



Dark Saturday

Nicci French

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Thirteen years ago eighteen year old Hannah Docherty was arrested for the brutal murder of her family. It was an open and shut case and Hannah's been incarcerated in a secure hospital ever since.

When psychotherapist Frieda Klein is asked to meet Hannah and give her assessment of her she reluctantly agrees. What she finds horrifies her. Hannah has become a tragic figure, old before her time. And Frieda is haunted by the thought that Hannah might be as much of a victim as her family; that something wasn't right all those years ago.

And as Hannah's case takes hold of her, Frieda soon begins to realise that she's up against someone who'll go to any lengths to protect themselves . . .

***Saturday Requiem* is the sixth novel in the Frieda Klein series by Nicci French.**

Dark Saturday Details

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Author : Nicci French

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From Reader Review Dark Saturday for online ebook

Julie says

Dark Saturday by Nicci French is a 2017 William Morrow Paperbacks publication.

I love this series a little more with each installment!

Frieda is asked to examine an old open and shut case, to satisfy the powers that be, that the case was handled properly. But what she uncovers is a web of secrets and betrayals, which may have led to young Hannah Docherty's conviction, and eventual incarceration in a mental institution thirteen years ago. The more time Frieda spends with Hannah, she suspects her harsh treatment has led to her current psychosis, which has spiraled into a dangerous mental state. Was Hannah guilty of killing her family or was she the scapegoat?

The old gang is back, each making a small contribution on the way to Frieda's search for the truth. But, there are also startling revelations about Frieda's stalker, which has everyone even more on edge than usual.

This is another absorbing and compelling chapter in this exceptional series. I wasn't sure what the tone would be like after the events that transpired in the last installment, but the atmosphere remained at status quo, which was a huge relief. I like the way Frieda is taking charge and becoming more comfortable with her sleuthing abilities. This is a particularly difficult case, heart wrenching in many ways, with a surprise ending that completely caught me off guard.

I can't wait to see what's next for Frieda and her eclectic group of family and friends!

4 stars

Phrynne says

Another excellent book from the Nicci French writing duo.

I have had issues with the main character, Frieda Klein, in the course of this series but these have never stood in the way of my enjoyment of the books. Frieda has such a cold, detached personality that I am constantly amazed at how many devoted friends she attracts. They obviously see something in her that I do not. Nevertheless it is her detachment and stubbornness which make her so good at her job, especially when she is assisting the police.

In Saturday Requiem, book six in the series, Frieda is attempting to prove that a young woman has been wrongfully convicted of murder and to discover the true culprit. At the same time she has personal issues with Dean Reeve who has been causing her huge problems throughout the series. Spooky, scary problems!

The pages in this book just turned themselves and I would have read it in one sitting if life had allowed. Looking forward now to reading book seven. I expect this one to be the Book of Dean with some kind of explosive finale! Can't wait:)

Alexandra (matobookalo) says

Κλασικ? Φρ?ντα. Μπλ?κει παντο? και θ?λει να τους σ?σει ?λους.
Καλ? η ιστορ?α.
Ευτυχ?ς ε?χε λιγ?τερες περιγραφ?ς και λιγ?τερο τσ?ι αυτ? το βιβλ?ο. :)

Margaret says

What is important in a good crime story ,is the way the facts are presented, so that the reader (if careful and clever) can identify "who did it". It is also fundamental that people involved in the story are elements for the investigation .When everything (including the motive and the culprit)is revealed in the last ten pages, through the inexplicable ingenious guessing of the heroin , the "product" is weak.

Gary says

When I was given the chance to read the latest book in the Freida Klein series by thriller writing duo Nicci French I jumped at it.
In this latest book Frieda Klein reluctantly faces a case that tests her to her very limits. Thirteen years ago eighteen year old Hannah Docherty was arrested for the brutal murder of her family. It was an open and shut case and Hannah's been incarcerated in a secure hospital ever since. When psychotherapist Frieda Klein is asked to meet Hannah and give her assessment of her she reluctantly agrees. What she finds horrifies her. Hannah has become a tragic figure, old before her time. And Frieda is haunted by the thought that Hannah might be as much of a victim as her family; that something wasn't right all those years ago. And as Hannah's case takes hold of her, Frieda soon begins to realise that she's up against someone who'll go to any lengths to protect themselves

Another excellent novel in this series and I can't wait to read the next one.

