



## Second Verse

*Jennifer Walkup*

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**Second Verse Jennifer Walkup**

**Bad things come in threes. In Shady Springs, that includes murder.**

## **Murder Now**

Lange Crawford's move to Shady Springs, Pennsylvania, lands her a group of awesome friends, a major crush on songwriter Vaughn, and life in a haunted, 200-year-old farmhouse. It also brings The Hunt: an infamous murder mystery festival where students solve a fake, gruesome murder scheme during the week of Halloween. Well, supposedly fake.

## **Murder Then**

Weeks before The Hunt, Lange and her friends hold a séance in the farmhouse's eerie barn. When a voice rushes through, whispering haunting words that only she and Vaughn can hear, Lange realizes it's begging for help. The mysterious voice leads Lange and Vaughn to uncover letters and photos left behind by a murdered girl, Ginny, and they become obsessed with her story and the horrifying threats that led to her murder.

## **Murder Yet to Come**

But someone doesn't like their snooping, and Lange and Vaughn begin receiving the same threats that Ginny once did. The mysterious words from the barn become crucial to figuring out Ginny's past and their own, and how closely the two are connected. They must work fast to uncover the truth or risk finding out if history really does repeat itself.

## **Second Verse Details**

Date : Published October 1st 2013 by Luminis Books (first published January 1st 2013)

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Author : Jennifer Walkup

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Genre : Young Adult, Mystery, Fantasy, Paranormal, Romance, Thriller, Ghosts

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## From Reader Review Second Verse for online ebook

### Candace says

I scare ridiculously easy and so I was a tad afraid going into this one. But I really love ghost stories and for that reason I couldn't resist. While I'm really glad I read this (really glad!) it was really scary. I did read some of it at night and that was simply because I HAD to know what happened. Even though it was terrifying, I just couldn't set the book aside. I know those that read a lot of horror may not get as scared as I did, but those of you that are chickens like me, be aware, this book is pretty scary!

I really liked Lange a lot. She's a new girl but she's already made friends and seems to fit in well. Everything seems to change after she has a seance in her barn and hears some words spoken by what we would assume is a ghost. It's only Vaughn who hears those words with her though and that kind of drives them together and the others away (though there's much more to that aspect). Through the book Lange and Vaughn work together to piece the puzzle of the murder of Ginny and her entire family, together. But someone is stalking Lange and Vaughn and they are very, very creepy. And while Lange is clearly terrified, I have to say that girl is very brave. I'm pretty sure my reaction would be to jump in a car and drive far far away and never look back. I don't think I could have stayed in that house one more night. But even though she's scared she continues with real life and getting through each day. She's always been attracted to Vaughn, but through the book the attraction becomes more. These two are adorable together, but unfortunately their time together is rather intense because they are trying to figure out what happened in the past, and what is happening to them, now.

This book has a lot of twists. While there were a few milder things that were fairly easy to figure out, the big picture mystery totally blew me away! I did not suspect any of it! It was such a shocker that I'm pretty certain my jaw actually hit the floor. And after that it felt like surprise after surprise. It was amazing to have such great twists that I never saw coming and totally elevated my thoughts of the book big time! I liked it before, but that made me like it even more!

This is a mystery/thriller/romance/horror. All those things are in this book and it's the perfect read for October. You can freak yourself out as you hide in your closet. ;) But I do recommend this one, very much. And while it has a conclusion, everything is wrapped up, there is room for a sequel and I very much hope that that happens!

You can find this review, and others like it, on my blog at <http://www.candacesbookblog.com>

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### cEe beE says

Second Verse is an intriguing and unique mixture of paranormal, high school romance and crime/mystery. Set in a 200 yr old haunted house where a notorious murder happened many years ago, the story begins with two love struck teens who find themselves strangely connected to the murder victims. They also discover that some of the events that occurred are now happening to them.

The story does a good job setting a creepy and mysterious tone. However I felt the connection between the past and present was a little convoluted (clues that went all over the place). I think there were too many unnecessary characters and the important ones were underdeveloped. That made the revelation towards the

end very unexpected and not in a good way. The conclusion felt abrupt and didn't even explain the other murders.

