, the stranger things get! Blood may be thicker than water, but what does Ryan owe a sister who, with every revelation, becomes more and more a stranger?

This is an excellent family drama with a central mystery that affects the entire family. Even though Ryan is the sister who didn't feel like she was part of the family, she stepped up when she was asked for help from her sister. I thought that she was a very strong and resilient character who went well beyond to help her family. I enjoyed her scenes with her nieces as she tried to pull them out of their shells. There is also some romance for Ryan when she meets up with her old boyfriend. This is a wonderful story about love and family and how far people will go to protect the ones they love.

Thanks to the author for a copy of this book to read and review. All opinions are my own. ...more

A Family Of Strangers

Deep story with many emotions misunderstood, ever changing and some of the most honest writing I've come to expect with Richards.

A Family of Strangers by Emilie Richards

Pub date: June 25,2019

Mira - Harlequin

Fiction

Rating: 4/5

I received a digital copy of this ARC from NetGalley and Mira/Harlequin in exchange for an unbiased review.

3-1/2 stars I rounded up to 4, the writing and story structure were solid although somewhat wordy at times. Parts of the story seemed to drag before it all pulled together.

It can be lonely to feel like the odd one in your family. Sometimes difficult to grasp that your somehow don't fit it. You A Family of Strangers by Emilie Richards

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It can be lonely to feel like the odd one in your family. Sometimes difficult to grasp that your somehow don't fit it. You can be made to feel like a stranger in your own family.

Ryan Rose Gracey lives in a duplex in Del Ray, Florida managed by the Gracey Group where she produces a podcast series called, Out in the Cold, based on investigations into unsolved crimes. She had started her career as an intern working for the Seabank Free Press doing an investigation following the murder of Becky Drake. It was a frightening confrontation with the alleged murderer, John Quayle, that motivated her move 4 hours away from her hometown.

A Family of Strangers

She maintains an awkward relationship with her family which seems to suit her until she receives a disturbing phone call from her older sister, Wendy. Ryan had never felt close to her family especially her sister given her earliest memory was receiving an alligator nightlight when she was 4 years old. Wendy was living at college and eventually married Bryce Cartwright and settled in Connecticut when Ryan was a child.

Wendy calls Ryan asking her to resume care of her daughters, Holly and Noelle, who are being cared for by their parents. Wendy has been working to eventually take over the family real estate investment firm when her father needed open heart surgery.

She happened to be "waiting out a situation" while her husband, a Naval Officer, worked on a secured submarine and unable to fly home. Their mother, Arlie, was a nervous wreck after Dayle's surgery and caring for two young kids so Wendy begged for Ryan's help.

This was the first time her family seemed to reach out to her for assistance so she packed up and drove to the Gulf Sands gated community in which her parents lived. Ryan would soon learn more about her family and secrets that lay hidden for years as well as new ones which seem to be preventing her sister from coming home. With the help of her podcast co-producer and administrative research assistant, Sophie, she begins to unravel more than just cold cases for their new podcast season. Soon, Ryan reunites with Mateo "Teo" Santiago who was the K9 officer and his dog, Bismarck, who saved her life back when she an intern. She was hopeful to resolve the pains and guilt from the past.

This story explores a complicated family who chose avoidance as a manner of coping with difficult situations. Avoidance and denial have never made reality cease to exist or for the truth to be ultimately unfurled. When does family loyalty cross the line into protecting a criminal? How does one come to terms with the reality of who people are and not what we want them to be? ...more

A Family Of Mutual Funds Is

If you love a good mystery then this is the book to read! I was enthralled right from the start and couldn't put the book down! Emilie Richards is a new to me author. So I didn't know what to expect going in. I've found she sure knows how to tell a nail-biting, gripping story.

The main character Ryan Rose is making a name for herself as a producer and host of a pod cast series that delves into unsolved cold cases. In the midst of celebrating the show's success Ryan receives a phone call from her sister that will change her life and begin our adventure.

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"I'm not coming home. I can't, and I don't know when I'll be able to. I need you to go to Seabank and take care of the girls until things clear up for me."

Not able to turn her sister down, Ryan returns to Seabank, the very place she never wanted to return. Having left there immediately after the "incident" she makes the return trip with serious trepidation. As Ryan begins caring for her sister's emotionless, step-ford-like daughters she also puts to use her sleuth skills and her connections to find out what is going on with her sister. Each new day unfolds new information, but that only leads to more questions. Each however, reveals new twists to the story that keeps the reader on edge. As time goes Ryan unearths some shocking details, details that surprisingly involve Ryan herself.

While working desperately to solve the mystery behind her sister's disappearance Ryan slowly builds a relationship with her nieces. This is truly an emotional journey itself. But the author doesn't stop there, nope! She also throws in a re-connection with an old flame and of course there are unresolved issues to fix. And before our mystery is solved we finally discover what the "incident" is and how that all comes to a head.

WOW! This is seriously a plot packed story! I recommend this thoroughly engaging, enjoyable, I've chewed my nails to bits story!

I read an ARC of this story via Netgalley. My honest and fair review is voluntary. ...more

This is the first book I've read by Emilie Richards and I really enjoyed it. I thought it crossed several genres, such as women's and contemporary fiction, romance, mystery and a bit of suspense. I spent most of my time reading this poolside, so I'm recommending this as great summer read.

