



## When Evil Calls Your Name

*John Nicholl*

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# When Evil Calls Your Name

*John Nicholl*

## **When Evil Calls Your Name** John Nicholl

Are you looking for a dark and gripping psychological thriller? Then you'll love When Evil Calls Your Name by #1 best-selling author John Nicholl.

Even the darkest secrets can't stay hidden forever...

When twenty-nine-year-old Cynthia Galbraith struggles to come to terms with her traumatic past and the realities of prison life, a prison counsellor persuades her to write a diary exploring the events that led to a life sentence for murder.

Although unconvinced at first, Cynthia finally decides she has all the time in the world and very little, if anything, to lose. As she begins writing she holds back nothing: sharing the thoughts she hadn't dare vocalise, the things that keep her awake at night and haunt her waking hours.

Will the truth finally be revealed?

## **When Evil Calls Your Name Details**

Date : Published April 5th 2018 by Bloodhound Books

ISBN :

Author : John Nicholl

Format : Kindle Edition

Genre : Thriller, Psychological Thriller, Suspense, Mystery

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# From Reader Review When Evil Calls Your Name for online ebook

## Schizanthus says

*Trigger warnings* include child abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence, paedophilia, mental health, murder and attempted suicide.

*Isn't it strange how our past shapes and torments us when we least expect it?*

I've heard Dr. Phil say countless times that whatever story he's focusing on is a cautionary tale. This story is **definitely** a cautionary tale. If you ever wondered how people wind up in abusive family relationships and how previously confident people transform into meek shadows of their former selves, you'll gain insight by reading this book. If you weren't already convinced how calculated and methodical perpetrators are in the execution of the physical and psychological beating down of their victims, here is a great example.

I spent so much time wondering why Cynthia Galbraith was in prison in the first place while reading *When Evil Calls Your Name*. Surely after the events described in *White is the Coldest Colour* Cynthia is due for some good fortune. I wondered about the competency of her legal team. The crime she committed seemed as though it should come under the banner of self defence or diminished responsibility.

The more I read though, the more I wondered about her complicity in the atrocities committed by her husband. Does being a victim excuse you from being responsible when you know or at least strongly suspect something heinous is happening in your home? If it's hidden in plain sight does that give you permission to ignore and deny its presence? At what point does your inaction become criminal?

While not an easy read I found this book easier to digest than the details of Dr Galbraith's crimes and thought processes of the first book in the series. You could read *When Evil Calls Your Name* without having already read *White is the Coldest Colour* but I'd personally recommend reading them in order to get the most out of them. I already had thoughts about Cynthia's character going into this book and found it interesting to confirm some thoughts and discard others.

Transported from the prison of her home where we left her in *White is the Coldest Colour* to three years into her sixteen year sentence at White Haven Women's Prison at the beginning of this book, we uncover the events that led her to White Haven by accessing her therapeutic journal and we also learn about her time behind bars. I appreciated that Cynthia's story was not sugarcoated. I felt the claustrophobia of her cell and her continued torment as she relived the traumas she experienced through nightmares and recollections. There's no magical transformation. Instead we see firsthand how the years of abuse continue to be caustic to Cynthia's self esteem and identity.

I will quibble about the use of the word *monster* to describe Dr Galbraith and those of his ilk. While it's certainly convenient and comfortable to label such depravity monstrous but I am not inclined to use that term myself as the label implies they are less than human. If we strip these people of their humanity are we then saying what they did was in their nature, they had no choice and are therefore not responsible for their actions?

Make no mistake; they are human, despite how much we'd prefer to dissociate from them. They are fallible and disgusting humans who make conscious decisions to enforce their will on others, but humans nonetheless. In a way I'm disappointed that the early life of Dr Galbraith has not been explored in the first

two books in this series as I would be interested in knowing if there were experiences or behaviour in his childhood that signalled the way his life would unfold.

I don't want to, and will never, understand why he does what he does other than the desire for power and control. I'm certainly not seeking to excuse anything he's inflicted on any of his victims but I found it so interesting watching Cynthia's story unfold that I wonder what I'd feel if I learned more about him.

The much needed update regarding the Mailer family from the first book was welcome but did come across as too simplistic and easy for my liking. The information about the Mailer's and the final session with Cynthia's prison counsellor seemed a tad rushed so I was thankful for the epilogue.

