

# **Get Dirty**

Gretchen McNeil

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The members of Don't Get Mad aren't just mad anymore . . . they're afraid. And with Margot in a coma and Bree stuck in juvie, it's up to Olivia and Kitty to try to catch their deadly tormentor. But just as the girls are about to go on the offensive, Ed the Head reveals a shocking secret that turns all their theories upside down. The killer could be anyone, and this time he—or she—is out for more than just revenge.

The girls desperately try to discover the killer's identity as their personal lives are falling apart: Donté is pulling away from Kitty and seems to be hiding a secret of his own, Bree is under house arrest, and Olivia's mother is on an emotional downward spiral. The killer is closing in, the threats are becoming more personal, and when the police refuse to listen, the girls have no choice but to confront their anonymous friend . . . or die trying.

# **Get Dirty Details**

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Author: Gretchen McNeil

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# From Reader Review Get Dirty for online ebook

# Faye, la Patata says

Remember the time when I kept saying Get Even, the first book of this duology, was better as a standalone?

Well, I now eat my words, because if that book was a standalone, *Get Dirty* wouldn't exist, and I would have missed a book that was BAD. ASS. AWESOME. Seriously, guys. I enjoyed this way more than I expected to, and I'm so happy with how everything was written and concluded!

I mean, seriously? It doesn't only has **suspense** (I was on my toes the whole time), **unpredictability** (I swear I couldn't guess who the perpetrator was... the timing of the clues and how they were laid out and everything made me SECOND-GUESS EVERYONE), **girl power** (four girls with different personalities being fantastic together and individually), but **humor**, too! I swear, guys, this one made me cackle like a madwoman drunk on power because of how funny he was.

Olivia threw her arms wide in despair. "We're never going to figure this out. Bree's going to rot in jail. She'll shave off her hair, take over a prison gang, and start calling herself Bitchslap."

Obviously, this one picks up where *Get Even* left off - where the stakes have gone higher than ever before and the situation has gone absolutely apeshit insane. A killer is on the loose and they only have dead ends for leads. What's so special about here is that it doesn't just include the four original girls now, other people have joined the fray and have decided to combine forces to stop this mayhem once and for all. And oh my goodness, guys, the epicness really goes off the roof, especially with the addition of Ed the Head, the "weirdo" with a penchant for digging up scoops and locating impossible-to-find information. And did I mention he adds a lot of comedic relief? Yes, yes he does.

"Bree trusts him," Olivia said. "Enough to have him make contact with us. I thought that was a good enough reason to swear him into DGM."

Ed laughed. "Awesome. I was getting tired of being the only penis around here."

Kitty narrowed her eyes. "You may not be the only penis, but you'll still be the only dick."

I seriously love all the characters. Kitty, Bree, Olivia, Margot... they are all seriously so well-written and portrayed here, all having their own distinct personalities and quirks that make them memorable and special in their own ways. I love how a common goal held them together, solidying a friendship that is so genuine and relatable. It's definitely a refreshing perspective, considering a lot of YA novels have so much girl-to-girl hate. They all compliment one another and support each other; they don't just have their own interests at heart but the group's too, and it's just so fulfilling to see them do all this and figure out the mystery at the same time.

And the writing! Gods, for me, this book was simply written better than the first one, in which it's not just the personalities of the characters that jump from the pages, but the atmosphere and emotions, too. It really builds the suspense and mystery well, leaving you hanging in every chapter... I don't know about you, guys, but this rarely happens to me in the mysteries I read now. It continuously keeps you

intrigued throughout each reveal, keeping you on the edge of your seat as you flip pages faster than The Flash can run.

All I can say, this book was such a fun read and made me remember how mysteries and thrillers can be so enjoyable. I love how despite the fact this was set in a high school setting, the atmosphere still felt so ominous and sinister; its unpredictability makes us pay better attention to the characters and their gestures. 4 stars! Give it a jacket!

## **Stacee says**

I was beyond excited to get my greedy hands on an arc of this book. After the ending of Get Even, I was so eager to know what happened. And Gretchen didn't disappoint.

Love love love these girls. All of them have such different personalities and they're all fabulous. And let's not forget the boys. Sort of light on swoons, the ones we did get were lovely. Somehow, every chapter end left me wanting more of whoever's POV I just finished.

