



Waiting for Wednesday

Nicci French

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Ce mercredi-là, Ruth Lennox, épouse et mère aimée, est sauvagement assassinée. Aide-soignante charitable et voisine exemplaire, voilà une femme sans histoires, pensait l'inspecteur Karlsson. Jusqu'à ce que les langues se délient... Face aux mensonges d'une famille meurtrie, Karlsson a besoin de la psychothérapeute Frieda Klein, qui n'a pas son pareil pour percer les noirs secrets de l'âme.

Mais sera-t-elle en mesure de l'aider ? Traumatisée par une récente agression, elle est mêlée de manière personnelle à l'affaire. Et ses méthodes de travail suscitent plus que jamais la critique, quand d'étranges intuitions la mènent sur la piste de jeunes filles disparues auxquelles personne ne s'intéresse... À corps perdu, Frieda se lance à la poursuite d'un tueur en série ignoré de tous. À moins qu'il ne soit que la projection de ses propres angoisses ?

Nicci French nous emmène au cœur d'un Londres toujours plus oppressant, où la vulnérabilité ne pardonne pas...

Waiting for Wednesday Details

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From Reader Review Waiting for Wednesday for online ebook

Katerina says

Ακ?μα ?να φανταστικ? βιβλ?ο μυστηρ?ου με πρωταγων?στρια την αγαπημ?νη μου Φρ?ντα Κλ?ιν. Το 3ο βιβλ?ο της σειρ?ς μου ?ρεσε λ?γο λιγ?τερο απ? τα δ?ο προηγο?μενα, λ?γω του ?τι ?ταν κ?πως αργ? στην αρχ?... χμ... μ?χρι τη μ?ση περ?που. Στις τελευτα?ες 200 περ?που σελ?δες απ?κτησε τρομερ? ενδιαφ?ρον και απ?στευτη αγων?α, εν? στις προηγο?μενες σελ?δες παρακολουθε?ς απλ? την εξ?λιξη της υπ?θεσης και την συλλογ? των στοιχε?ων. Το πιο πετυχημ?νο σε αυτ? τα βιβλ?α θεωρ? ?τι ε?ναι η πρωταγων?στρια που σκαλ?ζει τα π?ντα, κ?τι που υπ? φυσιολογικ?ς συνθ?κες δε θα γιν?ταν, τουλ?χιστον ?χι σε τ?τοιο βαθμ?. Εγ? τρελα?νομαί που ε?ναι ψυχοθεραπε?τρια, ?σως αυτ? με τραβ?ει περισσ?τερο σε αυτ?ν τη σειρ?, γιατ? προσπαθ? κι εγ? μαζ? με εκε?νη να καταλ?βω τι τρ?χει με κ?ποιον θεραπευ?μεν? της για παρ?δειγμα. Περισσ?τερο χα?ρομαί ?ταν καταλαβα?νω τι συμβα?νει με κ?ποιον ασθεν? της παρ? αν λ?σω την υπ?θεση. Δεν θ?λω να γρ?ψω πολλ? για να μη μου ξεφ?γει κ?τι που αφορ? την υπ?θεση, αλλ? αν σου ?ρεσαν τα δ?ο προηγο?μενα ? αν γενικ? σου αρ?σουν τα αστυνομικ? μυθιστορ?ματα ΠΡΕΠΕΙ να το διαβ?σεις!

Julie says

Waiting for Wednesday by Nicci French is a 2014 publication. I was provided a copy of this book by the publisher and Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

It has taken me a good long while to get to this third book, but I wanted to locate the first two installments first, and it took a little time to get through library holds, but it was worth the wait.

This series must be read in order because the storylines bleed over from one book to the next. This one begins with Frieda's recovery from attempted murder, and the irony of having her arch enemy to thank for saving her life. But, the experience has left Frieda unstable on many fronts and is hard to put into words just exactly how unstable and fragile she behaves. She is certainly not herself, that's for sure, and neither is anyone else for that matter.

