



Deadly Secret

Tara Thomas

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In this next novel in the stunning romantic suspense Sons of Broad series from Tara Thomas comes a novel of deadly games and uninhibited passion. In the sultry streets of Charleston, one family, ruled by its powerful, take-no-prisoners sons, has risen to the top. But a ruthless serial killer is out to destroy them...and everyone they hold close...

Exclusive bonus material ONLY available in print edition!

Knox Benedict is known as the Saint. He's the upstanding son of the Benedict family, the moral backbone, the one who sets his entire life by the world of rules and constraints he's created for himself. But Knox Benedict has a secret. A secret that has unleashed the intense passion, the fierce hunger that lives deep within him. A secret he'd live and die for. But a deadly enemy of the Benedict's is about to take Knox's hidden life and fling it out into the open...and in the process, begin a dangerous game.

Bea was never supposed to be Knox Benedict's wife. They were rivals, locked in a dead heat on opposite sides of a negotiation table, supposed to fight tooth and nail. Instead, she took one look at those smoldering Benedict eyes and knew there would be no loving anyone else. But when Bea's investigation into Benedict industries leads to an attack that leaves her for dead, Bea knows she has to follow through with what she's started – just as Knox knows he must keep his secret wife safe, even if it means sacrificing everything he knows.

As an enemy strikes closer and closer to Bea with every waking day, Bea and Knox must race to uncover the truth, before it's too late.

Deadly Secret Details

Date : Published March 27th 2018 by St. Martin's Press

ISBN : 9781250137968

Author : Tara Thomas

Format : Mass Market Paperback 304 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, Mystery, Adult

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From Reader Review Deadly Secret for online ebook

? BookAddict ✍️ La Crimson Femme says

Continuing right after Darkest Night, Deadly Secret is not to be missed. This follow up novel is just as action packed as the first one and it is a zinger. With dark secrets, strained family ties and a villain hiding in the shadows, I devoured this book from cover to cover. Then I wanted more.

The main character in this book is Bea, half sister to Brent from the prequels. She is a lawyer with a rather unChristian like Pastor for a father. I am thankful I have never met a pastor as heinous as this one. Still, humans are flawed and religious figures are not exempt. From the beginning of this story, there is something odd going on between Knox and Bea. I figured they are secret lovers. It is more complicated than that and it worked really well as a subplot. Speaking of subplots, I liked the Jade subplot that is threaded throughout the series.

What I liked about this series is how it takes little twists and turns. Did I anticipate most of them? Yes. And I liked that they kept the story flowing and a reader thinking. I am actively engaged to figure out who the enemy is as well as how each character relates to each other. I wouldn't say everything is predictable; I would say that the story is well written to lead the reader to the expected result before it is revealed. Still, the main villain is nicely hidden and keeps me racking my brains to figure out who it is and if it is a character we have seen yet.

From a romance perspective, Bea and Knox are well matched. I am a bit disappointed with Bea in how she handled matters but I can understand her fuzzy logic. Knox is a saint as his nickname suggests. He is a sweetheart and of the brothers, I am hard pressed to pick my favourite. Each of the brothers are admirable. They are really quite lovely. Warning, reading this book may make a reader want to dive right into the next book. Kipling is the oldest brother and it appears he will be the last. He weaves in and out of each of these books. He is a bit of a curmudgeon which is his charm. His support of Bea and Knox keeps the consistent brotherly love and bonding we see through the series.

Through all the romance and family reveals, there are still killers on the loose and an evil plot to foil. It will be interesting to see how this series concludes. Will just one more book be enough? I am hoping this series rounds out to a quartet. This romantic suspense is recommended to readers who enjoy star crossed lover themes.

**provided by NetGalley*

Nadine Bookaholic says

Well I got Bea and Knox's story and ooooooh so much more! Jumping into the next book, I'll be back with my full review soon.

Beatrice ~ Confessions of a Pinay Bookaholic says

Thank you St. Martin's Press for providing an ARC via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

I am really enjoying this series and I like the direction it's taking despite its predictable plot. In *Deadly Secret*, we get Bea Jacobs and Knox Benedict. These two were secretly married and honestly, I'm most looking forward to their story because I love their chemistry. The plot is still connected to the previous book and after an unsuccessful murder attempt on Tilly, The Gentleman moved on to Bea as his next target.