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### **Jan says**

Jennifer Walkup's chilling, enticing, mystery/thriller/love story is one of those books that had me in its grip from the beginning and the rest of the day was gone... I had to finish it in one reading! The relationship between Lange and Vaughn is exciting, the mystery is compelling, and the ending very satisfying. A most becoming debut. I will definitely be watching for her next!

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### **Nai says**

It's not a spelling mistake, I assure you. Luminis Books definitely shines a light on authors you might not have otherwise noticed in the clustered publishing world. I've read a few of their other author's books before, and would love to point you in the direction of either Aloha Mozart, and Maybe I Will.

Mostly though, I want you to take a look at Second Verse with me.

At lunch. It's a date!

12:04pm: We've met for lunch, and today, the menu calls for curried vegetable soup with some fabulous espresso, and peppermint cookies for dessert.

There's a conversation going on around our table (which in reality is my desk) and we're talking about society, all the ins and outs, up and downs and bad things that happen to good people.

Murder, Mystery and suspense.

There's a beautiful aspect to reading a YA novel, and remembering what it was like to wonder about the world, not be as cynical as age has allowed us to become, and remember the good times.

But how is that possible in a book full of so much Murder and (more after this short break).

8:54pm: I know, I'm a terrible person. The wonderful author of this book has probably been waiting all day for the rest of my review.

[caption id="attachment\_1774" align="aligncenter" width="237"] Ohhhh the suspense! :P (I really hope this is not the look on her face) And, I promise, my review will turn Angry Kitty's frown around.[/caption]

It really is full of wonderful intrigue, suspense, and made for a great conversation at lunch with new co-workers.

Walkup's ability to not only tell a story, but make the YA reader care about the characters is astounding. It was a quick read (took me about 4 hours - but I do read quickly) and kept me interested and page flipping the whole way through.

I needed a break from reality, and getting wound up in a mystery was the exact relief I needed. I love that books can serve, not only as a distraction, but as a conversation starter. In a new environment, where I am still uncomfortable because I'm kooky like that, having something to start a conversation about at lunch time when people WANT to talk about things that are NOT work is helpful.

Books have always bridged that gap for me, and being able to talk about not only the book, but the audience, the story (which was amazing) and the importance of reading are all really useful conversations.

Second Verse drew me in, captivated my attention, and was so great I had to share my experience reading with other people. While I'm no longer a young adult, I would highly recommend it for that audience, and think it's a breath of fresh air. I feared 'just another mystery novel' and was overwhelmed with the quality.

For that reason, you should check out the following information on the tour, and give it a try!

About the Book - About the Author - Prizes!!!

Welcome to another exciting publishing house spotlight tour from Novel Publicity. Join us as two new titles from Luminis Books--we're calling them the Luminis Dyad--tour the blogosphere in a way that just can't be ignored. And, hey, we've got prizes!

**About the prizes:** Who doesn't love prizes? You could win either of two \$25 Amazon gift cards, an autographed copy of *Second Verse* by Jennifer Walkup, or an autographed copy of its tour mate, *The Field* by Tracy Richardson. Here's what you need to do...

Enter the Rafflecopter contest

Leave a comment on my blog

That's it! One random commenter during this tour will win a \$25 gift card. Visit more blogs for more chances to win--the full list of participating bloggers can be found [HERE](#). The other \$25 gift card and the 3 autographed books will be given out via Rafflecopter. You can find the contest entry form linked below or on the official *Luminis Duo* tour page via Novel Publicity. Good luck!

**About the book:** Can love last more than a lifetime? Can Murder? Bad things come in threes. In Shady Springs, that includes murder.

Lange Crawford's move to Shady Springs, Pennsylvania, lands her a group of awesome friends, a major crush on songwriter Vaughn, and life in a haunted, 200-year-old farmhouse. It also brings The Hunt: an infamous murder mystery festival where students solve a fake, gruesome murder scheme during the week of Halloween. Well, supposedly fake.

Weeks before The Hunt, Lange and her friends hold a séance in the farmhouse's eerie barn. When a voice rushes through, whispering haunting words that only she and Vaughn can hear, Lange realizes it's begging for help. The mysterious voice leads Lange and Vaughn to uncover letters and photos left behind by a murdered girl, Ginny, and they become obsessed with her story and the horrifying threats that led to her murder.