Even though Frieda has been kicked off the force and is no longer a consultant, the criminal psychologist that feels humiliated by Frieda, has made it his life's goal to pay her back, in spades. If that weren't enough, her stalker, still sends her reminders that he is watching her. Still, Frieda manages to find herself embroiled in a police investigation when her niece, Chloe, introduces her to a friend whose mother was recently murdered. As it turns out Karlsson and Yvette are working on the homicide and Karlsson can't seem to keep himself from asking Frieda to give her opinion.

In the meantime, all of Frieda's friends and family are deeply concerned for her as she appears to be losing her grip and falling further and further away from her practice and the life she once led.

Well, you know what they say about weaving tangled webs. This case is a prime example of that, and goes to show you the far reaching effects our decisions can have on others, even beyond the grave.

But, Frieda finds herself helping the murder victim's family all while trying to puzzle out a phrase uttered to her under false pretenses. While trying to determine the origins of this story, she stumbles across a clue to a cold case which could potentially blow the lid off it.

So, there is a lot going on here, with all of the recurring characters behaving erratically. There are two cases to solve and Frieda is in the middle of both of them, slowly falling apart every day, spiraling into a dark tailspin, that had me wondering if she was going to come through all this in one piece, not physically, but mentally.

Although this is one is very dark, moody, and is pretty depressing, I thought the character developments were very well done, and so much more realistic. Frieda is a far cry from the woman we met in 'Blue Monday'. Josef is also far removed from his cheerful self, and Olivia has become more a paranoid parent than ever. Yvette is struggling with her actions from the last book, trying to make amends, and even Karlsson makes a boneheaded move that was completely out of character. So, instead of the usual, 'onward and upwards' mentality we usually see, the characters responded to all that came before just as someone might in real life- shaken, unstable, and depressed, and sad, or maybe a little angry, or dealing with regret. Each character dealt with this in their own unique way, but Frieda will have you wringing your hands, wondering how much more a person could stand.

The plot was very engrossing exploring the double lives some people live and horrific consequences of their selfish actions, as well has providing us a side story that is equally compelling and twice as chilling. Although the story ties up most of the loose ends, it doesn't end with a rosy outcome, and is a little heavy throughout, but I was cheered to see Frieda beginning to take the right steps toward recovery. I am now on a diligent search for the next book in the series. To me this one was the best in the series to date.

Tamara says

3,5 ster. Ik vond dit deel minder krachtig dan de vorige twee delen. Waar de andere delen mij steeds het gevoel gaven dat ik door moest lezen, deed dit deel dat niet. Het onderzoek dat in dit boek centraal staat bevat zoveel verschillende personages, dat ik soms moeite moest doen om te begrijpen over wie het ging. Daarnaast ontmoet Frieda ook heel wat nieuwe mensen, wat het nog verwarringe maakt. Ik vond het boek zeker niet slecht, maar ik hoop dat de andere delen mij meer pakken dan dit deel.

Margaret says

3/5

This is my least favorite Frieda Klein mystery so far. (Even a least favorite Frieda Klein is still a good read and better than many other mysteries.) There are way too many twists for me in this super-complicated plot. And at the same time, I enjoyed reading the book, even as I felt that not one more twist could be tolerated. This novel also keeps us up with all the various ins and outs of Frieda's own life and that of her family and friends. As much as I enjoy reading about Frieda, not all of that is always reassuring—sometimes I am left quite worried. As I've said in earlier reviews, the Frieda Klein books really ought to be read in order as there are several threads that pick up from earlier novels.

Jenna says

The story begins when a mother of three (Ruth Lennox) is found dead by her daughter inside their home. Ruth is a seemingly typical mother and housewife and the question is, who would want her dead and in such a brutal way? As the story unfolds, so do the layers of Ruth's secret life as well as the rest of the family.

Although Psychotherapist Frieda Klein isn't working with Karlsson on this particular case she is soon pulled in by a connection that she has with the case, through her niece and her relationship with Ruth's son.

Recovering from a previous attack, she is somehow drawn back in and finds herself struggling to keep herself together although it seems that she is in the grips of a serial killer from her past.

I haven't read the first two books in the series, but I will say that I liked the book enough that I am going to go back and start this series from the beginning.

This book was written very well and the character development was spot on. I will also tweak my review when I finish the first two books of the series. I would definitely recommend this book for the psychothriller enthusiast in you!