I found it interesting that in both books the children in the Galbraith family were largely unseen and silent. I could soliloquise about the silencing of children who grow up in violent homes but instead I'll just say that, whether this was the author's intention or not, I noticed and appreciated the authenticity this added to the family dynamics.

I don't think this book could ever have been as gripping as the first in the series, with its police and child protection investigations and threat of imminent danger to the various victims. However the story this book told was captivating in its own right and I'm looking forward to reading the rest of John Nicholl's books.

Thank you so much to NetGalley and Bloodhound Books for introducing me to this brilliant author. I'd give this book 4.5 stars if possible but as it's not I'm rounding up.

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## **Cats of Ulthar February Weird Fiction says**

REVIEW: WHEN EVIL CALLS YOUR NAME by John Nicholl

Some time back I was privileged to review John Nicholl's debut novel, WHITE IS THE COLDEST COLOUR, and found it riveting. His portrayal of a monster in human guise I've still not forgotten. It's sequel, WHEN EVIL CALLS YOUR NAME, is quite different, in that it is a first-person narration--in effect, a memoir, in personal journal form--of Cynthia, widow of the monstrous Dr. David Galbraith, villain of the first novel. This is more a psychological study than the thriller-mystery of WHITE IS THE CLOSEST COLOUR.

I must confess: although I sympathize with Cynthia nee Jones Galbraith, I could not empathize. Granted, her spouse was a champion psychological abuser and "brainwasher" and Cynthia didn't have confidence nor emotional stability going in, but I still couldn't generate any emotion beyond pity. Perhaps that's a failing in me. Her husband, at least, though a monster, was one who acted, not reacted, according to his own immoral lights. Cynthia has always just drifted along.

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## **Christine says**

3.5 stars

I would like to thank author John Nicoll for an ARC of his book in exchange for an unbiased review.

When Evil Calls Your Name is the sequel to White is the Coldest Colour. I strongly advise these two books be read in order.

When Evil Calls Your Name is a brilliantly written “fictional memoir” of Cynthia Galbraith, wife of evil bastard Dr. David Galbraith. I have never before read a novel written in this style. It is extremely well done, and I congratulate Mr. Nicoll for pulling it off. I loved how Cynthia is very cognizant of her readers, addressing us directly and even asking our opinion on several occasions.

The story leads us through how a normal young woman is transformed from a very capable and sociable individual into a broken, totally dependent, dispirited shell of a human being. We also see her gradual recovery into, once again, a fairly self-reliant woman, though she will always have some psychological scars. I really cared about Cynthia and rooted hard for her. I could see the potential in her to regain some sense of normalcy even though it was clear she would need to undergo a lot of hard work to get there.

The tale really isn't a “whodunit”; it is a “whydunit.” Furthermore, I wouldn't call it a psychological thriller so much as a psychological study. I do not consider either of these statements criticisms. For the most part, I very much enjoyed it for what it is.

This book has received a lot of 5 star ratings. Certainly, I can see why they were awarded. Unfortunately, for me, there was a huge issue that cost the read 1.5 stars. The story is told from two points of time. We are taken through the period just before and during Cynthia's years with Galbraith by way of Cynthia's ongoing journal entries while imprisoned. We are also privy to what is going on with Cynthia during the present time as she writes. This in and of itself is fine; however, the narrative relating to the Galbraith years during the 50-75% portion of the book was very difficult for me to plow through. In White is the Coldest Colour, we saw what a horrific monster David Galbraith is. To be honest, I had no desire to revisit this barbaric savage and his interactions with poor Cynthia. I had to force myself through this very distasteful (to me) part of When Evil Calls Your Name. I must say, reading a number of reviews, it appears no one else felt as strongly as I did regarding this issue, and that is something I hope potential readers will keep in mind.

I think John Nicoll is a superb author with a strong sense and knowledge of human psychology. Will I read whatever he puts out next? Absolutely I will! I strongly recommend White is the Coldest Colour (5 stars from me) and When Evil Calls Your Name, in that order. The first book should be read by all readers (see my review: <https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>). The second certainly by everyone interested in Cynthia's story as well as all fans of human psychology. Keep an eye on John Nicoll. He is one to watch.

