



## Perfect Liars: Perfect for fans of Big Little Lies

*Rebecca Reid*

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## **Perfect Liars: Perfect for fans of Big Little Lies** Rebecca Reid

They have it all. And they'll do anything to keep it that way.

**For fans of *The Girlfriend* and Liane Moriarty as well as TV hits *Doctor Foster* and *The Replacement*.**

Sixteen years ago, best friends Nancy, Georgia and Lila did something unspeakable. Their crime forged an unbreakable bond between them, a bond of silence. But now, one of them wants to talk.

One wrong word and everything could be ruined, their lives, their careers, their relationships. It's up to Georgia to call a crisis dinner. But things do not go as planned.

Three women walk in to the dinner, but only two will leave.

Murder isn't so difficult the second time around...

**Gripping and unputdownable, *Perfect Liars* tells the story of a group of friends bound by their dark pasts and their desperate need to keep their secrets hidden from the world around them. How far would you go to protect the life you've built?**

## **Perfect Liars: Perfect for fans of Big Little Lies Details**

Date : Expected publication: February 21st 2019 by Corgi

ISBN : 9780552175609

Author : Rebecca Reid

Format : Paperback 368 pages

Genre : Thriller, Psychological Thriller, Suspense

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# From Reader Review Perfect Liars: Perfect for fans of Big Little Lies for online ebook

## Denise says

I've just finished this book and what a read it was! Utterly gripping, page turning and full of suspense. Simply brilliant.

Perfect Liars was hugely compelling. I wasn't able to put it down for very long and each time I did, I was constantly thinking about the characters and what was in store for them next. It's well written, believable and kept me guessing . Would definitely read more from this author.

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## Mark says

Where to begin? And how to review this book.....

This is an unnerving story about 3 women, Nancy, Georgia and Lila and years after being party to something terrible all meet at a dinner party as one of them is close to giving the secret away

Pretty standard fare of a psychological thriller? Oh its all there, the intrigue, the back story, their partners who are at the dinner party and the 'terrible thing' that happened and why one of them wants to 'come clean', like I say everything you sit ( or lie ) down to and expect BUT the difference is THEM, the 3 women....repugnant(!), vile, privileged, psychopathic sociopaths ( if there is such a thing!)...I have never met characters like them in a book....best friends since day 1 at boarding school until now they literally detest each other, I know it sounds contrary but they do, their venom, spite and planning of every word they say is wonderfully horrendous!!

I cant explain it any better than to say all 3 shocked me and repulsed me with their mindsets and ideals and how they live....but I loved reading every word about every one of them, they were unbelievably believable!!! You really would not like to be their friend!!

Fascinating and completely mind blowing book

10/10 5 stars

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## Laura says

This was a fantastic read!

Most part of the novel takes place at a dinner party one evening, with flashbacks to earlier years when the main characters were at a boarding school.

The story itself flows beautifully and was very gripping. I really enjoyed reading this!

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## Liz Barnsley says

Perfect Liars is a perfect tale of toxic friendship, made more so by the fact that they all have something to

hide...

I really enjoyed this- I love a past/present narrative especially when the past includes school days. None of the three friends are particularly likeable which makes it even better and the tale is gorgeously twisty and full of edgy and intriguing interpersonal relationships.

Its an interesting vibe as you cannot imagine these women being friends if they didn't have the past event holding them together even as it tears them apart. Even back at school their interactions with each other and those around them is a divisive one.

Perfect Liars is a thought provoking look at female friendship and the lengths we'll go to in order to hold on to those things we believe are important, as such it is utterly addictive.

A great read. Recommended.

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## **Ova - Excuse My Reading says**

This was quite a good read! Very unfortunate that it's compared to Big Little Lies on the tagline - those two books have completely different tones.

Full review soon!

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## **Lou says**

Well, this was an interesting and compelling debut from journalist Rebecca Reid. Based around the lives and secrets shared by boarding school friends Nancy, Georgia and Lila. Each character is incredibly unlikeable, and they do fit the cookie cutter mould of pretentious, entitled, spoiled young women, exactly what you expect in a book surrounding boarding school goings on, so in a lot of ways the characters are stereotypical and superficial. That said, it didn't make the story any less enjoyable to me. Using a dual timeline the story is told in the present day where the three meet for crisis talks about the secret that threatens to pull them all under, and the past perspective looks at what the terrible secret that each of them is trying to contain actually is.

There are plenty of snarky and nasty remarks coming from each character, and Nancy is a real piece of work! The author manages to make a done-to-death reveal seem fresh and exciting. One thing I would say is that if you need at least one likeable character in a book, this is probably not for you - each character here is morally corrupt and as we discover, would rather commit a crime than accept what they did was wrong and face justice. As with many books in the crime genre, the whole story revolves around a horrific historical crime and the characters attempts to keep it from coming to light and ruining their lives as a result. This was a suspenseful read and a page-turning success!

Many thanks to Transworld Digital for an ARC. I was not required to post a review, and all thoughts and opinions expressed are my own.