On a side note...has anyone else noticed that, so far, all three books are also titles to songs? Waiting for Wednesday is a song by Lisa Loeb. So, I will leave you with the lyrics and let you decide if it is a coincidence or not...probably not, but still fun to think outside the box.

"Waiting For Wednesday" by Lisa Loeb

*waiting for wednesday, my stomach doesn't hurt enough,
pain always is the sign.*

*waiting for wednesday, no proof of mine exists,
so I don't have to take it back.*

*don't want to show you good-bye.
show you good-bye.
show you good-bye.
show you good-bye.*

*but you're waiting for wednesday.
waiting for wednesday.
waiting for wednesday, i pray you'll put me on the spot.
i do believe you, that you'll love me that you'll leave me.*

*what will i do when you come near to me?
you'll put me on the spot.
you've been doing this a long, long time,
not that you're better than me,
but that you do it a lot.*

*Now i'm waiting for wednesday,
waiting for wednesday,*

*waiting for wednesday,
waiting for wednesday.*

*i'm gonna show you good-bye,
show you good-bye,
show you good-bye,
show you good-bye.*

*now I'm waiting for wednesday,
you're back from out of town,
the west is dry, your mind is clear,
and i don't want to be here,
i don't want to be here,
i don't want to be here,
to show you good-bye.*

and i'm waiting for wednesday, to show you good-bye.

Anne says

There's always something a little unsatisfactory about reviewing the third book in a series. If you've read and loved the first two – Blue Monday and Tuesday's Gone – as I have, I must report that I thought this was the best yet. If you haven't, don't start with this one – although there are a few attempts to summarise what's gone before, there are aspects you really won't understand and appreciate, like Frieda's chaotic relationships, the significance of Dean, the back stories of all the characters and the significance of their actions. Nicci French – the husband and wife writing team of Nicci Gerrard and Sean French – has (have?) written some wonderful earlier psychological thrillers, so if you haven't read any of their work before I'd recommend starting with one of them. It's difficult to recommend to others, but I think my personal favourites were Killing Me Softly, Beneath The Skin and Secret Smile. I wouldn't recommend some of their later books – some of them just didn't quite hit the mark for me, and perhaps signalled to the authors too that a new direction was needed. And this series, featuring psychotherapist Frieda Klein, is something of a departure from their previous books, but has the same engrossing story lines, well drawn characters (particularly, but not exclusively, the women), and palpable sense of tension.

The story opens when the body of Ruth Lennox – apparently the perfect wife and mother - is found by her daughter. As the investigation gets underway, it transpires that there was a lot more to Ruth's life than met the eye. Frieda – still recovering from her experience in Tuesday's Gone – connects with the family through her niece Chloe (as infuriating as ever) who is friendly with the eldest son Tom. While the police's efforts to solve the case continue, with a more in-depth look at the characters of DCI Karlsson and DC Yvette Long, Frieda (who is no longer working with the police) is side-tracked into another investigation by a chance comment made by a patient. She pairs up with Jim Fearby, an elderly journalist with an obsession for the truth, and the whole story is played out with Frieda's own fragile mental state becoming increasingly evident. All the same characters are here – Sandy, her sister-in-law Olivia, the wonderful Josef who originally met Frieda by falling through her roof and in this book is "helping" by refurbishing her bathroom. And in the shadows – always – is that sinister character.

The writing is as excellent as ever, and I really can't agree with some of the criticisms I've read of it as repetitive or as police procedural – there are some very short and essential diversions to pursue the narrative, but the heart and focus of this book is Frieda who becomes more and more fascinating as the series develops. I didn't guess the ending - but I really didn't want to, I just wanted to be swept along and discover it with Frieda. This is a wonderful addition to the series – please just don't start here. I can't wait for Thursday...

Deanna says

I've sort of fretted over how many stars to give this one. I have the previous one in the series a rounded up 5 stars. This one, after time and reflection to confirm this, was as well done as the previous one, and more ambitious and complex in some ways. But the enjoyment factor was down a notch for me.

That isn't a valid criticism of the book, though, just how it fell with me.

The story is of the unraveling of the protagonist after the trauma at the ending of the previous book. An unraveling, from the inside out, of a very controlled, private, independent woman.