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## Maxine (Booklover Catlady) says

Whenever you tackle the sequel to a book that you absolutely loved and raved about it's always a bit daunting. What if it's awful? What if I hate it? How can it possibly be as good or better? **What if my cat doesn't sit on my lap whilst I read it?**

I have to be honest for my followers, at first I was unsure where John Nicholl was taking the book, it was so very different in writing style and other things to the first book White is the coldest colour which told the story of the evil Doctor Galbraith and his heinous fetishes and evil desires. I won't share what they are as it will be a plot spoiler, what I will say is that you do need to read the first book then this one, this book won't

have as much impact or clarity for you as a stand alone novel.

The book is written from the perspective of Mrs Cynthia Galbraith, the wife of our main evil guy in book one and it's her story being written in a journalistic style at the request of her prison therapist. Yes, she is in prison, in a tiny cell with a bucket for a toilet and dangerous cell mates that you have to watch at every move. How did this young woman end up there? That's the whole point of the book...

John Nicholl takes us back to before Doctor Galbraith enters her life, the person she was, her hopes, her dreams, her family. We get to learn (eagerly) of how she meets the controlling, manipulative, emotionally, verbally and physically abusive man who becomes her husband. Why would she marry a man with such traits? Ah-ha! That's a more complex question than I can answer here, it's why you need to read the book.

At first I could not get into the rhythm of just being in her head as she is writing in her journal, but I gradually lulled into the rhythm and for me the 50% mark in the book is where it really kicked up gear and I got more and more intrigued, the last half of the book I could not put down, it was worth sticking with the slightly slow-burning start. It was fascinating with more and more reveals that made sense of things relevant to the first book and an incredible insight into human nature, dysfunctional relationships and issues of spousal abuse. It was very moving in places, I felt a lot of emotions during the last half of the book.

From the 70% mark it was just full speed ahead, I was riveted and was thinking I would rather have liked the whole book to run at this level, but maybe I am just a speed junkie, an adrenalin head. It's not needed though as John built the book up block by block for a purpose, it became clearer. I am so darn glad as well because at the beginning I was not taking to it straight away and really worried about delivering a very average review to an author that I admire and love to support. My fears were blown away as I entered deeper and kept going.

**There are some harrowing scenes that just really stick with you, the characters are really well done especially Doctor Galbraith, his psychopathic, sexually deviant and controlling nature probably has him ticking a lot of boxes and labels in the book of psychiatric disorders. Awful evil man. Evil.**

So, my actual rating is 4 stars, it only missed out on the one star as for me having to wait to 50% to be "really" hooked in was a little bit too long but overall I loved the book and recommend both books to those who have not read it highly.

For more reviews, books to win and author spotlights: <https://www.facebook.com/BookloverCat...>

You can follow me on Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/promotethatbook>

*Many thanks to John Nicholl for sharing a copy of his book with me in exchange for a fair and honest review.*

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**sue says**

**THIS IS NOT A STAND ALONE, READ BOOK 1 FIRST**

Whilst I have been currently reading John Nicholl's book 2 of the series Dr David Galbraith, I have been asked by plenty who are reading it "what do I think so far?"

Or

Several have said "Its not what I expected and I am a little bored by it"

I have actually finished this read. And yes, both statements were the same as myself.

This is written as a memoir. But as you read it more and more it makes sense why the author chose to write it this way. The story could **only be told by Cynthia** no one else had insight to her life. Remember from book 1, David Galbraith even stopped her seeing or speaking to her parents. Gradually she had no one, no one but him to rely on.

There are no other persons that could tell her unique insight to living with such a man.

What I found:

**Yes** Cynthia 'waffles' sometimes and goes off track when writing her memoirs.

**But** why is she being asked to write her life down?

Because a prison officer can see she needs to come to terms with her trauma and her living with Dr David Galbraith. The things she found out about him. The life he made her live and how he treated her.

Oh...this part is boring.

**Yes**

It **seems** that way, it seems disjointed, confusing, it seems its going nowhere. Rest assured it certainly is.

When you get to around 70% you see how and why the author wrote this the way he did.

You come to realize by Cynthia writing her memoirs and the chats she has with her Counselor she is getting mentally stronger.

Yes she incorporates her life with her cell mates [which changed]  
so we get a little of what is going on in her life "right now" and how that is affecting her.