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## **Eva says**

Perfect Liars is Rebecca Reid's debut novel centred around the rather odd and extremely toxic friendship between Nancy, Georgia and Lila. It reminded me a little of Liane Moriarty and that's never a bad thing in

my book.

Nancy, Georgia and Lila met at boarding school when they were eleven years old. The three of them are very different. Nancy comes from a privileged background and seems to have it all, Lila is adjusting to a new stepmother and Georgia is at the school on a scholarship. They have the oddest friendship but it's one that will survive to adulthood due to a certain event that'll bond them together, whether they like it or not.

Now though, the cracks are starting to show. Lila, in particular, seems to be having a hard time. Her drinking is getting increasingly out of control and her friends are getting worried. As they come together at a dinner party at Georgia's house, things begin to unravel. How far will they go to protect all they have?

Two timelines then. The present at the dinner party and the past at the boarding school, a setting I always enjoy. There are a lot of lies and secrets to discover and a heck of a lot of pretending going on. I thought the secret the girls were trying to protect was rather obvious but I couldn't at all figure out who was responsible. None of them came across as particularly likeable. In fact, they didn't even seem to like one another all that much. They had that "mean girls" vibe to them and I doubt very much their friendship would have survived if the circumstances hadn't forced them to.

Perfect Liars is a thoroughly enjoyable psychological thriller. It's brilliantly plotted, compelling and addictive. Despite the pace being somewhat on the slow side, I devoured it in one sitting. It's clear from the beginning, something bad has happened and the ride to find out the truth is one heck of a thrill.

A fantastic debut by Rebecca Reid and I very much look forward to whatever she comes up with next.

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## **Molly Moore says**

Firstly thank you to #NetGalley for the advanced e-copy of this book. I have read lots of what Rebecca has written as a journalist, I also love a psychological thriller and so was excited and intrigued to get my hands on a copy of her book.

I devoured this book in 2 days. Staying up until 2.30am on Monday morning to finish it because I just had to know. That is a sign of a good book in my opinion.

There is not a likable character in this story though. The three main characters, Georgia, Lila and Nancy are all vile, self centred, self absorbed sociopaths who display a close friendship to the world but which is revealed to us to be deeply flawed. I won't go into details of the plot as that will give it away but the story is told from the now, which is basically a dinner party hosted by Georgia and the past, which is their time at school, specifically in the upper 6th and how what happened then continues to lock these three vile women together.

My only niggle which jarred me was the bit when Nancy's mum rings her at school on the school phones and yet all the girls have mobile phones. It is a minor thing I know but it is a plot detail that bothered me probably way more than it should have done.

I think it is a testament to Rebecca's writing that despite the fact that not one single character is likeable I couldn't put this novel down. It was a bit like reading a train crash where you are slowly watching a horror unravel and despite being repulsed by it (or in this case them) you can't look away.

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## **Joanne Robertson says**

I obviously have a “type” of book that I find rather juicy as *Perfect Liars* is also a book with unsavoury and unlikeable characters! But this time in a book that shows the nasty side of female friendships showing that, unfortunately, it’s not just at school that women develop toxic relationships with their peers! The tagline on this book should really be “With friends like these....”

Old school “friends” Lila, Georgia and Nancy are having a dinner party at Georgias house. Nancy has flown in from the USA with her new fiancé at the request of Georgia who is worried about the increasingly unstable Lila. The book then flicks back to the past where we see the women as schoolgirls and realise that something happened during their time at boarding school that has kept the women together since.

I realised early on that whatever happened to the girls meant that they were all beholden to each other, scared that if one of them cracked then they would all be going down together. Teenage girls can be vile to each other but what on earth could be so bad as to tie these women together so many years later? This was the dinner party from hell and I cringed as I watched the interactions of the guests whilst recognising the undercurrents of fear and mistrust. But how far would things progress and which of the women would be most affected by the nights events. I was gripped enough to read the whole book from start to finish in one session so that I could find out!

This is a self assured debut full of loathsome characters, relationships that delved into the depths of female maliciousness and some shocking twists. I didn’t always like the way the narrative unfolded but I appreciated that this was the way the story needed to be told. Rebecca Reid really understands the intricacies of the female friendships and has created a dark and unsettling novel with them at the centre of it. Definitely recommend and would make a fabulous beach read!

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## **Sheri says**

Three friends are forever bonded by something terrible that happened fifteen years earlier at boarding school - something which is destined to come back to haunt them in the present day. So far, so standard psychological thriller territory.

Except Georgia, Nancy and Lila aren’t bonded at all, or at least not in any kind of remotely positive way - in fact, they seem to thoroughly hate each other. Their “friendship” is about as dysfunctional as it’s possible to get, characterised by passive-aggressive oneupmanship, barbed remarks and carefully crafted put-downs.

(“Were all friendships like this?” Georgia ponders at one point. “Were all failings and confessions seen as weaknesses to be exploited? Or were there actually people who could tell their friends something embarrassing or sad without knowing it was bringing them joy?”)

These three appalling women gather for dinner at Georgia’s house, accompanied by their equally horrible husbands. Only Brett, Nancy’s new man, seems to bear any relation to an acceptable human being (and is clearly far too good for Nancy).