I would like to thank Net Galley and Penguin UK for supply me with a copy of this book in exchange for a honest review.

Chelsea Humphrey says

Before I get into my review, I felt it necessary to give a little background on the series this book is a part of. Nicci French is the pseudonym of writing duo Nicci Gerrard and Sean French; they have penned several books separately but collaborated to bring forth the Frieda Klein series which focuses on said main character in her role as a psychotherapist. While Dark Saturday is technically the sixth book in the series, it reads easily as a stand alone novel and I didn't feel left out of any pertinent information coming in this late in the series. If you are a reader in the U.K., don't panic! This isn't a new book you've missed; you likely have already read this one under it's sister title Saturday Requiem. With all that out of the way, I feel a little more at ease jumping into the review portion of my post.

Wow! In the interest of full disclosure I feel the need to inform you of the terrible book slump I've been in lately. While I wasn't hating everything I read, I knew I was in an off-season since I was picking up great books that just weren't gripping me like they should. I was a little hesitant to start *Dark Saturday*; the cover was gorgeous and the blurb had me fully intrigued but I was starting to get a complex by mid-grading book after book. Also, have you met me? You know how I feel about starting a book six deep into a series! Alas, all my worries were for nothing because this was one of the best books I've picked up this year! I'm not sure how I've missed out on Frieda Klein since 2012 but I'm glad I discovered her. I was so taken with this book that I immediately went online and placed a hold on the first in the series, *Blue Monday*, so that I can start from the beginning and work my way back up to this book and beyond.

The blurb is vague and particular about what it allows you to know, and as such I won't be discussing the plot in detail as to not spoil any of the great twists or turns, but just WOW! It's been quite some time since I have been this taken by a new crime series; I find they are either action packed and lacking in the characters' personal growth or vice versa. Not so here; Nicci French has cultivated not just one, but an entire group of characters in Klein and her posse to tickle the fancy of readers who crave gruesome, dark stories involving complex characters that really draw you in. I can't imagine any reader who is a fan of UK crime fiction not enjoying this series! Highly, HIGHLY recommended to those looking for dark, quirky thrillers with abounding mystery and suspense. Please do yourself a favor and pick this up, regardless of where you live!

***Many thanks to the publisher for providing my copy; it was a pleasure to provide my honest thoughts here.**

Deanna says

This series gets darker, and the tension in the master story thread builds.

There is a slight depressing effect from reading this series in a compressed way, but not so as I would want not to read them. The characters and world are so three dimensional and convincing and the stories overall so expertly constructed.

My only gripe, aside from the persistent theme of kids kids all the mistreated malfunctioning kids in jeopardy, are the two nemeses, who seem slightly cartoonishly evil, and thus less believable than I would like, give. They are high ranking professionals who, ok, are as capable of grossly immature and obtuse evil as the next guy, but I think it's a little flat and overdone.

These two issues, which could rankle in the hands of less capable authors, are things I accept in return for unusual quality and sophistication overall for a genre series, and for my affection for the complex, unusual heroine.

This book ended with a big cliffhanger. Ack. I had to immediately preorder the next in the series (which I think is supposed to end after the next one or two).

The plot for this novel did wrap up in this book. But the underlying series kicked into high gear at the end, as a setup for the next title.

Paromjit says

This is the first Nicci French I have read and it worked fine as a standalone. It is written by two authors. Psychotherapist Frieda Klein is an awkward personality, the reasons for which become clear in the novel. This is an intoxicating and gripping story. With concerns about an unsafe conviction, Frieda reluctantly agrees to meet Hannah Docherty and make an assessment. 13 years ago, an 18 year old Hannah was arrested for the murder of her family. She has been detained in a secure psychiatric hospital ever since.

Frieda is shocked to see the state of a heavily traumatised and, old before her time, Hannah. Hannah is a shell of a human being. Frieda comes to feel that Hannah is innocent and that there is something deeply troubling about the case against her. She feels impelled to investigate. Frieda faces implacable and ruthless forces determined to impede her progress. With death stalking the case, Frieda is up against a twisted and determined killer along with malign forces in the psychiatric hospital.

Frieda has a great circle of friends who support and aid her, like Josef, Chloe, Jack etc.. There are wonderful insights gained through Frieda's use of her psychiatric expertise with characters to uncover facts. There is illuminating social commentary as to the issue of mental health, the nature of the role of psychiatric hospitals and the debate about how effective they are. The authors skilfully create an air of menace which pervades the story throughout. A wonderful story and I am so pleased to have finally read a Nicci French book. Thanks to Penguin Michael Joseph for an ARC.