You get a visit from her Mother and her children, we see how that isn't easy on her and her anguish of it all.

You get to learn of how she met Steven, the one who died in book 1. More insight to that in this book as it goes on.

You learn of Dr David Galbraith's manipulation quietly going on in the background, how it worsens and what Cynthia's life was like with him, yes, including their sex life.

It pieces together.

Its well worth sticking with.

Many times I have read books that I thought....oh....this isn't going nowhere, the by sticking with it I find it turns out to be a fabulous read more times than not.

Sometimes not....

But in this one, I urge you to stay by it.

No..

Its not like book 1

In many ways its below the par of book 1

Then...

In ways it surpasses book one because its so cleverly written.

John Nicholl's is a clever writer. His books are not for the fainthearted, but they are for those that like being thoughtful. Wondering where the author is going with it. Sometimes it takes time to grasp. It took me time.

Written as a memoir was the only way to go with this. Poor Cynthia was the only one who could unravel this twist for us. Many readers wondered how she didn't know what was going on from book 1.

How could she be so dumb, how could she be so stupid.

Why did she get with him.

How did she get with him.

What was their sex life like seeing his liked little boys.

Was she always so subservient

Did she always do what she was told.

How could she just take her husbands word for everything and ....

why didn't she go down to that cellar!!!! I would....anyone would, curiosity would have overcome you right?  
so why not....why didn't she???

The answers are all here.

The conclusion is fab.

Yes I felt like you

where is this going...

its a bit distorted...

nothing is happening...

Cynthia is shallow

This is nothing like I expected....

### **Wait and see**

I am pleased to say I got my early copy from the author because I nag him to death, so to shut me up he let me read it...

Seriously, I believe in this author, and if he writes a book I do not like in the future, I will still give my honest review.

I was prepared at first to think "Oh dear" but now I have reached the conclusion and put the pieces and reasons together I am WOW. Yes, as another review said. HE DID IT AGAIN

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### **Jean says**

Evil: Profound immorality, wickedness, and depravity.



In John Nicholl's *When Evil Calls Your Name*, Cynthia Galbraith is serving a life sentence for murder. If you have not read Nicholl's first book, *White Is the Coldest Colour*, please read it before you read this sequel; this second "David Galbraith" book should not be read as a stand-alone. *When Evil Calls Your Name* raises these questions: Should Mrs. Galbraith have been committed to prison for life? Should she be imprisoned at all? Did she have other options?

This is Cynthia's story in her own words. The prison psychologist has assigned her to keep a journal so that she might gain some insights into her life and her relationship with her husband, pediatric psychiatrist Dr. David Galbraith, the man whom she mostly called "Doctor." She bucks this homework at first, but after a while, she comes to see it as a worthwhile therapy, and she even looks forward to her writing time. In the process, she seems to find herself again, a self that was lost during her marriage to Dr. David Galbraith.

How is a bright, social university law student transformed into a dependent, fearful wife? In her first-person narrative that she addresses to her readers, Cynthia describes how the doctor methodically manipulates her, taking advantage of her vulnerability and her naivety. Even as Cynthia's writing progresses from the opening pages of her journal, the confidence she gains is obvious as she finds her voice. She becomes more focused, more articulate, and more objective. It becomes evident that she is an intelligent woman, which makes the mind control and abuse that she suffered all that much more difficult to accept.

I found the accounts of prison life to be fascinating. I felt much more sympathy and compassion toward Cynthia in that setting than I did through most of the narrative about her past. In her reflections about her relationship with the doctor, she seemed to me to be almost detached, often blaming herself for being too blind, too stupid, or too afraid to act. I felt that she came across as judgmental. Even though I understood her situation, I had difficulty empathizing with that person; I wanted to grieve with and for that Cynthia, for what she had been through and what she had lost. But Cynthia's descriptions seemed to me mostly lacking the angst that she must have felt. She reminisces as if in a fog, fearful of facing the memories, and some of those parts dragged for me.

I struggled to get through many of the parts of the book that related to Dr. Galbraith. What a despicable man! In my head, I knew that Cynthia needed to go there, but in my heart, I simply did not want to go along. I found the early chapters to be tedious, and I actually looked forward to the interludes where her therapy sessions or her violent cellmates were described.

