

The background features a complex network of white circular nodes connected by thin purple lines. The nodes are scattered across the frame, with some forming distinct geometric shapes like triangles and quadrilaterals. The overall aesthetic is modern and digital, set against a gradient background that transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom.

The Last House Guest

Written by Megan Miranda

Published by griefconvention

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The Last House Guest

By Megan Miranda

The Last House On The Left

“Once again, Megan Miranda has crafted the perfect summer thriller. *The Last House Guest* is twisty and tense, with a pace that made my heart race. An edge-of-your-seat, up-all-night read.”
—Riley Sager, New York Times bestselling author of *The Last Time I Lied*

The Last House On The Left Cast

“No one can be trusted in the latest chilling thriller from master of suspense, Megan Miranda. The Last House Guest is a lightning-fast mystery, full of menace and unexpected twists and turns that will have readers on the edge of their seats. A riveting read!” Mary Kubica, New York Times bestselling author of The Good Girl

The Last House On The Left 1972

“This searing small-town...explores the complexities of female friendship and the picturesque fictions that money can buy. Miranda delivers a clever, stylish mystery that will seize readers like a riptide.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review)

The Last House Guest

Littleport, Maine, has always felt like two separate towns: an ideal vacation enclave for the wealthy, whose summer homes line the coastline; and a simple harbor community for the year-round residents whose livelihoods rely on service to the visitors.

The Last House On The Left Trailer

Typically, fierce friendships never develop between a local and a summer girl—but that’s just what happens with visitor Sadie Loman and Littleport resident Avery Greer. Each summer for almost a decade, the girls are inseparable—until Sadie is found dead. While the police rule the death a suicide, Avery can’t help but feel there are those in the community, including a local detective and Sadie’s brother, Parker, who blame her. Someone knows more than they’re saying, and Avery is intent on clearing her name, before the facts get twisted against her.

The Last House On The Left Full Movie

Another thrilling novel from the bestselling author of *All the Missing Girls* and *The Perfect Stranger*, Megan Miranda's *The Last House Guest* is a smart, twisty read with a strong female protagonist determined to make her own way in the world.

I've known enough of loss to accept that grief may lose its sharpness with time, but memory only tightens. Moments replay.

A few years back, Megan Miranda's story told in reverse, *All the Missing Girls*, found me so impressed I scrambled to secure a treasured copy of my very own. Meaning, I went out of my way to track down a personalized signed copy from one of her book tour stops. That hardcover now owns a rare piece of real-estate among my collection of greats. I only mention this tidbit because I've known enough of loss to accept that grief may lose its sharpness with time, but memory only tightens. Moments replay.

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With two of Miranda's releases since *ATMG*, *The Perfect Stranger* and now *The Last House Guest*, I've gone in hoping she would somehow emulate my initial experience with her storytelling. That the literary journey I was preparing to embark on would prove to be something other than typical. Maybe even memorable. Now, after two bouts of mediocre reading, it's clear that's probably never going to happen. My reasoning behind that thought: (1) it's a very real possibility that I built *ATMG* up to be something more than it actually was, (2) my pickiness is at an all-time high as of late, and (3) chances are my newly acquired skepticism won't allow me to give her work another shot.

In all fairness, *The Last House Guest* starts off with immense promise. Miranda builds anticipation with her writing wizardry, piecing together thoughts and passages in an interesting way. Attention-grabbing some might even say. Although, I have to admit, the more pages I turned, the more my interest dwindled. The blah happenings, uninspired cast, and messy timeline worked against the author's style, muting the overall impact of her sentence structures.

And that right there—the blah—is my biggest gripe with this novel. The author relies heavily on her scattered timeline to put a “fresh” spin on what becomes a tired narrative running rampant through the genre. Unfortunately, it's not only the mystery itself that's less than impressive, but also the cast Miranda employs to tell it. Talk about an undeserving bunch. There's no depth or redeeming qualities to cling to. Not one single person—over the course of 341 pages—convinced me

The Last House Guest

to care.

Turns out, for this reader, the best part of the entire book was the setting. *The Last House Guest* welcomes readers to a picturesque town along the coast of Maine—a harbor community that thrives from Memorial to Labor Day. And for those locals and visitors lucky enough to garner an invite, the Plus-One party promises the perfect boozy salute to the summer season.

Miranda deploys the old “time has passed since the death of [insert person here], let's take a fresh look and see if we can figure out what really happened, eh?” scenario. This particular case involving the poor townie and reformed bad girl, Avery, trying her hand at detective work. Piecing together memories of that fateful night her seasonal rich girl “bestie” failed to make it to the Plus-One party. Choosing to forgo the celebration, Sadie says goodbye to the world along a rocky shore. As the one year anniversary beckons, nagging thoughts force Avery to think twice about the suicide label attached to Sadie's demise.