Kristy says

So, I started this one, but I need to take a break. I requested it via Librarything having heard good things about Nicci French, but didn't realize a) this was part of series and b) Nicci French is a pseudonym for a writing team: picking up mid-series and writing teams both being pet peeves of mine. I'm sure this is probably a really good mystery, but in the beginning of the novel, I felt lost by and out of place trying to figure out what clearly happened in previous novels. I want to pick this up again at some point (maybe start the series), but my to-read pile is so big right now that I just don't feel like playing catch-up at the moment...

Diane S ? says

I enjoyed Monday through Thursday. Friday though, was a thorough miss for me, so I was somewhat leary about reading Saturday. To my relief this author and this series is back on track. Could not turn the pages fast enough.

Love series that feature psychiatrists, and Frieda Klein is a very interesting character. She has often in the past worked with the police, this made her many enemies and almost cost her her life. She, however, cannot see what she perceives as an injustice, and turn away. So it is in this case when she visits a woman enters n an institution, where she has been for many years. Her crime, killing her entire family. There are other forces at work her, very tension filled and suspenseful. I didn't guess the who done it or even the why done it, just love when that happens.

So a series I enjoy back on track and now I can look forward to Sunday,. Little things like this can make a readers day.

Anna says

αχ φρ?ντα ... τι ?ταν π?λι αυτ?... τι φιν?λε απ?στευτο... τα ξαναλ?με αναλυτικ? ?ταν το ξεπερ?σω (και αφο? καταφ?ρω να κοιμηθ? λ?γο!!)

UPDATE:

?χω τ?σο μεγ?λη αδυναμ?α στη Φρ?ντα που ευτυχ?ς πρ?λαβα στις 9 παρ? π?ντε την Π?μπτη το βρ?δυ να προλ?βω ανοιχτ? το public ?που ε?χα κ?νει κρ?τηση (κ?ντεψα να παρασ?ρω ?να παιδ?κι, αλλ? ελ?χθηκα σαν α?λουρος και το κακ? αποφε?χθηκε!), γιατ? διαφορετικ? ?μουν ικαν? να τρ?χω black-Friday-τι?τικά να περιμ?νω στην ουρ? για να π?ρω το βιβλ?ο!

?κτη περιπ?τεια, λοιπ?ν, της ψυχοθεραπε?τριας Φρ?ντα, η οπο?α ε?ναι καταγιτιστικ? απ? την αρχ? μ?χρι το τ?λος (και ιδ?ως στο τ?λος). Η περιπ?τεια δεν αφορ? στα προσωπικ? της Φρ?ντα, αλλ? σε μια οικογενειακ? τραγωδ?α που ε?χε λ?βει χ?ρα 13 χρ?νια νωρ?τερα: μια οικογ?νεια ε?χε βρεθε? σφαγμ?νη στο σπ?τι της, εν? αυτ? που κατηγορ?θηκε ?ταν η μεγαλ?τερη κ?ρη, η οπο?α ?κτοτε βρ?σκεται φυλακισμ?νη σε ψυχιατρικ? κλινικ?. Τα λαμπ?κια δια?σθησης της Φρ?ντα χτυπ?νε κ?κκινο ?σο περισσ?τερο εμπλ?κεται στην υπ?θεση, με τις ευλογ?ες της αστυνομο?ας αυτ? τη φορ?.

Προφαν?ς κ?που στη μ?ση του βιβλ?ου αποδεικν?εται ?τι η κατηγορο?μενη δεν δι?πράξε τους φ?νους (δεν ε?ναι σπ?ιλερ, απ? την περ?ληψη στο οπισθ?φυλλο φά?νεται) και εκε? που ε?μαστε σε εργ?γορση να βρο?με ποιος μπορε? τελικ? να ε?ναι ο δρ?στης (δεν π?ει το μυαλ? σας), να σου και ο Ντιν Ριβ, ως φ?ντασμα αυτ? τη φορ? (?που η υστερικ? αντ?δραση της Φρ?ντα ?ταν το μοναδικ? ατ?πημα του βιβλ?ου για μ?να). Οι τελευτα?ες 50 σελ?δες ε?ναι πραγματικ? συγκλονιστικ?ς, ανο?γοντας 3 παρ?λληλα μ?τωπα: αστυνομικ? υπ?θεση, Ντιν Ριβ, ?να προσωπικ? ζ?τημα του ευρ?τερου κ?κλου της Φρ?ντα. Φροντ?στε λοιπ?ν ?ταν φτ?σετε κ?που εκε? στο τ?λος να ?χετε διαθ?σιμο χρ?νο, γιατ? πραγματικ? δεν ξ?ρω π?ς ε?ναι δυνατ?ν να αφ?σεις το βιβλ?ο χωρ?ς να το τελει?σεις. Καιρ? ε?χε να με πι?σει τ?τοια αγων?α λ?γο πριν το τ?λος.

