

In Her Footsteps

Ruth Harrow

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One night changes her life forever... But the past won't let her go...

Harriet is trapped in an unhappy marriage to her abusive husband, Dan. She dreams of a life where she does not have to live in constant fear. One night, she finally summons the courage and makes the life-changing decision to leave him behind for good. She leaves with only a suitcase and a closely-guarded box she is terrified of anyone discovering...

Eighteen-months on, Harriet has her freedom. Or does she? She is living her lifelong dream of running a successful art gallery. She should be happy, but things are not what they appear. Her perfect world is plagued by crippling anxiety and disturbing nightmares. Dark secrets from her past threaten to tear her new world apart.

Why is she so terrified of her own family finding her? Can she ever truly escape the past? Soon, Harriet will learn that running from her worst fears is a dangerous mistake and one that will have deadly consequences.

In Her Footsteps Details

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Author: Ruth Harrow

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From Reader Review In Her Footsteps for online ebook

booksofallkinds says

IN HER FOOTSTEPS by Ruth Harrow is a gripping and tense thriller that will thoroughly shock you.

Harriet must get out soon or it won't be long before her husband Dan kills her in one of his rages. But disappearing is not as simple as it sounds and then there is always the chance that you will be discovered. But after another vicious attack, Harriet realises that she cannot simply bide her time and flees into the night. Eighteen months later and Harriet seems to have gotten her life in order - running her art gallery and being by herself with ease, but Harriet still suffers from crippling nightmares and severe panic attacks. As she tentatively makes new friends, Harriet wonders if she will ever truly be free and whether she could ever trust anyone with her heart or her secrets. But she will soon learn that the past always catches up with you and sometimes with devastating effects ...

IN HER FOOTSTEPS by Ruth Harrow is a deeply layered story with plenty of suspense and some surprising twists and turns that will completely shock you. It is well-paced with plenty of grit to sink your teeth into and I read it in one evening. A compelling and at times, uncomfortable story, IN HER FOOTSTEPS by Ruth Harrow is a fantastic read and would appeal to psychological thriller fans everywhere.

*I voluntarily reviewed this book from the author

Debbie says

Good read, different to a lot of psychological stories. You have to stop and rethink at certain points.

Lisa says

Great read!

This is a real page turner and as a debut novel, Ruth Harrow I applaud you.

The story is well scripted, with equally well created charchters. As the story develops it becomes clear that things are not as they seem and as the main protagonists life begins to unravel her despair and terror is palatable.

Gripping and moreish, cant wait to read more from this author, Ruth Harrow is definitely one to watch. X

Jodell says

I was rooting for Harriett to escape her abusive marriage so to my surprise this book was not really about

Harriett. It was about a crazy girl named Sophie who steals the identity of Harriett and is a little cray cray.

It all ended up good but it was a bumpy strange wild ride.

Jodie Rhodes says

It's so hard to not sound pessimistic about this book, but it had so much potential and didn't live up to it at all. The story itself is good, and the twist was surprising, but overall I found it really dull. Too much detail in mundane parts of the story, and not enough detail in the more gripping parts. I wanted to give up so many times and a part of me wishes I had, too many unanswered questions and a pretty disappointing ending.

Sammy Rowland says

This was an excellent psychological thriller that was fluid and effortless to read. The characters and plot were very vivid and I really felt like I lived through the story. This novel is cleverly written and clearly well thought out making the outcome of the story completely unpredictable and unexpected. I am delighted that I discovered this book and am looking forward to reading Ruth Harrow's next novel if she writes more.

Jknnbs2010 says

This book starts out with Dave and Harriet, who are married. Dave is abusive and Harriet is at her wits end with it. She is stockpiling money and just enduring until the moment she can finally get away. That night comes earlier than expected when Dave almost kills her. She is able to escape with the little money she has saved. She picks a place on the map and moves there. She thinks she has left her troubles behind, she opens an art gallery and is doing well for herself. She meets a man and things start not adding up. The book then takes an unexpected twist and things aren't what they seem and she can't seem to shake the past. Will it haunt her forever?

The book starts out strong, the first 14 chapters flew by, then it hits a lull. There is a bunch going on in the middle but none of it seemed very interesting or really needed at all. Harriet becomes an unlikeable character at this point, she can't pull herself together. She is drinking quite a bit and avoiding everything in her life. This is explained and the book becomes fast paced and interesting once again, up until the end. I had so much hope for the ending but ended up with a ton of unanswered questions and things just seemed undone. The ending was rushed, I wanted so much more. I wanted to love this book and had the ending been a bit stronger I think this would have been an excellent book.

Grace J Reviewerlady says

This is a stunning read and for a debut novel it's quite astounding. Every time you get comfortable with the storyline, the perception changes . . .

Harriet is wife to a controlling, abusive man who thinks he is perfect and when she 'disappoints' him, he

punishes her. But the worm is about to turn .. Harriet is planning her escape. We follow their marriage long enough to understand the dreadful life she has and to cheer silently that she is planning to run.