The world she has previously constructed for herself, in which she has been highly functioning and largely content, starts flying apart like a tire coming unraveled on the highway. And it's largely because she has dropped her guard, her boundaries, her standards and seems unable to go back or adapt. She has good reason. It makes sense. It's terrific character-developing, suspense-making writing. But not the kind of gripping I was expecting for the next book in this series.

Will she get it together or fall completely apart? And how, in the process, will she solve the crime (s?) and/or save...someone, anyone?

There's a large cast of characters here. An annoying and heartbreaking plethora of damaged children and young people, all of whom require this particular protagonist's unofficial, personal intervention. A range of adults and young people who are potentially, or maybe alternately, victims and perpetrators. And two whole separate (or are they?) complex crime story threads.

As I said, this was ambitious, and on the whole well done. Not sorry I read it. And despite not exactly enjoying it I liked and appreciated it a lot.

The unraveling is painful, as it's meant to be, and the ending is not unsatisfying. On the whole this is a recommendation, and a caution. Being particularly invested in this character, her self-made, albeit trauma-induced, breakdown is a slow motion train wreck.

I had to keep reading to find out what would happen, but the stress wasn't exactly the pleasant stress of suspense novels where you know that underneath it all, you're in the hands of a strong and capable protagonist who will somehow see this through.

Having enjoyed riding on the strong shoulders of this particular strong protagonist through the first couple of books, it wasn't the same kind of carry as a reader this time. And I wonder what kind of carry is in store in future installments. Will our hero climb back up or fall deeper into an abyss?

The kind of book where I feel like I have to carry a hopelessly disintegrating protagonist, instead of being carried along by a fundamentally sound one (even damaged and struggling, you still expect they'll come through when it counts), is not my favorite read. This book clarified this as a reading trigger for me. I need my protagonists to not melt into an ultimately irredeemable puddle of avoidable awful. This protagonist hasn't gone there yet, but she sure tried in this story.

Ina says

Dit 3 de deel vond ik iets minder dan de 2 vorige delen omdat er ook meer personages in voorkwam en ik echt wel mijn hoofd er bij moest houden wie ze allemaal waren. Maar niettegenstaande heb ik ook weer genoten van dit deel.

Anna says

Η Φρ?ντα Κλ?ιν ?χει μια ιδια?τερη επ?δραση π?νω μου. Αν και ε?ναι μοναχικ?, ωστ?σο περιτριγυρ?ζεται απ? αληθινο?ς φ?λους, που την αγαπ?νε ?σο τ?ποτα και θα ?διναν ακ?μα και τη ζω? τους γι' αυτ?. ?σως γιατ? ε?ναι ειλικριν?ς και αληθιν?. Επ?σης, εν? ε?ναι φιλ?συχος ?νθρωπος, ?πως αναφ?ρει και ο Κ?ρλσον κ?που στο βιβλ?ο "η Φρ?ντα πρ?πει να ?χει δεχτε? περισσ?τερες καταγγελ?ες για β?αιη συμπεριφορ? απ? ?σες μποντι-μπ?λντερ μπρ?βος σε παρ?νομο κλαμπ". Ε?ναι πραγματικ? παρανο?κ? π?ς τα γεγον?τα π?φτουν π?νω της χωρ?ς αυτ? να τα προκαλε? και π?σο ακολουθ?ντας τα ?νστικτ? της μπλ?κει σε υποθ?σεις που ξεπερν?νε τα απλ? καθημεριν? προβλ?ματα των ανθρ?πων.