But someone doesn't like their snooping, and Lange and Vaughn begin receiving the same threats that Ginny once did. The mysterious words from the barn become crucial to figuring out Ginny's past and discovering how their own past is connected to hers. They must work fast to uncover the truth or risk finding out if history really does repeat itself.

Pick up your copy of this Young Adult/ Paranormal/ Thriller 1 through Amazon US, Amazon UK, or Barnes & Noble.

**About the author:** When Jennifer Walkup isn't writing or reading, she's spending time with her husband and young sons, listening to Red Hot Chili Peppers, and coming up with costume ideas for Halloween. She's obsessed with good coffee and new recipes and likes broccoli on her pizza, flowers in her hair, flip-flops on her feet, and the number 13. A member of SCBWI, Jennifer also serves as fiction editor for The Meadowland Review and teaches creative writing at The Writers Circle. Second Verse is her first novel. Connect with Jennifer on her website, blog, Facebook, Twitter, or GoodReads.

**Luminis Books** was launched in January, 2010 by husband and wife team Tracy Richardson and Chris Katsaropoulos with a mission to publish thought-provoking literary fiction for children and adults. We publish what we love: *Meaningful Books That Entertain*. Our award-winning books engage and inform readers and explore a wide range of topics from love and relationships, teen sexual assault and homelessness to string theory, consciousness, and the Universal Energy Field. Luminis Books is a proudly independent publisher located in Carmel, IN. Learn more at [www.luminisbooks.com](http://www.luminisbooks.com).

**Learn more about *Second Verse*'s tour mate [HERE](#).**

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### **Kathryn says**

4.5 stars...

OH WOW!! What a suspenseful, dynamic read that kept me on my toes all the way through. When reading the synopsis and seeing that this is going to be a murder mystery with a twist, I was highly intrigued. Who doesn't love a tale with a thrilling plot to get the juices flowing?? The whole premise surrounding Second Verse is unique, alluring, and stimulating. There are so many events that happen during this book that I cannot tell you one without giving something away... Jennifer Walkup did a fantastic job of drawing me in to the book from the very first chapter and keeping me captivated until the very end. Providing me with enough information to stay intrigued all the while still keeping me in the dark to the pivotal climactic events. With well developed, fun characters in Lange and Vaughn, you find yourself enchanted in the story of Second Verse and find it hard to put down because I just HAD TO KNOW what happened.... This is a definite MUST READ....

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### **The Unofficial Addiction Book Fan Club says**

We are **The Unofficial Addiction Book Fan Club**, to know more about this book, go to the post in our website:

#### **Second Verse by Jennifer Walkup**

If you are interested, you can visit our website:

## **The Unofficial Addiction Book Fan Club**

### **The Unofficial Addiction Book Fan Club's Review:**

#### **Review:**

Second Verse is what I like to call a creepy, supernatural read with murders, a haunted house, mystery, a relationship bound to happen and a wrenching and unexpected finale.

Jennifer Walkup did an excellent work. Her story starts as a regular one, with a school, teenagers, celebrations for Halloween and The Hunt, an infamous murder festival where students solve a fake, gruesome murder. Everything that I just say, adds a spicy promise of creepiness in the story and a lots of scary scenes, however, it goes way beyond that.

The main character, Lange seems like a great girl. I mean, she definitely feels something for Vaughn, but she doesn't want to hurt her friend, Stace, who looks like has it bad for him, too. And I really liked her personality and how she reacted to every situation.

Vaughn was simply amazing. He's everything I was hoping for when I started reading this book and I read about Lange and Vaughn. He is all the time there for Lange and I couldn't help but fall for him and to include him in my Unofficial Fictional Boy's list.

What makes this book memorable is not only the level of creepiness and scary scenes that made me jump like I was seeing a movie and not reading a book, but the story is rooted in the past, bringing new and scary discoveries and entangling the story in the present even more.

And the ending was something I wasn't expecting at all. My level of "I-Can't-Believe-It" cannot even be measured. I wouldn't change a thing, well, maybe when Lange passes out. It was not the perfect moment to pass out and it stressed me out, because I wasn't sure if it would be a happy ending or a "I'm-gonna-cry-for-weeks" ending. I definitely won't tell you which one it is, 'cause you'll have to find out, Book Addicts!

