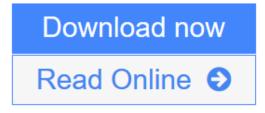


Where Secrets Sleep

Marta Perry



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Where Secrets Sleep Marta Perry In Amish country, not everything is as simple as it appears...

After suffering a terrible betrayal, Allison Standish flees Philadelphia for the small Amish village of Laurel Ridge. There, she comes into an unexpected inheritance—her late grandmother bequeathed her a mansion housing various shops. Allison intends to sell Blackburn House, until one of her tenants, single father Nick Whiting, challenges everything she believes about her estranged grandmother and the Amish community, and she decides to stay—temporarily.

Soon, strange stipulations in her grandmother's will bring to Allison's door distant relatives and seething townsfolk who think Blackburn House shouldn't belong to an outsider. As anonymous threats escalate, Nick is protective of Allison, and she finds herself falling for the handsome carpenter. But when she discovers her grandmother's death may not have been accidental, Allison must face the truth that someone wants her gone...permanently.

Where Secrets Sleep Details

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From Reader Review Where Secrets Sleep for online ebook

Tina Watson says

I have to say that when I was reading the book's description that I thought the main character, Allison Standish, was from an Amish family, but she's not. Allison Standish is young English woman (non Amish) that inherits a mansion housing various shops on Main Street of Laurel Ridge, which is a small Amish community that co-exists with English residents, from her estranged grandmother.

Allison learns a lot about herself while in Laurel Ridge, along with who her grandmother was as a person. But when something strange happens and the force of selling the Blackburn House, she starts having more questions than answers.

Does Allison make the right decision for herself and for the tenants of Blackburn House? "Where Secrets Sleep" which is where actually? You'll have to read Where Secrets Sleep to find out!

Marta Perry did an excellent job researching for this book for it pays off while us, readers, read Where Secrets Sleep. I was on the edge of my seat while reading and I had no problems following along with the story's content. I did not want Where Secrets Sleep to end. I can not WAIT to read the next book in the series, When Secrets Strike.

I received a free copy of this book through NetGalley for an honest review. No money was exchanged. This is my honest review in my own words.

Susan says

The characters were amazing and I'm looking forward to seeing them again in the next book in this series. The villain was a complete surprise. A wonderful, clean, romantic suspense. There was even a cat, Amish and a quilt shop. Some of my very favorite parts of stories.

Bunny says

I enjoyed this book so much. It was a first time read by this author, and I didn't want to put this book down. It had mystery, relationships, family gatherings, and was written in a way that you couldn't wait to find out what happens next. I will read more of her books, and if I like them as much as I did this one, she will be a favorite author.

Wendy says

Kinda different ... there was two times that info was given that I thought was a hint as to who dunnit ... but nothing was ever said about it again ! So ... why did we care if the elevator was not working at 100% and how did her cat get home ? Hmmmm ... unsolved mysteries . Oh well .

Alyssa White says

I'm really glad I picked up this book, it was a wonderful read. I was quite curious to see where it was going to go because it had so many different angles to it, but it was good. I am going to be getting the rest of the books in this collection for sure.

Karyn Niedert says

"Where Secrets Sleep" was an extremely enjoyable book with plenty of twists and turns to keep a reader involved with the story. I enjoyed how Perry allowed the relationship between Allison and Nick to develop, with both of them having time to come to terms with their fears. It was particularly heartwarming to read about young Jamie and his little boy charms, seeming to sweep Allison off her feet as much as Nick did!

So glad I had the opportunity to read this story, and am hoping for a follow up that involves Sarah with a chance for romance with Aaron King.

Tremendous thanks to Netgalley for providing me with an ARC.

Rita Caldwell says

I have found another fantastic fiction author, Marta Perry!!!! This book kept me so enthralled during two days of being sick and I think she helped me get through two more days of a bronchial/sinus ordeal. Mystery, romance, families, greed, murder this book has it all!!!