Στη σκοτειν? Τετ?ρτη τα γεγον?τα συνεχ?ζουν λ?γες εβδομ?δες μετ? τα συμβ?ντα του προηγο?μενου βιβλ?ου, ?που η Φρ?ντα ?χει σχεδ?ν συν?λθει πλ?ρως, αλλ? δεν δουλε?ει ακ?μα κανονικ? με τους ασθενε?ς της. Οι υποθ?σεις ε?ναι δ?ο, η μ?α αφορ? στη δολοφον?α μιας μητ?ρας - νοικοκυρ?ς, που εν? αρχικ? ?λοι αναρωτιο?νται ποιος μπορε? να ?θελε να τη σκοτ?σει, τελικ? μαζ?ε?ονται στο τμ?μα κ?μποσοι ?νθρωποι που ομολογο?ν τη δολοφον?α της, εκνευρ?ζονταις τον Κ?ρλσον και τους υπ?λοιπους. Η Φρ?ντα πι?νεται απ? μια φρ?ση εν?ς ασθενο?ς - παγ?δας (?λη ιστορ?α και αυτ?) και αναζητ? με μαν?α μια εξαφανισμ?νη κοπ?λα. Ανεξ?ρητα με αυτ? δρα ?νας δημοσιογ?φος. Στο τ?λος του βιβλ?ου αποκαλ?πτεται μια ιστορ?α που κρατο?σε χρ?νια, που απο?λεσμα ?χει μια πολ? λυρικ? περιγραφ? των συναισθημ?των της Φρ?ντα για την υπ?θεση (την οπο?α δεν θα παραθ?σω γιατ? θα ?ταν σπ?ιλερ).

Ο Ντιν Ριβ βρ?σκεται συνεχ?ς στο μυαλ? της Φρ?ντα, η οπο?α νι?θει το σκοτ?δι να την τυλ?γει. Προσωπικ? δεν νομ?ζω ?τι τ?ρο? ?λλαξε κ?τι για να πλημμυρ?σει η ζω? της με σκοτ?δι, νομ?ζω ?τι κ?ποια πρ?γματα που ν?μιζε ?τι ε?χε καλ? κρυμμ?να στο μυαλ? της τ?ρα εμφαν?ζονται και πρ?πει επιτ?λους να τα αντιμετωπ?σει. Νομ?ζω ?τι το επ?μενο βιβλ?ο θα μας βοηθ?σει να μ?θουμε περισσ?τερα για τη Φρ?ντα, εγ? π?ντως την αγαπ? ?δη π?ρα πολ?!! Θα ?θελα πολ? να δω τη σειρ? να γυρ?ζεται σε ταιν?α ? σε σειρ? λ?γων επεισοδ?ων.

Τ?λος, ε?ναι απ? τα βιβλ?α που θα ?θελα ?να δι?λειμμα με κ?τι ?λλο προτο? διαβ?σω το επ?μενο,

ξ?ρετε, ε?ναι απ? τα βιβλ?α με τα οπο?α εμπλ?κεσαι τ?σο ?ντονα συναισθηματικ? που θες μια πα?ση μ?χρι το επ?μενο (μη σου ρουφ?ξει την ψυχ? σου)

Π?ντως, για ?σους δεν ?χετε διαβ?σει τα βιβλ?α, π?ρτε τα με τη σειρ?, ε?ναι πολ? σημαντικ? αν θ?λετε να ζ?σετε αυτ? το συνα?σθημα για το οπο?ο μιλο?σα νωρ?τερα!

Chrissa Vasileiou says

Το τρ?το βιβλ?ο της σειρ?ς, η "Σκοτειν? Τετ?ρτη", κατ?φερε (και αυτ?) να σταθε? επ?ξια στο συγγραφικ? ?ψος που μας ?χει συνηθ?σει το δ?δυμο Nicci French. Πραγματικ?, ε?ναι τ?σο υπ?ροχο να διαβ?ζεις μια σειρ? βιβλ?ων και να ε?ναι ?λα τ?σο καλογραμμ?να, συναρπαστικ? και αγωνι?δη που να μην βαρι?σαι καθ?λου στη δι?ρκεια της αν?γνωσης...!