I promise you, guys, that you are gonna love this book. Right now, this would be my perfect pick for a Halloween read, but since Halloween is long gone, I'd have it in my "TBR Halloween List" for next year and re-read it again!

Full of mystery, creepy and scary situations that would make you close your eyes, an epic love story with more than one lifetime to make it unforgettable, swoony and desirable and a murder that would ravel their beliefs and would blow your mind!

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#### **Mary says**

I received this book in the advanced give away. I did enjoy this book. The story line is very interesting. The main characters have purchased an old historical home that is thought to be haunted. As the story continues, the characters have more of a connection to the house than they would have every dreamed. I will have to say that the ending took me by surprise. I did not see this ending coming. That was fun! Thank you for allowing me to have this book to read and review. It is a good read!

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#### **Heather says**

(This review can be found on my blog The (Mis)Adventures of a Twenty-Something Year Old Girl).

I first saw this book on Goodreads, and I knew I had to have it when I read the word "haunted" in the book synopsis. I'm so happy I had a chance to read this book because it was awesome!

I think the blurb is fantastically written! It definitely made me want to read the book, and I like how it doesn't even mention the tiniest spoiler which I love.

I'm not a big fan of the title simply because it make me think of a book about someone's struggle with music. It doesn't really give off the whole ghostly mystery book vibe.

I also don't really care for the cover simply because based on just the cover, it never made me want to pick up the book to read it. I would've liked to have had a creepier looking cover for this book even if the cover photo is, what I think, supposed to be the picture Lange drew.

I did enjoy the world building very much. I felt that the world of Second Verse definitely had solid building. I was experiencing everything that Lange was, or at least, it felt that way. As for the setting, I was a bit confused at the very beginning about the type of school they were in. It was mentioned they had a creative period and there was talk about music, but it never really talked about them being in a music school. Perhaps it was implied, and I just couldn't work it out at the beginning or maybe I just read about it and forgot.

The pacing was only slow for about the first 5 or so pages. After that, the pacing picks up and holds your attention for the rest of the book only letting you go once the book comes to an end. I was super enthralled throughout the entire book (with the exception of the first few pages).

I really enjoyed the plot! There is a major element in this plot that I won't talk about due to spoilers, but it wasn't mentioned in the book's blurb. I would've never guessed it was a book on that theme. Trust me, I'd elaborate if I could, but I don't want to spoil it for those that may wish to read this book. There is a plot twist that I never saw coming, and the ending was just wow! I will say that the ending does leave this book open for a sequel.

The characters felt very real. I enjoyed the character of Lange. It was interesting to see how she reacted to everything around her. I felt as if I probably would've made the same choices if I was in her shoes. Vaughn is also a likable character, and I loved how he was always trying to make Lange feel safe. They were such a cute couple! Even though Ginny wasn't an actual character, it was still interesting to read about her and her love for her beau.

The dialogue flowed very smoothly, and the character interactions felt real. The language used works for this book and its genre.

Overall, Second Verse is a fantastic read that incorporates a bit of mystery, paranormal, and romance. It definitely held my attention, and I was sad when I had come to the end of the book because I didn't want it to end.

I'd recommend this book to those aged 14+ who enjoy paranormal, mystery, and romance books and those who love great plot twists.

**I'd give Second Verse by Jennifer Walkup a 4.5 out of 5.**

(I received a free paperback copy of this book from the tour host in exchange for a fair and honest review).

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## **Amber says**

This book is one of my top favorites! After finishing it, I wanted to start at page one and read it all over again.

SECOND VERSE by JENNIFER WALKUP is about a town obsessed with putting on a Halloween event called 'The Hunt'. This inspires new-to-town student, Lange, to put on a seance in her new farmhouse, where a family was murdered, the murderer later hanging himself in the barn. Things get all too spooky when Lange and a boy named Vaughn are the only two out of the group to hear voices.

After that, the two of them, as well as the reader, go on a crazy creepy rollercoaster trying to put the pieces together of what happened in that barn, past and present.

This story is unbelievable. It left me turning pages and wondering how in the world Jennifer Walkup came up with such a beautifully haunting story. The dialogue was on point; the character chemistry was strong ; and I never once got frustrated with the story halfway through like I almost always do with a book. The description was great; I visualized every scene so vividly.