As many of my Goodreads friends have noted, the final thirty percent becomes quite engaging. I have struggled with how to rate this book, and because I couldn't relate to much of it emotionally, I have to give it 3.5 stars, which I will score as 4 because it is extremely well written. The author, who worked as a police officer and as a social worker and operational manager for the child guidance service in the UK, does a fantastic job portraying a psychotic, controlling man and a young woman who was an easy mark for his manipulations. Nicholl is a very talented writer, and I will certainly read whatever he puts out next.

I wish to thank John Nicholl for providing me with a copy of this book in return for my honest, unbiased review.

3.5 stars

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**Sue says**

I was asked by the author, John Nicholl, if I would be interested in reading his second novel, called WHEN EVIL CALLS YOUR NAME, a dark psychological suspense thriller, the sequel to White Is The Coldest Colour. I jumped at the chance having loved his first book in the series. This is not a standalone book, and I strongly recommend you read book 1 first, to get the full effect.

This dark psychological suspense thriller is written by ex police officer and child protection social worker, John Nicholl.

When I first started this book, I couldn't decide where this book was heading...or if I even liked it. It is the story of Dr. David Galbraith's wife Cynthia, the woman we met in book 1, and how she ended up in prison. She is now twenty nine years old, a lifer, who first arrived in prison three years ago. It is written in the first person as a memoir she is writing while in prison, a kind of therapy for her to come to terms with all that has happened to her. The story flicks between Cynthia in prison and her life with the doctor through her writings in her journal.

So I keep on reading, and then the pieces start to mesh together and we see the WHY. All I can say is that John has hit this book right out of the ball park. It is brilliantly written...different from book 1, but it all comes together in the latter part of the book. DON'T GIVE UP ON THIS BOOK. It will all make sense. And then WOW!!!

And John doesn't lay everything out for us right at the beginning...he makes us absorb and builds up the tension to Cynthia's traumatic past. How it came about and WHY!

This journal could only be written by Cynthia Galbraith. She lived it. After being persuaded by her prison counsellor to write a personal journal that lead up to her life in prison. She finally begins to write, not holding anything back, what she never could have DARED spoken about.

Then we slowly get to read about how Cynthia and the doctor came about...the man was pure evil.

"He got under my skin and ate away at my self-esteem and independence. The bastard knew what exactly he was doing."

In time all our questions are answered. My heart goes out to this woman.

This is an intense, thought provoking read. All I can say is you created another winner, John, and I know this brilliant book is going to be well received. An easy 5 Star rating.

My thanks to the author who so graciously furnished a digital copy in exchange for an honest, unbiased review.

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### **Philomena Callan Cheekypee says**

Make sure you read book one White is the Coldest Colour before reading this book.

This is Cynthia, Dr Galbraiths wifes story. We read this as she writes from prison. Her past is told in the form of a diary. We also get to hear of life inside the prison walls.

I absolutely loved book one so I was really looking forward to reading Cynthia's story. So many questions running through my head about Cynthia have been answered in this book.

I've got to admit I'm not keen on reading a second book with the view from a different character. To be honest I usually ignore those books. However I needed to know Cynthia's story. The author also wrote this in a way that it was in no way a repeat of the story told in *White is the Coldest Colour*. I'm very happy that I read this book. All the jigsaw puzzles came together and I loved it.

Great praise to John the author. I'm looking forward to reading more from him.

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## **sue says**

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## **Emma says**

For me, this book shows just how much Nicholl has stepped up his writing game. Not that I didn't enjoy *White Is the Coldest Colour*, but it has flaws that the writer has avoided in this novel.

Cynthia Galbraith is a fascinating narrator and I applaud Nicholl in focusing the story through her perspective, especially considering she was so sidelined in the first book. Reading both books together gives the story real depth, though you could probably read each as a standalone if you wanted. There is a lot in this book that may seem extraneous to the story, but each piece forms part of Cynthia's character and underlines why she acted the way that she did. It felt cleverly done.

I'll be interested to see what Nicholl chooses to do next, especially if he moves on to another story.

Many thanks to John Nicholl and Booklover Catlady Publicity for this copy in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Jan says**

*When Evil Calls Your Name* is the sequel to *White Is the Coldest Colour*. In order to do this story justice, I strongly recommend that you read them in order-you won't be disappointed!