TJ Fox says

I really wasn't jazzed by this book. While the basic story with regards to the mystery/suspense part of the book was pretty well done, it totally lacked the support of the romance aspect of it. That came across as something of an afterthought on the author's part. You would be reading along and getting into the story and then it was as if the author remembered that this was also supposed to be a romance and threw those characters together for a brief moment before getting back to business.

I don't need a book to have loads of steamy for me to classify it as a romance, but you absolutely need more

personal interaction than a few tiny kisses here and there for me to believe the emotion behind a relationship. You definitely need more than a few hours together over a few weeks for me to believe that your characters are deeply, emotionally connected to each other no matter what else may be going on in the story. Heck, even if those personal interactions are just conversations and time spent doing anything together, it works way better than the effort that was put into this.

I used to really love the mystery genre, but I haven't been all that interested lately. I picked this up because I wanted something different for a change. The potential for a good mystery romance seemed to be just want I was looking for. Since the romance totally fell flat for me, I hoped I'd get a lot more out of the mystery aspect of the story. While it was decent, it wasn't awesome and definitely didn't make up for the missing romance. Besides, there are only so many times when the bad guy spills his guts at the end to wrap everything up nicely in a bow before it becomes a cookie cutter ending to a mystery and leaves the reader half expecting to here "... darn meddling kids!"

Joleen says

Rats! Another time I thought the book was Christian Fiction and it wasn't. Ah well. It was a pretty good book, just dragged on a lot.

One thing I enjoyed about this book is that it wasn't an Amish book, but there was an Amish woman who owned a quilting shop in the building the main character just inherited. This woman, through conversations with Allison explained things about the Amish people I'd never heard explained in Amish books... at least not to my satisfaction. Things like why they don't have electrical wires attached to their homes. They have electricity in the form of generators and batteries, and gas lights, but they are not allowed to go on the city grid. Also, I learned about their aversion to pictures of them and modern gadgets like computers.

Good book.

Clare O'Beara says

A young woman quits her interior design job after finding her lady boss getting comfortable with her boyfriend. She takes her cat and heads to a large town house in Lancaster County, which she recently inherited.

The girl has not been close to this side of her family, after her father left her mother years ago. Her expectation - and everyone else's - is that she will sell the Italianate premises. There is a cabinet maker's on the ground floor at the back, a quilting shop in the front and a small bookstore too. All the proprietors are worried about their leases. Another relative has already made a bid to buy the house. But the lawyers explain that in order for the title to pass, the new owner must run the premises as a going concern for a year.

Then the prowler who has been seen around town shows up, and accidents start to happen. Does someone have a reason to scare away the newcomer, and how far are they prepared to go? And whom can she trust?

This is an unusual romantic suspense story, set in Amish country but involving a mix of Amish and Englisch

people. The descriptions are great and suspects abound. I loved this read and recommend it to fans of light crime or romance equally. It's a clean read, suitable for young adults or adults.

Jess Lawson says

I haven't read a lot of Perry's work previously but I will be reading more. Allison and Nick had a great story to tell. I loved watching the secrets unfold in this small town. The suspense was intense and kept me wondering who the evil person tormenting this poor town was. I have to say it actually took me a little by surprise. I expected someone else. I loved Sarah and hope one day she will get her own story! If you want some suspense, small town life, and family issues this book is definitely for you!

Danielle Gonzalez says

This wasn't bad... it's a romantic mystery that takes place in a small Amish extown. I thought it would have more Amish characters than it did. But, that said, it was still a good read and the characters were still interesting.

Susan says

WHERE SECRETS SLEEP is a mystery of who done it with the twists and turns of a great page turner that I just couldn't put down. Marta Perry creates a suspenseful atmosphere, and leads the reader to a variety of conclusions.

Note: I received this book free from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Rowena Philbeck says

This was my first Marta Perry book and I really liked it. I'm fixing to get the 2nd in the series to read. If you like amish mysteries this is a good one to read.