This book kept me guessing until the very end and even then, I didn't have it figured out. When the reveal finally happened, I was still expecting one more twist.

Fantastic movie references {and one lyric from The Smiths that had me dying at its perfection}, murder, mayhem, and snark, all wrapped up in a package only Gretchen could deliver.

If you're not reading her books, you should be.

\*\*Huge thanks to Harper Teen and Edelweiss for providing the arc in exchange for an honest review\*\*

## Jessica (a GREAT read) says

Gretchen McNeil's Get Dirty picks up immediately where we left off in Get Even, which I read sooo many months ago and alas, I couldn't remember much that had happened! The pain of reading too much! LOL!

After some initial confusion as to who some of the secondary characters were, I was able to quickly get back into the story as the remaining members of DGM, Bree, Kitty, and Olivia try to figure out who the mysterious murderer is. And for the majority of the novel, poor Margot lays comatose in the hospital. But this time, the girls have backup, as more of their friends are initiated into the secret club of DGM.

The killer is after the people the girls care for, so having some more of their friends at their side seems prudent even. In the meantime, poor Bree is basically put under house arrest, which pretty much leaves Olivia, Kitty, Ed the Head, John, and Logan to do some of the investigating.

The stakes get raised in this one. There were so many secrets and suspicions being tossed at us, but it never felt overwhelming. I just wanted to read even faster to get to the bottom of this mystery. And the killer even starts to go after previous DGM targets! Add to that, it seems there's a new DGM group in the works that continues the girls' work in taking the bullies of the school down a notch.

And just wow! This is the kind of book where there is literally never a dull moment! So much mystery! So much suspense! It has it creepy and eerie moments as well! And let's not forget some romantic interludes with some of the characters as well!

I definitely liked how things wrapped up in this one! I sooooo did not see this killer coming! I wanted to say I had an inkling of an idea...but then Gretchen totally takes me by surprise with a whopper of a reveal! And just wow! Nicely done, Gretchen! Perhaps my only complaint was not being able to remember the events of Get Dirty as well, which is basically my own fault! I either should've waited to binge this duology or try to squeeze a re-read in, which rarely happens these days!

My biggest piece of advice here is to read Get Even and Get Dirty back to back because you will not be disappointed! Gretchen McNeil is a master of suspense novels and her books are not ones to be missed! Read them now!

Overall Rating 5/5 stars

#### Jen Ryland says

Like the first book, *Get Even*, *Get Dirty* was fast-paced and plot driven, with a lot of snappy humor and a bunch of twists and turns. I never really connected with any of the characters, but in a book like this, that's not really necessary. (Ed the Head is still a favorite. He cracks me up.)

Somehow I thought this series would be more than two books, but this final installment did wrap things up and reveal the villain.

\*This book does seem inspired by PLL, and given the way that show has dragged on and on and makes less and less sense as things go on, I'm fine that this is a duo logy.

Recommended for PLL fans and readers looking for a fun, page-turning summer read.

#### Evie says

Review originally posted on Bookish Lifestyle

Gretchen McNeil's Don't Get Mad duology is one of the most tightly woven, convoluted, unpredictable and ingeniously potted teen revenge series I've read to date. It's a fast-paced, high-intensity mystery/thriller with plenty of unexpected twists, badass cast of characters and convoluted yet seamlessly put together story line. In other words, this series rocks.

In my review of the first book, Get Even, I said that the book wasn't as substantial and dark as Gretchen's stand-alone novels and boy, am I going to eat those words right now. At the time, I did not realize the scope

of this story and just how awesomely complex and well-thought-out it was going to be. I am sorry, Gretchen, that I ever doubted your plotting skills. I will know better next time, I promise.

Get Dirty was just flawless. A magnificent and perfectly satisfying conclusion to an epic and masterfully written mini-series. The book was just... wow. I am not even sure where to begin. With the cruel cliffhanger ending of Get Even, and the many unanswered questions we were left with, I was counting the days to the release date of Get Dirty. I couldn't wait to find out how this story ends and who was behind all the murders. I really had no idea. That's a big part of why I love this series so much, it is completely unpredictable. I was almost done with the second book and I was still as clueless as I was at the beginning of the first one. It was almost frustrating, but also freakishly enjoyable, because really, point me to another author who can plot so devilishly. I honestly doubt anyone can beat McNeil at this game.