In the first book, the main story revolves around Dr Galbraith-a deeply disturbed paedophile who hides behind his career and marriage to live out his sick fantasies. How was he able to hide this from so many, for so long? What about his wife Cynthia...how could she not know? With glimpses into the Dr's home life you are able to see that something isn't quite right with the Galbraith's marriage...and something doesn't seem quite right with Cynthia in general.

Book two is the story of Cynthia, told from her perspective of how she came to be a lifer in prison, for the murder of her husband.

It's here I think the author really shines. Cynthia is a well developed character. I found myself liking her, even at the times I wanted to shake her. She has everything going for her, her life just starting, out, yet the choices she makes and the control she gives up over her life are beyond comprehension. I found myself feeling such a mix of emotions for Cynthia, anything from sadness, to anger, to shock, and back to sadness again. How could she let these things happen to her? Where is her self preservation? As you read her journal,

you will question this time and again...regardless of what she should have done, this is her journey, brought on by the hands of a sadistic psychopath.

This was an interesting read-I can't say I've ever read anything quite like it before. This was such an intimate look inside the destruction of a young life. While the ending did provide satisfactory closure, I still found myself not trusting that Cynthia had learned from her mistakes.

I also found myself a bit bored in the beginning...I think this read too much like a straight line and it needed something to breathe some life into it at times. I read this as a buddy read, and my friend thought this might do better as a novella... I have to agree with her. I waffled between 3.5 and 4 stars, so I rounded up for good measure.

Still a solid conclusion to the Dr Galbraith series, and I'm happy to see him put to rest for good.

My thanks to the author for providing me a copy in exchange for an honest review. I look forward to reading more from Mr Nicholl, as I'm sure he has many more stories to share.

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## **Brenda says**

Having read *White Is the Coldest Colour*, I was excited when John Nicholl asked if I'd like to read his second book. I jumped at the chance! John graciously supplied a copy and I am happy to provide this unbiased review.

Cynthia appeared in the first book, so I was aware of some of her history. This book provides more detail and continues her story. Cynthia is in prison now, and that was totally unexpected. I was curious as to how she wound up there. Her counselor encourages her to write a journal, and we get an intimate look into her entire life. I was not very enthusiastic about her early childhood because it seemed fairly normal. As her storytelling progressed, though, my sympathy increased and I even had tears in my eyes as she related her life before Galbraith, the protagonist in the first book. Knowing Galbraith as well as I do, I could feel the slime pouring out of my e-reader. His predatory ways were extremely repulsive in the first book, and what he did to Cynthia is absolutely sickening. I'm amazed at what the human psyche can survive. Incarceration just added insult to injury, in my opinion.

The author has shown his compassion before, and in this book Cynthia is an amazing character. I have to wonder if the author has some personal experience with a certain part of Cynthia's life. The emotions were strong and raw.

If you've read *White Is the Coldest Colour*, you absolutely must read *When Evil Calls Your Name*. If you've read neither, start with the first book. Together they pack quite a punch!

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## **Linda Strong says**

Like others who have read and reviewed this book, it's an absolute MUST that you read the first book, **WHITE IS THE COLDEST COLOUR**. This one does fine as a stand-alone, but you will understand so much more if you read this one after the other.

The reader first met Cynthia as the wife of David Galbraith, well-known and well-respected child psychiatrist ... and pedophile.

When Evil Calls Your Name is Cynthia's story. As the book opens, Cynthia is in prison. She tells her story with the use of a journal, recommended by the counselor she is mandated to see on a weekly basis.

The reader gets to witness just how manipulative and controlling David could be and how Cynthia went from a very strong young and determined woman to a woman who had to measure in millimeters how far apart her husband's dishes were in relation to the kitchen table.

So what made her the woman she is today? Is she the cold-hearted witch who knew what her husband was doing and ignored it? Or was she simply another victim?

I was blown away by this author's first book ... and no less so by this one. Extremely well-written, the characters become flesh and blood seemingly under your very eyes. Once started, I just didn't want to put this one down. I truly hope there are more stories that will be told by Mr. Nicholl.

My thanks, not only to the author who asked if I would like to read and review this book, but also to Booklover Catlady Publicity, who also furnished a digital copy in exchange for an honest and unbiased review.