Dorine says

A great story with Amish characters but the romance is between the *Englisch* among them, along with some suspense to keep everyone in this rural town on edge and helping one another through a wave of unexpected crime. Enjoy more suspense reviews at TBR MOUNTAIN RANGE.

I always sit with a sappy grin on my face when I begin a Marta Perry book. Perry's stories are like coming home to homemade apple pie after a stressful journey. They're sweet and wholesome with some suspense seasoned in to keep the reader turning the pages. The character conflict of a city girl landing in Amish country because of an inheritance creates ambience instantly for some cute situations to lighten the serious nature of the suspense in this latest endeavor. These key ingredients combined are why I began WHERE SECRETS SLEEP with a satisfied sigh.

Interior Designer Allison "Ally" Standish catches her boyfriend in bed with her boss. Now, not only has Allison lost her job, she's lost someone she thought was a good friend and mentor, not to mention her heartache over her boyfriend's cheating when he thought Allison had already left for her trip. How could she have been so blind?

Allison left that day with her cat for Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, after being disrespected by these two people in her life. She had already scheduled personal time off to look over the property that her estranged father's mother, who is the grandmother she never knew, left her in her will. Blackburn House is a historical mansion that is currently being used commercially and Allison is the new owner, per the lawyer who contacted her. Her initial gut instinct is to get rid of this "white elephant" as fast as possible and get on with her life.

Life has a funny way of becoming more complicated than expected as Allison finds out when she realizes that more than one person wants this property she inherited, or she must make it profitable within a year if she wants to keep it. Should she sell or accept the challenge? Someone is determined to convince her to leave, or so it seems, as one thing after another seems to go wrong, including implicating Allison as a criminal. Can there be a new beginning for this city girl in a small rural community, or should she hightail it out of there as fast as possible?

Carpenter Nick Whiting is a single, divorced dad trying to make a good life for his son in the town where his family has a carpentry business. Nick's shop and showroom is at Blackburn House and he's not so sure he trusts the new owner, an outsider, to do what's best for all those who share the space. Blackburn House rents to a quilt shop, a bookstore, a lawyer and a realtor, in addition to Nick's family's business. Nick needs to think of his son first and not follow through on his attraction to Allison. Can he keep his heart closed off to someone who has begun to impress not just his friends and family, but also the young boy he's trying to protect?

WHERE SECRETS SLEEP contains likeable characters you'll find familiar if you love small town rural America and all the intricacies that make it a well-rounded place to live. It's a quaint story that focuses on the relationships of the Amish with the *Englisch*, exposing their differences as well as their willingness to be compatible as neighbors. There are some references to Amish faith and how it affects their way of life, but this story isn't about faith, or just the Amish, as much as it's about learning to live a fulfilling life. This story is modern but still exemplifies the less modern way of life in an Amish community.

The romance is sweet between Allison and Nick but there is some violence that is typical in a romantic suspense that reads more like a cozy murder mystery. Blackburn House is the perfect setting for a blending of characters from the charming Amish spinster, to the city girl who is transplanted into rural America and is attracted to a handsome carpenter with a cute child, to the meddling *Englisch* bookstore owner who can't keep his nose out of anyone's business, mixed in with various other characters including some devious villains.

I'm a fan of Amish suspense but I found the originality in this story particularly engaging. The setting lends itself to an almost *Gothic Romance* feel, without the ghosts, where the house is creepy and especially so when the plot quickens. If you need to relax, a trip to Amish country always does it, even when there's murder and mayhem afoot as in this story. If you're familiar with Amish country, then WHERE SECRETS SLEEP will certainly make you yearn for it.

As the first book in the HOUSE OF SECRETS series by Marta Perry, WHERE SECRETS SLEEP engages the heart. Great suspense mixed with delightful characters you'll look forward to revisiting in the next book.

Reviewed by Dorine, courtesy of Romance Junkies and TBR Mountain Rance. ARC provided by NetGalley.