Και μετ? ?ρχεται το τ?λος. Αλλ? ?χι η κ?θαρση. Αυτ? την περιμ?νουμε του χρ?νου (πρ?τα ο Θε?ς), στην Κυριακ?, ?που θα λογαριαστο?με οριστικ? με τον Ντιν Ριβ... ?ρτιο βιβλ?ο, στα πρ?τυπα της Φρ?ντα που ?χω αγαπ?σει πολ?. Εννοε?ται ?τι πρ?πει να το διαβ?σετε στη σειρ? του.

Chrissa Vasileiou says

Η κριτικ? μου για το "Ρ?κβιεμ του Σαββ?του" στο site 'Book City':
Το ρ?κβιεμ του Σαββ?του

Σχ?λιο: ΑΡΓΕΙ ΝΑ ΕΡΘΕΙ Η ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ;! :P

Tez says

The main storyline case is closed, but the series arc ends on a cliffhanger here - so there bloody better be a seventh book!

Thanos says

Και να που π?ρασαν οι ημ?ρες και φτ?σαμε στο Σ?ββατο...

Δεν κατ?φερε να φτ?σει τις προσδοκ?ες μου. Περ?μενα κ?τι πολ? περισσ?τερο απ? το συγγραφικ? δ?δυμο αλλ? δεν θεωρ? πως κατ?φεραν να μου το δ?σουν. Ακολουθο?ν την ?δια συνταγ? με τα προηγ?μενα η οπο?α κατ? την ?ποψ? μου κουρ?ζει πλ?ον.

Οι χαρακτ?ρες δεν ?χουν ωριμ?σει ιδια?τερα αν και σε αυτ? το βιβλ?ο βλ?πουμε κυρ?ως τη Φρ?ντα και πολ? λιγ?τερο τους υπ?λοιπους. Γενικ? θεωρ? πως οι συγγραφες? ?χουν κολλ?σει σε ?να μοτ?βο που δεν ?χει διακυμ?νσεις. Δεν καταφ?ρνουν να μου προκαλ?σουν την ?κπληξη και τη συγκ?νηση. Το θετικ? ?μως ε?ναι πως ?λα τα βιβλ?α διαβ?ζονται πολ? ε?κολα χωρ?ς να κουρ?ζουν ιδια?τερα (να κ?ψουμε ?μως λ?γο τις περιγραφ?ς σαν να ε?μαστε τουριστικ?ς οδηγ?ς του Λονδ?νου).

Θα β?λω 3 αστερ?κια (και ?χι λιγ?τερο) γιατ? μετ? απ? 6 βιβλ?α, η σειρ? με ?χει κρατ?σει παρ? τα μειονεκτ?ματ? της και ?χω μεγ?λη περι?ργεια να δω πως θα ολοκληρωθε?.

Evangelia says

Το τελε?ωσα χθες αλλ? ?θελα να αφ?σω να περ?σει μ?α μ?ρα πριν σχολι?σω για να δω αν εκ των υστ?ρων αλλ?ξω γν?μη. Για αρχ?, να πω δυο πρ?γματα. Πρ?τον, δεν μπορ? να ε?μαι αντικειμενικ? με αυτ? τη σειρ? βιβλ?ων, οπ?τε ?λα τα παρακ?τω ε?ναι αυτ? που βι?σα διαβ?ζοντας το. Δε?τερον, δε με ενθουσ?ασε αλλ? δεν μπορ? να το κ?ψω γιατ? ε?ναι μια πολυαγαπημ?νη σειρ? με ?ναν λατρεμ?νο χαρακτ?ρα και πολλο?ς ?λλους αγαπημ?νους.