The run-of-the-mill plot helped along by a series of coincidences, resurfacing memories, and an oddball interaction or two. And the ending, not completely obvious or horrible, per se. I'd go with unremarkable instead.

*Thanks to Simon & Schuster for providing an advanced copy. ...more

The Last House On Mulholland

Please take my review with a grain of salt, as I have many friends who have loved this in the range of 4-5 stars, but *The Last House Guest* fell short of the mark for me. Awhile back, I fell head over heels for Miranda's *All the Missing Girls*; the reverse narration and plot resolution have stuck with me for YEARS now, which is a rarity due to the many books juggling for attention in my dwindling memory space. It could be that I've simply consumed so many psychological thrillers that read in a similar manner with a similar follow through, or it could be that my connection to *ATMG* was a one and done deal, but I've juggled my expectations and struggled with each adult novel the author has released since my first love affair with her writing.

I don't want to ramble, or repost the synopsis here for you, so I'll keep this brief in saying that there's not really anything wrong with this book, it just wasn't attention grabbing. In a vast sea of psych thrillers, domestic suspense, and female driven mysteries, I'm already finding myself grasping to remember the plot, as I'm either confusing it with other stories I've recently read or just didn't find it compelling enough to remember in its detailed entirety. I still don't regret reading it, as the ending was a step up from many of the novels I've read lately in this genre, and the brevity in length made it a fast novel to devour, so I think I'll sign off by recommending *The Last House Guest* to those looking for a breezy summer suspenseful tale, as they will enjoy this one more than I did.

*Many thanks to the publisher for providing my review copy. ...more

3.25 Stars* (rounded down).

Twisty and Turny!

Sadie Loman and Avery Greer had been best friends for years when Sadie's body was found the night after a party. Police suspected that she took her own life, though Avery never believed it.

Now, a year later, Avery has decided to search for clues to prove that someone murdered her best friend.

Told in two timelines, the night of the party, and the summer after, the suspects are those who attended the party. Everyone who went had something to hide and 3.25 Stars* (rounded down).

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Told in two timelines, the night of the party, and the summer after, the suspects are those who attended the party. Everyone who went had something to hide and you know what they say about secrets!

"The Last House Guest" is full of mystery, a web of lies and twists and turns galore. Unfortunately for me, this is a novel in which there was simply way too much going on and sometimes, less is more. That being said, this was a quick easy read which kept my interest from the get go. Having read all of Megan Miranda's novels to date, "All the Missing Girls" is still my favorite. I am however a huge fan and can't wait to see what Ms. Miranda comes up with next!

This was another fabulous buddy read with Ms. Kacey!

Thank you to Edelweiss and NetGalley, Simon and Schuster and Megan Miranda for an arc of this novel in exchange for an honest review.

Published on Edelweiss, NetGalley and Goodreads on 4.24.19.

Will be published on Amazon on 6.18.19

...more

The Last House On The Right

This is another book that had a very interesting premise and started off great. A young woman, Sadie has been found dead. It's ruled a suicide but there are those in town who blame Sadie's longtime friend, Avery. For me, this sounded great.

But it didn't deliver on the "wow" factor I was looking for. As Avery tries to find out the truth, we learn there is more to each character than meets the eye. Secrets are the name of the game here. Many characters have them but has the most revealing one?

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This could have been a much juicier tale in my opinion. It was good but not great. Maybe it was me having high hopes for this one but at times, I found my attention dragging. Plus, I wish the chapters headers would have been clearer. Overall, a good book surrounding the mystery of what happened to Sadie - was it really a suicide, was it murder, was it an accident?

There were quite a few reveals at the end which helped my enjoyment, but will I remember this book in months to come? Probably not. But this could be a case of it was me and not the book. I still look forward to reading books by this author in the future. Again, this was enjoyable but I just wanted a little bit more from this one. More excitement, more likability of the characters, more oomph in the middle to keep my attention.

Thank you to Simon & Schuster and NetGalley for providing me with a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. All the thoughts and opinions expressed in this review are my own. ...more

3.5 stars, rounded up

The Last House Guest deals with the haves and the have nots, the folks who spend a summer and the year round residents, the vacationers and the workers. Usually the two sides stay separate. Avery is a resident, but she becomes a summer friend with Sadie Logan, the daughter of one of the richest summer families in Littleport. At the end of summer, Sadie is found dead. Ruled a suicide, but later events have Avery doubting that conclusion.