Bea is a lawyer and Brent's half-sister. In the last book, she was brutally attacked for snooping around and up to this day, she won't stop seeking the truth and justice on the missing / murdered women as well as the issues on the Benedict business. After her attacked, she and Knox's marriage went on the rocks. With a target on her back, Knox is in danger too. She wants to protect him at all cost. I admire her courage and independence but her stubbornness annoyed the crap out of me. She became reckless around the last two or three chapters. Good thing Knox was patient. By the way, I really like him. He's a thoughtful and an attentive lover.

As for Jade, I got my theories right about her. I am excited for the next book and see Kipling chasing Alyssa. Hopefully, The Gentleman will reveal his real identity and confront the Benedicts.

Traci says

This is a 3.5 read for me. I enjoyed the story, but not quite as much as the first in the series. Sometimes I wanted to smack Bea over the head. I will be reading the 3rd book in the series after my October reads are complete.

Eve Recinella (Between The Bookends) says

This was another great addition to this series. I enjoyed it quite a lot. The mystery aspect continues to be well done, and I am DYING to know who the *GENTLEMAN* is! Both main characters were likable. Although Bea drove me nuts for the first 25% and later in the book, I was left scratching my head at her TSTL move in regards to Tom. But I continue to love all three brothers.

Really the only small issue I had and have had with all the books in this series so far is the POV changes can be confusing at times. We go from one person talking to the next paragraph being someone else that has nothing to do with the previous conversation. I find it a bit jarring and befuddling at times. But after two books and three novellas, I have learned to go with the flow. Therefore yours truly is giving this one a solid thumbs up.

Lexxie (un)Conventional Bookworms says

3.5 stars

Deadly Secret is filled with mystery and suspense, and both were well done. The characters were quite good, too, but there is something about the writing that made me not be completely wowed.

FTC

Melanie says

3.5 Stars

Deadly Secret was an exciting read with a fast-paced plot and a romance that expanded on a relationship hinted at in the first book.

Knox Benedict, the Saint of the Benedict family, lives his life by a set of rules he's created for himself. When Bea, his secret wife, is put in danger after investigating something from Benedict Industries' past, all those rules go out the window. Bea is determined to get answers and Knox is willing to do anything to keep Bea safe. As the enemy moves increasingly closer, Knox and Bea are in a race against the clock to uncover the truth before it's too late.

Knox Benedict has always been considered the most reserved of his brothers, but he just considers himself better at keeping his private life, private. Knox has always managed to keep his cool and never acted impulsively until he met Bea whom he fell for hard and fast. Bea always had a set plan for what she wanted to do with her life, but at the heart of that plan was that she wanted to help people. Knox and Bea have an intense relationship with great chemistry and some incredibly sexy scenes. My only complaint was that their relationship is already established and you don't get the buildup I've come to expect in romance novels.

Deadly Secret sees the return of The Gentleman and his nefarious plans for the Benedict family. The Gentleman's plans are becoming increasingly dangerous and I'm quite interested to see where his story line is headed. I really want to learn the reasoning behind his intense hatred of the Benedict family and while I have a few theories, I've yet to be able to figure out anything concrete. The author does a great job keeping you in the dark where he's concerned while still revealing enough to keep you hooked.

Overall I really enjoyed *Deadly Secret* despite wanting to see more of how Knox and Bea's relationship came to be. I can't wait to read the final book in this series and would definitely recommend the series for anyone looking for a romantic suspense series to check out with a great villain lurking behind the scenes.

Carrie says

Deadly Secret by Tara Thomas is the second full length novel in the romantic suspense Sons of Broad series. There were also three prequel novellas to the series that featured one couple then the first installment moved to the first of three Benedict brothers and his significant other. Now we've moved onto Knox Benedict and his wife, Bea.

While the main characters in the series keep changing as it goes on the series has an underlying plot that continues on with each story so it would be best enjoyed to just start at the beginning of it all. The author is also keeping previous lead characters involved in the books so those that do start at the beginning will be updated on where they are as the story moves forward in each book in the series.