I'm not fond of domestic abuse books, usually because I find the actual violence to be the main focus and I'm really not keen on graphic reads. However, this is a very cleverly written novel which relays the fear and dread of the abused and the cockiness of the abuser in his belief that he is always right. The psychological fear is far worse than any physical injuries can ever be and as the story unfolds, twists, turns and twists and turns again the reader is left with an understanding far greater than any horror story can convey.

This is not a book to believe everything you read .. perception and reality have a wide gap between them and this is definitely one to keep you on your toes! Ruth Harrow is extremely smart and accomplished at her trade and I never want to miss any of her future novels!

My grateful thanks to the author for my copy. This is my honest, original and unbiased review.

Cheryl Butler says

Very gripping story, full of tension and a totally unexpected twist. You feel you want to scream at the main character on so many occasions! Has the feel of 'The Girl On The Train' yet is totally different.

Amanda says

Loved this book!!!!' Found the storyline gripping from the start and there are so many twists in this book I couldn't wait to see how it would end but didn't want to finish this book as I was enjoying it so much!!! Looking forward to her next book.

vickiortonhotmail.com says

Great book

Great story with plenty of twist and turns along the way to keep you interested from start to end.

Karen says

Trapped in an abusive marriage to her husband Dan, Harriet longs for the day when she has enough money to be able to escape her living nightmare. After a particularly vicious attack, she finally summons up the courage to leave her old life for good, laden with just a suitcase and a box containing her secrets. Eighteen months later, and running her own art gallery in Coventry, to the outside world, life is good. Appearances can be deceiving, however, and plagued by anxiety and nightmares, even the prospect of a new relationship does not stop her from hiding in the shadows. Can she ever truly escape her past?

From the very start of the book, we are shown how we should not believe everything we see. To the outside

world, Dan is a perfect husband but behind closed doors, he is abusive and controlling, his wife having to live her life exactly as he wants her to. Despite her being completely under his control and taking his beatings on a regular basis, Harriet is a strong woman and I admired her tenacity and forethought that would enable her to finally make a clean break from her life. The attack that finally pushes her to leave is a particularly brutal one and it was heartbreaking to think that, in real life, there are women who have to endure this.

Her life in Coventry seems perfect as she finally gets to put her art degree to good use. She even embarks on a relationship with a good-looking divorced man but this sets in motion a chain of events that seriously begin to threaten her sanity. Her new boyfriend seemed perfect, but at the same time, too perfect. I could not decide whether he was genuinely a nice guy or whether he was up to something. His ex-wife was not a particularly nice character and also helped to muddy the waters.

It soon becomes apparent that Harriet is hiding something from the past, something linked to her family. I really felt for her when she went to visit a therapist, desperate for help to stop the increasing amount of panic attacks she was experiencing but determined not to spill her secrets at the same time. When we do finally find out what her secret is, it was a genuine shocker and something I did not see coming. This completely changed the direction of the book and left me questioning everything I had already read.

This is a very clever book with a fascinating plot that became completely 'unputdownable' as it progressed. I was also very happy with the ending and felt that all questions had been answered. This is a great debut and I look forward to reading more of Ruth Harrow's work.

With thanks to Ruth Harrow for the ARC.

Misfits farm says

Oh boy! One of those rides that spins you around and doesn't let go! Harriet is in a relationship with Dan. As soon as they were married, Dan changed into a controlling violent man, a mile away from the loving person she thought she had fallen for. Harriet takes her chance and leaves, having planned this for years but not having the bravery or resources to do so. When she meets an admirer and also requires counselling as she is now suffering panic attacks, she has to decide whether to tell them the truth or to keep her past from them. This is a compelling read from the word go. I took to Harriet and her situation, feeling for what had happened to her. This to me says how well it is written, that you feel for the person on the page. One of those reeds that can slightly unsettle you but you don't quite know why. A very, very clever concept. A well written story. A brilliant read.

For more reviews please see my blog http://nickibookblog.blogspot.co.uk/ or follow me on Twitter @nickijmurphy1

B A Stevenson says

Great read

Fast paced.I made sure I read every word and also lost a nights sleep reading it.Really enjoyable and

Sarah says

The story starts off with Harriet and how her life is with Dan. Dan is a control freak when it comes to Harriet and she lives in constant fear of making sure that she does everything just right as she can't bear to think about what punishment he will dish out if she doesn't. There is no wonder she wants to get away from someone so abusive and I was willing her to get out as soon as she could.

The only problem with leaving your past behind, you never really can. Harriet is happy and settled in her new life but there is that constant fear that her past will catch back up with her. Her paranoia starts to affect her new life in lots of ways and sadly they arn't for the better.

There is a build up of suspense and tension right from the off with this story. It's hard for me to say too much as I don't want to give any of the plot away and ruin any surprises for new readers. There is definitely without a doubt an unexpected twist that I would never have guessed though I have to say there were some things that puzzled me prior to it that suddenly made sense.

In Her Foosteps had me hooked from start to finish. Perfect read for lovers of psychological thrillers.