Το συγκρ?νω με το προηγ?μενο της σειρ?ς (Οργισμ?νη Παρασκευ?), το οπο?ο το βρ?κα κορυφ?ο. Πραγματικ? δεν μπορο?σα να το αφ?σω απ? τα χ?ρια μου. Αυτ? ναι μεν ευχαριστι?μουν την αν?γνωστ? του, παρ' ?λα αυτ? δεν ε?ναι ?τι με τραβο?σε τ?σο η υπ?θεση που δεν μπορο?σα να ξεκολλ?σω. Το δι?βαζα ?μως, για να μ?θω για τη Φρ?ντα, για να δω τις σκ?ψεις της, για να ξανανι?σω αυτ? το χαρακτ?ρα. ?νας χαρακτ?ρας που ?χω αγαπ?σει ?σο ?χω αγαπ?σει ελ?χιστους χαρακτ?ρες. ?σο αφορ? την υπ?θεση ?μως, δε με ενθουσ?ασε η σκ?ψη της. Ο/η δολοφ?νος μου ε?χε περ?σει για λ?γο απ? το μυαλ? αλλ? ?λοι/ες λ?γο πολ? μου ε?χαν περ?σει, οπ?τε δεν πι?νεται. ?ταν ?φτασε ?μως στη λ?ση του, εκε? ?ταν που δε μου ?ρεσε καθ?λου. Δε βρ?κα πραγματικ? κ?νητρα, μου φ?νηκε ψιλοαδι?φορο και με κεν?. ?χι μ?νο ?σο αφορ? το/τη δολοφ?νο αλλ? και σε ?λλα σημει?α της ?λης υπ?θεσης [Ακολουθε? μ?νι σπ?ιλερ κι ελπ?ζω να ?βαλα σωστ? το σημει?ο για να μη φ?νεται, παρ' ?λα αυτ? γρ?φω ?να κατεβατ? για παν ενδεχ?μενο ?στε να μην π?σει απευθε?ας εκε? το μ?τι] (view spoiler). Ακ?μη, ο χαρακτ?ρας του Λεβ?ν ε?ναι απλ?ς για να εξυπηρετ?σει την υπ?θεση, δεν ?χει ουσιαστικ? ρ?λο, απλ?ς κ?πως πρ?πει να τριγυρν?ει η Φρ?ντα απ? εδ? και απ?

εκε? και να ρωτ?ει, ?χοντας κ?ποιον ως «κ?λυψη». Πολλ? ?ταν αυτ? που δεν τα?ριαζαν αλλ? υπ?ρχαν για να...υπ?ρχουν!

Θα ?θελα να δω περισσ?τερο δρ?ση και των ?λλων χαρακτ?ρων αλλ? αυτ? δεν ε?ναι κ?τι που με απογο?τευσαι. Ε?ναι οι ?διοι χαρακτ?ρες, ?πως ?χουν διαμορφωθε? στο π?ρασμα των 5 χρ?νων, με τα προτερ?ματα και τις αδυναμ?ες τους. Ε?ναι λατρε?ες.

Γι' αυτ? ?σως και να απογοητε?τηκα απ? αυτ? το βιβλ?ο. Να ξανατον?σω σε αυτ? το σημει?ο, ?τι δεν μπορ? να το δω αντικειμενικ?. Εντ?ξει, στα τ?σα βιβλ?α ?μωσ, δε γ?νεται να μου αρ?σουν ?λα το ?διο. Το Ρ?κβιεμ του Σαββ?του λοιπ?ν, ε?ναι αυτ? που μ?χρι στιγμ?ς μου ?ρεσε λιγ?τερο. Παρ' ?λα αυτ?, σ?γουρα πρ?πει να διαβαστε? και πλ?ον δε γ?νεται συζ?τηση για το αν μπορε? να διαβαστε? ξ?χωρο απ? τα ?λλα. ?χι, δεν μπορε?, π?ρτε τα με τη σειρ?. Περιμ?νουμε επομ?νως την κυριακ? και ακ?μη ?να βιβλ?ο μετ? την Κυριακ?, για το οπο?ο οι συγγραφε?ς δε σχολ?ασαν τ?ποτα, το μ?νο που ε?παν ε?ναι πως εξ' αρχ?ς ε?χαν στο νου τους για σειρ? 8 βιβλ?ων. Ανυπομον? για τα 2 τελευτα?α, αλλ? συν?μα φοβ?μαι.

Καλ? αν?γνωση!