I also really loved the fact that we got to know the characters from a more personal side. We got a look at their backgrounds and history, their family relationships and past. It wasn't a whole lot of details, but the details we got definitely made the story deeper and more complex. Plus, they really helped me understand the motivations of the characters. I appreciated that, especially since Gretchen could have done without it and the story would've been just as great.

Overall, this is a fantastic duology. Truly. If you like books full of twists and turns, with nail-biting suspense and jaw-dropping surprises, you will have a fabulous time reading this series. It's an explosive one.

# Me, My Shelf and I says

Review coming closer to release date!

#### Erin Arkin says

Get Dirty is the second book of the Don't Get Mad series and I couldn't completely remember how book one ended but that didn't prevent me from diving right back into this story.

This book picks right up where the last one left off...or shortly after. The things I loved about the first book definitely continue through this one. The friendship that the girls (Kitty, Bree, Olivia, and Margot) have developed only gets stronger through this book and I loved how they all worked together despite their challenges to try to find the killer.

I also thought the mystery that McNeil developed here was great. I was guessing and second guessing myself on who it might be and then when I finally found out I admit, it wasn't what I expected. And that was EXCELLENT!

All of these characters have their own things to deal with and on top of that, they are trying to figure out who is trying to frame them for something they didn't do. With Bree in juvie and Margot in the hospital, Kitty and Olivia end up relying on some new DGM members for help. As they all combine their efforts to find the killer, the threats to the members of DGM continue and things get even riskier.

If you like a good mystery with enough twists to keep you guessing, definitely check out this book/series. I

admit, I enjoyed this one a bit more than book one but overall enjoyed the series as a whole.

Thank you to Edelweiss and Balzer + Bray for the review copy!

# **Colleen Houck says**

A great conclusion. I liked getting to know the parents and finally getting to know what happened. Totally surprise ending. Did not see it coming at all!

#### Veronica Morfi says

Rating: 4/5

Great ending. This is how Pretty Little Liars should have been like. Two books that had everything in them, secrets, red herrings, a lot of action, death and drama and finally all questions answered in a way that makes perfect sense.

#### Sarah says

(Source: I received a digital copy of this book for free on a read-to-review basis. Thanks to HarperCollins and Edelweiss.)

"I, Kitty Wei, do solemnly swear, no secrets - ever - shall leave this square."

This book was a bit slow, but we got to find out who the killer was – so Yay!!

The characters in this didn't irritate me quite so much as they did in the first book, and they did seem to think a little bit more about what they were doing, even if they still weren't awesome detectives.

"Olivia gasped and rushed over to one of the computers. "Oh my God! We have to unsend that email.""

The storyline in this was all about finding the killer. Who put Margo in the hospital? Who is knocking people off? Who is continuing the work of DGM? And while we didn't get answers to any of this until the very end of the book, and while this frustrated me, this was a much more interesting story than Get Even! I really wanted to know what was going on, and every prediction as to who the killer was was wrong!

"We sent an anonymous email to Sergent Callahan with all our evidence against Christopher Beeman."

Ed whistled low. "Yeah, they're going to delete that in about ten seconds."

The ending to this was pretty good, and I didn't guess the identity of the murderer! I almost feel like going back and re-reading both books to try and see if there were any clues that I missed, but considering how much the pace in these books irritated me, I'm not sure I have the patience right now! I will say that this was a big improvement on Get Even though!

6.25 out of 10

#### Nara says

Get Dirty is the continuation and conclusion of the Don't Get Mad duology. After the massive cliffhanger at the end of Get Even, I was definitely looking forward to getting my hands on this book, if only to finally find out the identity of the killer.

I definitely feel like I enjoyed the first book more than this one. While the stakes are higher in this book, the first just felt a lot more realistic to me (which is saying something, because to be honest, book one, while not unbelievable, wasn't the most realistic contemporary). I feel like McNeil did a much better job of having the four points of view as intertwining, yet separate plotlines in Get Even. This book just felt a bit messy overall.