I recommend SECOND VERSE to anyone who's looking for a chilling love story with great characters and a surprising twist. I never saw it coming!

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## **Amy Lignor says**

Preston Academy for the Arts is a small school located in the quaint town of Shady Springs. This is a school for truly creative people, like Lange and her friends. Lange is a newbie to the school, considering she and her photographer Mom only moved to town a few short months ago, but she already has a small group of friends she truly cares about.

Ben, the strait-laced pianist; Kelly, the gypsy who is crazy about fashion design; Stace, a happy blonde who is in love with Vaughn, who is basically the hot guy, music prodigy. But although he likes Stace, he doesn't feel as strongly as she does.

It is Halloween in Shady Springs and the one thing this town is obsessed with is their yearly ritual called, The Hunt. What happens is a brutal murder is staged every year by the seniors for underclassmen to solve; the winner gets benefits.

Now, Lange is not into creepy, bloody stuff. Which is funny, considering she and her Mom live in a 200-year-old farmhouse that was the setting years ago for a brutal murder that took the lives of a large family. The killer was found hung in the barn - an apparent suicide. Lange basically disregards the idea of spirits, even though her mother seems to be into that kind of stuff. But she does want to fit in and make her friends happy, so she decides that on Friday the 13th she'll offer something to Shady Springs' Halloween extravaganza by holding a séance in her barn.

She and Kelly decorate and when her other friends walk in that night they are met with blood, gore, candles, etc., to get their goosebumps rising. As they sit down at the table and try to 'call out' to any spirits that may

be left in there, Lange gets an extraordinary surprise. She feels as if something actually is in the barn with her and hears a strange uttering that leaves her pale and weak. Although her friends are a little freaked out, there is only one - Vaughn - who also heard the words that were said, and he hooks up with Lange in order to delve into whatever evil they may have conjured up from the past.

The story goes into overdrive; everything from an eerie song to a box of old letters left behind by one of the victims of the house long ago to photography that proves Lange and Vaughn are a couple who lived before and were brought back together this time around to walk down the same deadly path that they did once before, are brought forth.

Vengeance, past lives, murder stories galore - this author has taken bits and pieces of myths and tales and put a spin on them that will have every mystery/suspense lover jumping in their seats when the surprise ending is offered up!

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### **Maribeth says**

[ahem, Beau/beau (hide spoiler)]

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### **Paul says**

Wow! I just finished Second Verse. This book was amazing! I'm not sure where to start. This book really had it all. I bought this since I love mysteries and paranormal/ghost type stories. What I didn't expect to get was a lot more. It is a true thriller that had me on the edge of my seat the entire story. It also kept me guessing from page one. There are so many incredible twists. Every time I guessed what would happen next or how one of the mysteries would be resolved, I was wrong. That was the best part of the book! I loved the fact that I couldn't figure it out!

Plus, the characters were great. I loved Lange and Vaughn and how strong each of them was separately and of course, together. And the deeper we got into their story, the more complex the plot and twists got and that ending – WOW. I did NOT see that coming at all. I loved the book from page one but by the time I finished it, it had exceeded even my already raised expectations.

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### **Tracy Banghart says**

This book is spooky, fast-paced and romantic. I loved the "murder now, murder then" element and was genuinely creeped out as Lange, the main character, started uncovering details of the murders that had been committed in her home - an old farmhouse that Jennifer did a fantastic job making super spooky. The book is haunting in the ways that the best ghost stories are: you'll want to read with the lights ON...and you'll be left with that tingly, goosebumps feeling on the back of your neck for long after you read the last page.

I LOVED Second Verse and can't wait to read more!

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**Kathleen Yohanna says**

This turned out to be a great book. When I won a free copy from the Goodreads First Read program, I almost didn't read it because horror stories make me have disturbing nightmares. But, I started to read and was pleasantly surprised. It is spooky but not horribly so. I liked the twists and turns and the romance. It was so good that I had to make time to read it. I loved the surprise ending. Five stars.

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**Janine says**

So fun! Well-paced and creepy, with a satisfying romance. I am terrible at predicting who will turn out to be the bad guy, but even with that caveat I was surprised.

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