Στην "Τετ?ρτη" εξελ?σσονται δ?ο αστυνομικ?ς υποθ?σεις παρ?ληλα: απ? τη μ?α η "επ?σημη" ?ρευνα για τη δολοφον?α μιας μητ?ρας τρι?ν παιδι?ν, η οπο?α φαινομενικ? ζο?σε την τ?λεια ζω? και καν?νας δεν θα ε?χε λ?γο να σκοτ?σει. Και απ? την ?λλη η "ανεπ?σημη", την οπο?α ξεκιν? η Φρ?ντα και φυσικ? βρ?σκεται εντελ?ς μπλεγμ?νη στα πλοκ?μια μιας σκοτειν?ς υπ?θεσης που αφορ? την μυστηρι?δη εξαφ?νιση ν?ων γυναικ?ν. Οι δ?ο υποθ?σεις δεν ?χουν καμ?α σχ?ση μεταξ? τους, ?μως ε?ναι και οι δ?ο εξ?σου περ?πλοκες και συναγων?ζονται με επιτυχ?α και αδι?κοπο σασπ?νς για να κρατ?σουν αμε?ωτη την προσοχ? μας. Και το καταφ?ρνουν και οι δ?ο! Εκτ?ς του ?τι, ?σο και να σπ?σεις το κεφ?λι σου, δεν θα καταφ?ρεις να βρεις τον ?νοχο παρ? μ?νο ?ταν αποφασ?σουν οι συγγραφε?ς να τον αποκαλ?ψουν, επιπλ?ον σοκ?ρεσαι ?ντονα απ? τις αποκαλ?ψεις αυτ?ς, ?ταν ?ρχονται. Πραγματικ?, το ανθρ?πινο μυαλ? δεν μπορε? πολλ?ς φορ?ς να διανοηθ? για το τι ε?ναι ικαν? ?να ?τομο και μ?χρι πο? φτ?νουν τα ?ρι? του. Το μ?νο σ?γουρο ε?ναι πως και τα δ?ο εγκλ?ματα θα κρατ?σουν ενεργ? το ενδιαφ?ρον του αναγν?στη και οι δρ?στες τους θα ε?ναι μια πραγματικ? ?κπληξη/αποκ?λυψη.

Και μ?σα σε ?λα αυτ?, η ζω? συνεχ?ζει να κυλ?ει και να εξελ?σσεται για τους ?ρω?ς μας, που ειδικ? αν διαβ?ζεις τα βιβλ?α σερ? (?πως εγ? καλ? ρα) τους νι?θεις πλ?ον σαν μ?λη της οικογ?νει?ς σου! Η Φρ?ντα προσπαθε? να αναρρ?σει απ? τα τρα?ματ? της, δεν βλ?πει επισ?μως ασθενε?ς κι ?χει ρ?ξει ?λο της το β?ρος στην αναζ?τηση των χαμ?νων γυναικ?ν. Βρ?σκεται ?μως ανακατεμ?νη, ?θελ? της ουσιαστικ?, και με τα παιδι? της δολοφονημ?νης γυνα?κας και, επομ?νως, η υπ?θεση αυτ? την τριβελ?ζει επ?σης. Και οι υπ?λοιποι ?ρωες εξελ?σσονται, μεγαλ?νουν και ωριμ?ζουν, ?λλοτε με τις καλ?ς και ?λλοτε με τις κακ?ς στιγμ?ς τους, συμπληρ?νοντας τ?λεια το παζλ με την εικ?να της ζω?ς και του περιβ?λλοντος της Φρ?ντα Κλ?ιν.

Μου ?ρεσε ιδια?τερα αυτ?ς ο συνδυασμ?ς των δ?ο υποθ?σεων, το λ?ω μια ακ?μα φορ?. Γιατ? ?ταν δι?βαζα τη μ?α, την ?βρισκα τ?σο ενδιαφ?ρουσα που δεν ανυπομονο?σα να ?ρθει η ?λλη. ?φηνα απ? την ιστορ?α να 'κυλ?ει' και να με παρασ?ρνει στο ρε?μα της. Κι ?ταν διαβ?ζεις ?να βιβλ?ο που ?χι μ?νο δεν κ?νει καθ?λου κοιλι? και εσ?να να βαρι?σαι, αλλ? επιπλ?ον σε γεμ?ζει με ποικ?λα συναισθ?ματα και δε σε αφ?νει να το αφ?σεις, πραγματικ? δεν νομ?ζω πως χρει?ζεσαι ο, τιδ?ποτε ?λλο για να ε?σαι ?νας απ?λυτα ευχαριστημ?νος αναγν?στης!

Diane S ? says

The third book in this series and it was even better than the first two. The character of Frieda is so interesting, a psychotherapist who up until this book had worked with the police. This book finds her in mental turmoil, after her near death in the last. Three different storylines all relate to each other in some way. These are very character driven psychological suspense stories and the supporting character, DCI Larsson, Josef and her niece Chloe are also very interesting. Another great job by French kept me turning the pages and the personal tumult and red herrings add to this.