Now as far as this installment of the series I'd have to say that it had a set up that I do enjoy with the main couple having a past so while the books are very fast paced it doesn't feel as if it's an insta-love when they were already married and coming back together. Of course in Bea and Knox's case it sounds a bit like they rushed into things in the past but there was still something already there when we join them which made me a bit more comfortable with their chemistry and a bit more believability.

I would warn readers that absolutely hate cliffhangers thought that Tara Thomas has certainly done that yet again. She's doing a great job tying all the books together and keeping the action intense with each read but again when finished I felt there is just so much left and would love to move onto the next book right away but it's unfortunately not here yet to enjoy just yet.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.com/>

Betul says

****ARC provided by publisher in exchange for an honest review****

3.5 stars

The first book in the Sons of Broad series was an okay read for me. I was glad that I enjoyed this book more than I did the previous one. The characters acted more mature, and I felt a connection between them even though this couple is already married, and how they met is told in a couple of sentences instead of a flashback. For me it wasn't necessary for me to really see how they met and because I was more interested in solving the case/mystery that continues from the previous book into this one. I am still not sure what is going on and why the Benedict family is targeted by this Gentleman.

There were a couple of times the main characters didn't do anything with information that warned them. They kind of went head-first into a dangerous situation and it was obvious what would happen next. This total disregard to the warning was unbelievable to me and could've been handled much better. If the author wanted the characters come face-to-face with the bad guys, she could've found another more logical way to do it. This is one of my book pet peeves, especially in romantic suspense books, and that is why I rated this book 3.5 stars instead of 4. However, there was a twist at the end which has me excited for the next book in the series. I can't wait to see how this series will end and get all the answers to my questions.

Sophia says

The villain known as the Gentleman is making his move, seeking revenge against the powerful Benedict family for his own reason, and now his sights are firmly set on Knox, the middle, saintly brother and his secret wife. Charleston is a dark and dangerous place for anyone on the shadowy villain's list.

Deadly Secret is the second book in the Sons of Broad series. It definitely needs to be read in order.

In the last book, things got dire for the youngest Benedict brother, Keaton and his longtime love Tillie, but it was no picnic for middle brother Knox who's secret wife, Bea, ended up in the crosshairs of a killer to stop her from discovering clues to a long buried secret involving Tillie's dad and the Benedict family.

As most who read my reviews are aware, I have been less than impressed with the prequels and the first book in the series. I did wish to continue because the overall suspense plot- this big buried secret has me intrigued and I also was curious about the situation of the quiet Knox being secretly married and also see Kipling, the oldest square off against Alyssa in their duel of wits.

I wouldn't say Deadly Secret was a vast improvement as far as overall enjoyment, but I did feel it was developed better. Maybe this is because it doesn't have first book in a series syndrome and could just jump right into the story and maybe its because the players are already married and so jumping into the middle of a story when I didn't get their meet up and relationship progression worked better. Again, there wasn't much character and relationship development, but it wasn't devoid of it, either.

And, argh, Bea was one of those heroines who impressed me for all the wrong reasons. She's not a kid and she's a lawyer, but she made the dumbest decisions that put her and others in danger. She spends the whole book pushing Knox away to 'protect' him which did put him in danger scrambling to protect her, anyway. She makes decision after decision that don't make a lick of sense (to be fair Knox wasn't exactly brilliant, either, at times, though he and his brothers were better equipped to deal with the danger). I thought I was going to lose my mind when she got warned about a certain person as a threat and she just leaves the protection of others, doesn't tell anyone where she's going, and gets in the car with the one she was warned against. I didn't hate her, but I sure got tired of wrong-headedness. She and Knox were good together when they were working on stuff and working on being together.

I did learn that I was right about Jade, at least, and I've got a strong suspicion about The Gentleman now. I do plan to continue on with Kipling and Alyssa's book which I suspect will be the best one in the series the way those two spark in each other's presence.

So, it was mildly engaging, and I found it improved over book one. A few spicy romance scenes, a complex revenge plot, and it never hurts to have three attractive brothers together. Give it a try if you like.

My thanks to St. Martin's Press for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

~Mandi~ says

Deadly Secret
Sons of Broad #2
Tara Thomas
5 ??????????