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## **Dash fan says**

5? Another Fab book by John Nicholls

When Evil Calls Your Name is the Sequel to White is the Coldest Colour.

This time we are exploring Cynthia's journal and life and her lead up to prison and her story whilst in prison. We also get a very detailed look into her life growing up to adulthood.

It's a raw and emotional account of how she sees herself, her emotional scars, how even though her abusive sick husband is no longer alive he is still in her head abusing her after years of torment and abuse. Will she ever be free!!!

Cynthia is serving 13years in jail for murdering her abusive sadistic paedophile husband. She is now 29years old and has already served 3years.

Cynthia is attending sessions with the prison counsellor who has set her a task. To keep a journal.

She is to Write down her inner most secret thoughts and the things she has been too scared to vocalise. Her Counsellor Mrs Mary Martin insists that in doing so this will help her become free and will help her come to terms with her past. She hopes that by Cynthia noting her inner thoughts it might help ease her nightmares, her invasive thoughts and flashbacks.

As we plow through Cynthia's story it did feel like it became disjointed and sketchy at times. But I do believe that this made it feel real. After all we are literally hearing the story in first person. Memories do sometimes become disjointed especially if you are writing from free hand. So I did appreciate John's authentic style.

As the story progressed we see how Cythina is drawn into an abusive relationship and how deeper and deeper his control over her becomes dangerous. Drugging and raping her, stopping her seeing her parents. The split personality that lulls her into a false sense of security.

The story really gets gritty about 40% in. I think it's here I was hooked. It's often a dark account but well written. A story that has to be told!

This isn't a standalone story but it does clear up alot of unanswered questions about how a wife can literally be so clueless of her husband's sadistic desires. Or is she clueless... all will be revealed!!

John has written another fabulous book. He has become one of my favourite Authors. This book is very different to the other books but it's equally as harrowing. Stick with it it does get better!

Thank you to Bloodhound Books for this copy which I reviewed honestly and voluntarily.

My Review is also on my blog website:

<https://dashfan81.blogspot.com/2018/0...>

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## Dianne says

Cynthia Galbraith knows exactly what it sounds like when evil called her name. It was the sound of fear, pain and degradation and it came from the man who should be her rock, her husband. John Nicholl is back with the sequel to **White is the Coldest Colour** and follows up in the aftermath of the chaos and finally the death of Dr. David Galbraith, a psychotic Jekyll and Hyde, a predator, a monster.

Cynthia ended the nightmares for everyone that night and has paid dearly to save her herself and her children. Now serving a life sentence for a murder that few would deny was a heroic deed, she is haunted by the aftermath of her life with a madman. She now keeps a journal or diary where she puts down her fears, her feelings and the accounting of that fateful night that Hell was found a in bright, white room hidden in the bowels of her own home.

She writes from the depths of her soul, her fear and her heart in an effort to stop the nightmares when the lights go out and still the haunted days she must pass. What Cynthia finds is her own redemption, the good



that came out of her life and the countless children she saved from her demented husband and his cronies. Too bad the authorities never believed all she said about the good doctor, but when a remodeling job in her old home is undertaken, the horrors re-surface like the demons from hell. What will be left of Cynthia to salvage when the news finally hits her cell?

John Nicholl has proven he is an artist with pen, paper and his words. Told through the female lead character's notes to herself, we see a woman who was crushed by evil and who finally took a stand to save the world, at any cost. Watch as Cynthia regains her on will, her newfound strength and becomes a person far beyond anything she would ever have imagined.

Mr. Nicholl's words are powerfully chosen, even when detailing a scene. Feel yourself in the confines of a prison cell, without privacy or solitude. Enter the mind and soul of Cynthia as she comes out of her drug and fear induced haze and recognizes that David cannot hurt her or her own children, as well as the children of others, anymore. Find the inner strength of one woman and ask yourself if you could be as brave as she was giving up her freedom for innocent young strangers and their families. Thought-provoking, dark, and completely magnetic reading from start to finish.

I received this copy from John Nicholl in exchange for my honest review.

Series: Dr. David Galbraith - Book 2

Publication Date: December 31, 2015

Publisher: John Nicholl

Genre: Dark Suspense

Print Length: 272 pages

Available from: Amazon | Barnes & Noble

For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

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