Despite - or perhaps because of - the irredeemable awfulness and apparent moral emptiness of nearly all the characters, I loved this book and found it a brilliant read. Yes, the “gradually revealed awful thing in past” plot is a standard, but here it feels fresh and very well executed.

The story alternates between “now” (the dinner party from hell) and “then”, with the girls still being evil, but hating each other slightly less, at their pricey boarding school, where Lila and Nancy kindly overlook scholarship girl Georgia’s terrible handicap of not being rich. Rebecca Reid excels in portraying the rarefied world of these girls, who never step outside their own privileged bubble and seem to see anyone not like them as literally another species. (“Working-class women always got big after they had children, apparently”, observes present-day Lila. How I love that “apparently”.) Their present-day husbands are no better, their unreconstructed, unquestioned and unquestioning attitudes forensically laid out for our perusal... it’s all quite alarming, but also sadly believable.

As the toxic trio tangle with a new teacher and a vulnerable classmate, it’s clear that it will somehow end in tragedy, but how, why and when?

I really can’t find much negative to say about this book. Well, maybe the cover. I’m so sick of back views of women in brightly coloured trenchcoats. It seems like the only thing women on book covers ever wear. But that’s it.

Hugely compelling, darkly enjoyable and an all round great read.

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### **Mandy White says**

Perfect Liars was like a horrific train wreck that you just can't look away from. Such nasty characters, especially Nancy that are just so unlikeable and their toxic friendship.. but you just have to keep reading. I read this in 2 sessions, I was dying to know what they were lying about and how they got away with it.

16 years ago at an elite English boarding school 3 teenage girls did something unspeakable that sealed their bond. Nancy, Lila and Georgina have kept their secret all this time, but now one of them wants to speak. A dinner party with a lot of alcohol, drugs and arguments turns nasty and will they all survive? The story jumps between the present day and the days at school, where the girls were inseparable. Will they keep their awful secret a secret?

Thanks to Random House UK and NetGalley for my advanced copy of this book to read. All opinions are my opinions and are in no way biased

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### **Kylie D says**

"You do realize," he had said to her once, years ago, "that you are actually supposed to like your friends?" This is a story of three school friends, Nancy, Georgia and Lila. It's set both in the past during their school days and in the present, when they all get together at Georgia's house with their significant others for a dinner party. Yet they clearly don't like each other. Georgia and Nancy spend the whole evening sniping and trying to outdo each other, while Lila does what Lila does best, gets plastered. It soon becomes apparent that something from their past is holding the bond together, but what is it? What are they so afraid of that they

don't want it to get out? Something really awful has obviously happened during their school days, and it's so terrifying to them that they will stay together through thick and thin to protect themselves, and the privileged lives they have built, from the consequences.

So we follow the story through the dinner party, and with flashbacks to their school days, where the terrible tale slowly unfolds. Unfortunately for me the back story lacked suspense and proved to be in parts predictable and in others had me rolling my eyes in disbelief. The redeeming feature of this book was the dinner party, and the interactions of the characters. It has far more substance as a social commentary than it does as a thriller. Too much alcohol, nasty women and their partners who have no idea about the hidden past all trying to score points against each other was far more entertaining than the poor attempt at psychological suspense. It was an easy, quick read, but didn't quite pull off what it was trying to do.

My thanks to NetGally and Random House UK, Transworld Publishers for an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Sharon Rimmelzwaan says**

I must thank netgalley for the advanced copy of this book. I started this not quite knowing what to expect and not sure if I would enjoy it.

I found it to be fantastic! Based around 3 girlfriends, who have known each other from boarding school and the story is written by flitting from the past then the present, every chapter being either past or present. They seem to love to hate each other and are all as pretentious as each other in their own ways. There is a secret holding them together as we find out as the story unfolds and the twists and turns throughout keep you reading "one more page". I would recommend this book for anyone who loves crime, or mysteries. I have connectes with Rebecca Reid the auhor and discovered it is also her first book! Excellent work! keep it up and keep writing, that is all I can say!

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### **Julie says**

I really enjoyed this book, although I didn't like the characters very much. The two different time frames were interesting in that the reader got to really understand how the three girls became the women they would be as adults. The boarding school pages were far easier to read for me, the adult versions of all three girls were just not particularly nice. The ending left me with a feeling of "is that it?" though, which was a shame. #NetGalley

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### **Stephanie says**

With thanks to the publisher for the copy received. Perfect Liars was a brilliant twisty novel that had me hooked. It starts with a funeral of an unnamed person. You don't find out who they are until the end. The rest of the novel is dual time frame with 3 different narrators. I don't think there will be many readers who like all of them.

I will describe my feelings about each of the three but will keep their identity private, to reveal too much will spoil the read. One of them I quite liked, I understood her a lot more than the others and definitely had more sympathy for her. Another, I preferred as an adult. Still not keen but she showed a softer side. The final one, I disliked her both as a teenager and an adult. A horrible person who didn't have a good side to her.

I couldn't work out which of the three would die or what happened at the school. Even though I did have an



idea who it would involve. I hope that there aren't schools like this. I really hope that there aren't people like this but I suspect I could be wrong on both accounts.

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