Still on the edge of my seat throughout this whole book. And of course I have to wait till the next book to find out who The Gentleman is that has been killing people and what he has been trying to cover up. Tara Thomas has done an amazing job switching over to the Suspense genre. She definitely keeps you on your toes and you never know what to expect next. And she has made it so difficult to figure out who the killer is.

Can't wait for Book 3 Broken Promise to come out so I can finish this series and find out what happens next. Thanks NetGalley for the arc in exchange for my honest review.

Wendy LeGrand says

3.5 stars. Deadly Secret is book 2 in the Sons of Broad series and you really need to read them in order so that you'll understand everything that is going on. The illusive Gentleman is still targeting the Benedict brothers and the women they love. This time around he is after Bea and Knox. We first met Bea briefly in the novellas that accompany this series and revolved around her brother, Brent. Then again in book 1, Darkest Night, when she was found beaten almost to death on the steps of Benedict House. Knox Benedict ran to her side, and it became obvious that there was some type of relationship happening between them.

Jade, the mysterious girl who Tilly and Keaton ran into at the homeless shelter, and then helped Keaton at the end of book 1, features prominently in this book. What exactly is her connection to the Benedict brothers? Why has she reached out to Bea and asked for her help? Will she be able to stay one step ahead of The Gentleman, and his henchman, Tom, who has been placed on security detail for Bea?

I like the twists and turns that take place in this book. I loved seeing the background story on how Bea and Know met and got together. It was great seeing Tilly and Keaton, and Alyssa and Kipling as well as Lena, the faithful housekeeper. Just like in the novellas and book 1, I was anxious to find any clue or hint as to who this man is, The Gentleman, and what exactly his plan is for this group of people.

I felt plenty frustrated with Bea, and really the whole family this go around. Even after Jade gives Bea and the family clues to certain things, and warnings about Tom, they still act like everything is hunky dory and no one is in danger. Even after notes are left, Bea's father's house is torched, lives are threatened. It just didn't ring as realistic to me that this group of people who are supposedly very intelligent, could remain so lackadaisical about everything that was going on. I almost got to a point that the only one I cared to know what was going to happen to them was Jade.

There is no cliffhanger at the end, which was good, we get a happily ever after for now, with one piece of bombshell information, but the reader is already aware of what it is so it's not something that will make you desperate to get your hands on the last book. That book will revolved around the last Benedict brother, Kipling, and Alyssa Adams, the steadfast police woman who has been on the case from day one.

I am mostly intrigued to find out Jade's backstory and how she ever got involved with The Gentleman. What does he have to do with the Benedict family, and why does he want to destroy them and their women so badly? Will we ever find out what part Tilly's father played in this whole thing? Still lots of things unanswered, so hopefully the last book, Broken Promise which releases in June will provide us those answers.

I have really been enjoying this series. I feel some things need to really be tightened up along the way, and that last book has really got to be a doozy to provide the reader all the answers to the huge list of questions

stacking up. It's been a fun ride so far!

NetGalley and St. Martin's Press provided me an advance copy of the book in exchange for an honest and unbiased review.

Philomena Callan Cheekypee says

This is book two in the Sons of Broad series.

Knox and Bea story continues and what a story it is too. I was on the edge of my seat reading this. I cannot wait to read more and find out who the Gentleman is.

It's hard to write a review without spoiling in, especially a series. If you enjoy suspense reads then I definitely recommend you read this.

A really well written story full of suspense. The secondary characters add so much to the story. I'm looking forward to reading book three in this series.

Tami says

3.5

Romantic suspense. I may hate cliffhangers, but she already had me hooked before I realized it was one. The author knows what she's doing.

This review is based on the ARC provided by the author and/or the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for my honest opinion.

JoAn says

Deadly Secret by Tara Thomas was a suspenseful book. Although I hadn't read the previous or the novellas, I didn't have many problems following the mystery in this one.

Bea and Knox are complex characters that work well together once Bea comes to her senses and fills Knox in on what happened to her. Suspense, romance and a smoothly paced plot made this book difficult to put down. Ms. Thomas' descriptive narrative made it easy for me to imagine all types of scenarios about the Gentleman and his connection to the Benedict empire.

I voluntarily reviewed an Advance Reader Copy of this book from St. Martin's Press via NetGalley. All of the above opinions are my own.