I feel like the culprit is pretty unpredictable. I remember when the villain's identity was revealed, I was sitting there thinking to myself wtf. But it's not the sort of surprise that was bad, because the killer's actions weren't out of character or anything like that. It was just that person wasn't someone I was even considering at all, to be quite frank. I keep wondering to myself whether I should go back and have a read to see if there are any big clues about the villain's identity, but at the same time there are probably better books out there that I could be reading.

I'm not sure if I'd recommend this duology to everyone. It's perhaps something that you should read if you like Pretty Little Liars style stories.

Ratings

Overall: 7/10 Plot: 3/5 Romance: 3/5 Writing: 4/5 Characters: 4/5 Cover: 3/5

# Colette says

From page 150 on I could not put this book down (even at 11pm on a school night). The three hours straight

of reading felt like minutes as I rushed to find out who killed whom. Gretchen McNeil wins the title "the queen of literary suspense;" no other author possess the ability to pull people into a book and hang on to them until the final page is viewed. More questions, answers, and shocking discoveries fill each chapter of this thriller. Just when one thinks they have the murder pinned down, they turn turn the page and realize their mistake. The ending of this book qualifies as one of my favorite book closers ever! Overall 5/5 stars; I cannot think of one negative critique for this must-read mystery.

#### Cesar says

4 stars

Oh my God! So many mysteries and theories and conspiracies! (alright, not that many conspiracies, but they were there!)

*Get Dirty* had everything I wanted in a conclusion to a series! Finally, all my questions were answered and the overall arc of the mystery concluded well enough for a satisfying ending.

What I got was friends sticking together, a mystery that had me second guess everything, and group dynamics between different people.

Overall: I enjoyed both books!

Can't say too much because I don't want to give spoilers!;)

Thanks for reading my review!

-Cesar

# Lauren? (YABookers) says

I received a free copy via edelweiss for review purposes.

#### Spoilers for the first book, Get Even.

Last year, I read Get Even and it left me breathless. I didn't think that the sequel would be able to reach my very high standard, because that's what happens with sequels, right? I was wrong, though. And I didn't need to worry because *Get Dirty* surpassed all my expectations. I couldn't stop reading. **I was hooked from the first chapter**, and I kept saying to myself, "Just one more chapter, then I'll put it down." But I didn't. I couldn't, because I needed to know who the killer was.

Get Dirty picks up practically right away after the jaw-dropping cliffhanger that was Get Even. Bree is in Juvie, Margot is in a coma, and Kitty and Olivia need to figure out what the hell they're going to do now. Just as they think they're about to fight back, Ed the Head reveals something that confuses everyone even more. To make things even more complicated, the girls have their personal crisis' to deal with; Kitty and Donte are drifting apart and it seems he is keeping a secret from her, Bree is out of juvie but stuck under

house arrest, and Olivia's mother is spiralling out of control. With the killer threatening everything they care about, they have no choice but to confront the killer.

As with *Get Even*, my favourite part about *Get Dirty* were the characters and their dynamics. **I love Kitty** and she is by far my favourite, but the other girls have a special place in my heart as well, and their personalities a distinct and they've all grown as characters since the last one. I didn't care much for the romance because I was so focused on the mystery, but it does add a bit of a lighter element to the story.

Get Dirty was just as addictive as Get Even, perhaps even more so because I knew I'd be finding out who the killer was. Which was a surprise! (view spoiler) The mystery and thriller aspect is great because it had me on the edge of my seat more than once. It's so cleverly plotted with clues throughout - the plot is a very enjoyable aspect.

A great conclusion to this amazing duology, and McNeil really has a talent for writing mystery and thrillers. I might have to check out her other works because *Get Dirty* has left me with a serious case of book hangover.

# Trisha says

"I'm not getting mad, I'm just getting even."

I love that this book is such an easy fun read. You just jump right back into the story. The beginning quickly reminds you where everyone is (hospital, meeting up, who knows who, and who doesn't know!) and lets you just jump right back in. And I loved getting right back there.

But I kick myself - because it's my own fault I didn't absolutely love this one. I just couldn't remember enough from book 1 and I've waited too long to finally pick up book 2. I love the story kept me guessing about 'who done it' but I wonder how much of that was because I could not remember a single character or bit of the story from before.

either way, I found this one entertaining even if the big reveal didn't quite surprise like it probably should have.