Looking forward to Thursday.

Arc from publisher.

Patrice Hoffman says

For the longest I've been hoping to read a Nicci French crime, mystery thriller. When given the opportunity through Goodreads, I didn't hesitate to ask for an advanced copy. Once I was approved I did my usual happy jig. After reading Waiting for Wednesday I've come to the conclusion that I did myself a great disservice by not reading the previous Freida Klein novels.

This novel, Waiting for Wednesday begins with Ruth Lennox being discovered in her home by her daughter, dead from an apparent brutal attack. Initially no one can fathom how a mother of three teens could be randomly selected as the victim of some sadistic crazy until the truth of her life begins to surface for the world to scrutinize.

Detective Karlsson is interested in finding the killer as well as defending Freida Klein's honor. After Freida was embroiled with a previous case that almost cost her life, as well as has rendered her in a state of fear. The only times I found Klein to be human were during the moments when she was vulnerable to the fear she felt when dealing with the monster from the case from hell.

Essentially, I was completely drawn in by Nicci French's eloquence in her words choice, vivid descriptions, and believable conversations. What I couldn't ignore was how much of an outsider I felt after much of the novel. I wanted so much to be engorged in this novel, but I was constantly attempting to feel some sort of connection to the characters. I never once felt that way about any of these characters. Including Freida Klein. She seemed cold and distant. Sure she opened the doors of her world to her neice, who also befriends the victims only son, there was nothing else that suggested she had emotions.

My review is basically this: I should have read the previous Freida Klein novels in order to truly appreciate the depth of Nicci French's writing. Don't get me wrong. She's an awesome writer and I'm more than grateful that I was afforded the opportunity to enjoy her writing. I think I'll become more familiar with her earlier Klein novels before I move forward in this series.

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Kathryn says

Third instalment of Nicci French's series featuring Dr Frieda Klein. I preferred it to the second one and found the plotlines much more gripping, but I'm getting more and more irritated by Frieda as a character, especially the appalling way she treats her so-called friends and her insomnia, which the authors seem to have to remind us about every few pages. Maybe if Frieda actually ate some food once in a while, she'd sleep a bit better. So annoying to read a novel about yet another female character pushing a bit of food around her plate and constantly forgetting to eat (yeah, right). Eat some doughnuts, woman, you'll feel much better. The continued presence of Dean Reeve from the first novel feels implausible to me and adds very little, and the tone of the book - of the whole series - is unrelentingly grim. I'll still read the fourth one when it comes out though, despite disliking the main character intensely, because the Nicci French pair write a damn good, suspenseful, satisfying, hard to guess what's happening plot when they put their minds to it.

Vaso says

Λ?γω του τραυματισμο? της, η Φρ?ντα αποφε?γει να αναμιχθε? σε υποθ?σεις της αστυνομ?ας. Βρ?σκεται ?μως να γνωρ?ζει τον γιο της γυνα?κος που δολοφον?θηκε. Παρ?λληλα με αυτ? την υπ?θεση, παρακολουθο?με και την ?ρευνα που κ?νει ?νας δημοσιογρ?φος για εξαφανισμ?να κορ?τσια και στην πορε?α, συναντι?ται με τη Φρ?ντα και τις εκθ?τει τα στοιχε?α της ?ρευνας του. Σε αυτ? το βιβλ?ο, εν? αρχικ? η συμμετοχ? της Φρ?ντα στην κ?ρια υπ?θεση ε?ναι παρασκηνιακ?, καταφ?ρνει να λ?σει μ?α υπ?θεση την οπο?α η αστυνομ?α δεν ε?χε καν φανταστε?... Το τρ?το βιβλ?ο της σειρ?ς με πρωταγων?στρια τη Φρ?ντα Κλ?ιν, κρατ? αμε?ωτο το ενδιαφ?ρον του αναγν?στη απ? την αρχ? ως το τ?λος.

Απολα?στε το!!

Emma says

The story was good but Frieda Klein is a very irritating character. I know this is the sign of a skilled author to make me feel so annoyed with her, but she's almost too much for me to enjoy the story.