The story is about the relationship between two sisters, Ryan and Wendy. Ryan is quite a bit younger than Wendy and has grown up thinking she is the perfect older sister. Due to the age difference, Ryan doesn't know Wendy as well as most siblings know each other. This is the first book I've read by Emilie Richards and I really enjoyed it. I thought it crossed several genres, such as women's and contemporary fiction, romance, mystery and a bit of suspense. I spent most of my time reading this poolside, so I'm recommending this as great summer read.

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When Wendy unexpectedly calls Ryan asking for help with a big problem, Ryan doesn't hesitate. Ryan produces a podcast on unsolved crimes and between her and her staff members, they have the skills to try and help with Wendy's problem.

In the meantime, Ryan is back in her old hometown where some major life events occurred for both sisters. As Ryan tries to get the bottom of what is going on with Wendy, she discovers quite a treasure trove of old secrets that will ultimately change everything about her opinion of Wendy.

I enjoyed trying to guess at all the secrets. Some I predicted but others were not so easy and it was fun following along with Ryan as she discovered all the clues to revealing what Wendy's life was like. Also, I especially loved the addition of the police dog, Biz.

Many thanks to NetGalley and Harlequin-Mira for allowing me to read an advance copy and give my honest review. ...more

A Family Of Cops

This is not your normal Emilie Richards book. If you only read her writing for the feel good, uplifting type of story, this may not be for you. If you want an intriguing story that is different than her norm and are open to a mystery of sorts, you won't regret reading this book. Although at times the description at the beginning of the book didn't really hold my attention, as the book continued I found myself unable to put it down!

Ryan is a woman with a tough past. The attack that almost kills her causes her to lose the man she loves when she leaves at his command. Now she's come back to help her sister. A sister she soon discovers isn't who she thought she was. Ryan's history with a job involving a true crime podcast gives her the perfect tools to dig into her sister's problems involving a murder. She's also thrown into caring for her sister's children and has a steep learning curve to conquer. Asking for her ex-boyfriend's help isn't easy, but necessary when she is attacked by a man once more.

This is a story of perceptions. It's a story of how someone in a family can be someone totally different than the persona they allow everyone else to see. It's a story of hidden truths and false fronts. It's also a story of how a woman can have certain beliefs about herself and then discover that she wants something totally different than the life she has been leading. It's a story of renewed love that overcomes huge obstacles. It's a story of morals and doing what's right...even if it hurts you and the ones you love.

Yes, there's a lot going on in this story, but the weaving of everything was superb. A wonderful story of second chances...and paying the price for what you've done. ...more

A Family of Strangers is a women's fiction novel with a hint of family suspense/drama.

This story barely held my interest to be honest. It was so wordy and wayyyy to drawn out. It was too long and could have been 75-100 pages less.

Family secrets and family relationships are at the core of this novel. There again was just too much going on in this novel and caught myself rolling my eyes wondering where the story was going. It didn't have enough punch to the max in this story. I was bored and wonde

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A Family of Strangers

going on in this novel and caught myself rolling my eyes wondering where the story was going. It didn't have enough punch to the max in this story. I was bored and wondering is the end yet? Which is never a good sign in my book.

I feel like I've been running across to many books that are too wordy and wayyyy to long.

It didn't hold my interest... but give it a try this may be enjoyable for you! :)

Overall, 2.5 stars for me on this one.

Thank you to Harlequin/Mira and Netgalley for the arc in exchange for an honest review.

Publication date: 6/25/19

Published to Goodreads: 4/21/19 ...more

A Family Of Faith

“A Family of Strangers” was a story that had a lot going on in it. The twists and turns really took me by surprise. I went through many emotions while reading about Ryan Gracey’s adventure into figuring out what is going on with her sister, Wendy, and in their family dynamics which is full of complicated issues. The authors writing style flowed well.

Altogether a story with mystery, family loyalties, humor, family secrets...a little of everything to keep you wanting to read to the last pages.

“A Family of Strangers” was a story that had a lot going on in it. The twists and turns really took me by surprise. I went through many emotions while reading about Ryan Gracey’s adventure into figuring out what is going on with her sister, Wendy, and in their family dynamics which is full of complicated issues. The authors writing style flowed well.

Altogether a story with mystery, family loyalties, humor, family secrets...a little of everything to keep you wanting to read to the last pages.

I received this book from NetGallery in exchange for a honest review. ...more

This is a wonderfully written story that is so good I ignored everything else going on so I could read. If you're interested enough to read this book, don't read reviews that might have any spoilers in it. The impact of what the story turns out to be is greater when you don't suspect a thing. The characters are skillfully crafted and believable. The plot gave away nothing about what was coming next. There was no hesitation giving it a five star rating.

A Family Of Trees Falling

A Family of Strangers by Emilie Richards. Family relationship drama between sisters. A bit of mystery and an abundance of descriptive writing. All together an entertaining read.

Thank you to the publisher, author, and NetGalley for the opportunity to preview the book.

Emilie Richards is hands down one of my top 10 favorite authors. I have read every book she has written and I wait on the edge of my seat for her next book. This book was even better than her last few. A moving and brilliantly written book.. She writes so well with such realistic thoughts and feelings from her characters. There are so many different threads from these characters that it's hard to put the book down. I know when I pick up one of these books I better have nothing pressing to do, I Emilie Richards is hands down one of my top 10 favorite authors. I have read every book she has written and I wait on the edge of my seat for her next book. This book was even better than her last few. A moving and brilliantly written book.. She writes so well with such realistic thoughts and feelings from her characters. There are so many different threads from these characters that it's hard to put the book down. I know when I pick up one of these books I better have nothing pressing to do, I am going to be sitting until the book is done. Thank you for many hours of entertainment and sometimes a little vacation from true life!
...more