The story is told from Avery's viewpoint 3.5 stars, rounded up

The Last House Guest

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The story is told from Avery's viewpoint, from the summer of Sadie's death and the summer after. Reading an advance copy, I couldn't understand why there would be chapter dividers just labeled Summer without specifying which summer. It wasn't until I looked at the table of contents that I saw the ToC did label them. Small glitch but it affected my reading pleasure. I'm wondering now if I would have rated the book higher if I hadn't had this annoyance as it often took me a page or so to make sure I knew which time period was being evoked.

And I can't say that any of the characters interested me. Avery almost seems a caricature - no family, reliant on the Lomans, some mix of family friend and employee. I feel like I've seen this done one too many times. Sadie is the rich girl rebel; her brother Parker, a ladies' man and bad boy.

As is always the case with these kind of mysteries, secrets are revealed and things aren't as they first appeared. The book maintains a good pace. I didn't see the twists coming and appreciated how it all played out. So kudos to Miranda for a strong ending.

My thanks to netgalley and Simon & Schuster for an advance copy of this book. ...more

The Last House In The Woods

Sometimes you will never know the answer quite yet in life. But it's there. It's hidden behind labels of regret and remorse.

Avery Greer deals with the stackable problems in her everyday life. She's the caretaker of a sprawling series of summer cottages in the resort town of Littleport, Maine. It's Avery who must check and double check the rentals. Satisfaction isn't always guaranteed.

Avery is familiar with the rocky cliffs and staggered beaches. She was raised by her grandmother just around the bend. Sometimes you will never know the answer quite yet in life. But it's there. It's hidden behind labels of regret and remorse.

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Avery is familiar with the rocky cliffs and staggered beaches. She was raised by her grandmother just around the bend after both her parents died. The wealthy owners of the summer rentals, Grant and Bianca Loman, bought out her grandmother's house after she passed. They recognized Avery's talent and hired her for the rentals.

But this agreement took a turn from the professional to the personal. Avery Greer and Sadie Loman became fast friends.....best friends actually. The girls were complete opposites. Avery was more withdrawn and unsure of herself while Sadie never passed up a party or a challenge. After all, Sadie had the feathered wings of living the high life in "the big house" up the hill. Yet, both girls were capable of keeping secrets from one another. Big secrets.

Megan Miranda will flip this story back and forth from Summer 2017 and Summer 2018. In 2017 Avery is setting up the last hurrah of a party for their beachy friends just before Labor Day in one of the cottages. It's been an annual celebration and never missed. She keeps texting Sadie who never answers with good reason. Sadie's body is found later by the police at the bottom of the cliff. Her strappy sandals were set to the side above. From all indications, it looks to be a suicide.

But as the one year anniversary of Sadie's death approaches, Avery isn't buying it. Sadie would never take her own life. Armed with too few clues, Avery is searching for answers. But her search may turn up more than she bargained for on those sandy beaches.

Megan Miranda is a sure bet for a high interest read. I loved *The Missing Girls* and *The Perfect Stranger*. She does it again in this one, but it's a steady simmer of events. Avery will peel back a series of unexpected actions that indicate that there's more to this death than originally thought. A clever read

The Last House Guest

with some puzzling moments.

I received a copy of The Last House Guest through Simon & Schuster. My thanks to them and to Megan Miranda for the opportunity. ...more

Dull and Dreary

The Last House Guest is a slow-burn mystery about a girl from the wrong side of the tracks whose world is shattered when her best friend is found dead of an apparent suicide.

Littleport, Maine is a town built on a class divide between the townies and wealthy vacationers. After a rich girl kills herself, her best friend begins to question the events that led up to the suicide. Alternating timelines from the past and present lead to secrets being unearthed.

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Littleport, Maine is a town built on a class divide between the townies and wealthy vacationers. After a rich girl kills herself, her best friend begins to question the events that led up to the suicide. Alternating timelines from the past and present lead to secrets being unearthed.

I had such high hopes for this book--I knew going in it wasn't going to be All the Missing Girls and I tried to lower my expectations but I apparently didn't lower them enough.

My issues started right off the bat when just couldn't connect with Avery, who is the narrator of The Last House Guest. I actually pushed this book to the side and started reading another. When I came back to it the second time around, I actually liked it more than when I initially started reading it. I slowly started to connect with the narrative but I was never able to fully immerse myself in the world of Littleport.

The Last House Guest is lacking in tension, suspense, drama, finesse, and depth. I needed more--I was expecting more. However, this is not a total failure. The foundation is there, but overall it felt incomplete. There are times when the mystery is intriguing and some of the revelations about Avery's past made me want to know more about Avery in the present. At the same time, I was never able to get fully pulled into the story. I didn't care enough about the characters, but I did care enough to finish the book and see how things would play out. It got better towards the end, but then it all crashed and burned once again in the final pages.

I received an ARC of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. ...more