



Sleepless

Thomas Fahy

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SOMEONE ELSE WILL DIE SOON she tells herself.
SOMEONE ELSE WILL DIE AND I WILL BE RESPONSIBLE.

*A few days after the first time you
walk in your sleep, you kill someone.
That's how the end begins.*

Emma Montgomery has been having gruesome nightmares. Even worse, when she wakes up, she isn't where she was when she fell asleep. And she's not the only one. One by one the students of Saint Opportuna High start having nightmares, and sleepwalking. And the next morning one of their classmates turns up dead. Something is making them kill in their sleep. Emma and her friends need to band together, to keep themselves awake until they can figure out what's behind the murders-before anyone else dies.

Sleepless Details

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From Reader Review Sleepless for online ebook

Laura says

Gets one star because I stopped reading and skimmed the rest of the book. I feel really disappointed in this book because the premise sounded great and the cover is beautifully haunted, I was hoping for a good horror novel.

I simply couldn't get past the third person present tense voice that jumps from narrator to narrator, and the tell, don't show descriptions. The choppy, disjointed sentences really kept me from getting involved in the book. From page 7:

"Jake Hardale likes old cars. Everything about them."

"He likes his job more than school, that's for sure. But Saint Opportuna High isn't the worst place in the world. Some of the girls are hot. Especially Emma Montgomery. Sure, she's a total nerd, always studying and carrying around a book, but still, she's hot."

Blugh. Then the book gets into some New Orleans Voodoo nonsense, and it completely lost me. Voodoo/Vodou/Voudon et al. is a real religion that involves ancestor worship and, particularly in Haitian Voodoo, is tied to Roman Catholicism. I'm not a big fan of raising yet another generation to have misconceptions and racist fears about a religion.

Anyway, I would ignore that if the plot made sense and/or the book was good.

Kayla Page says

Being a horror fan, I was impelled to pick up this book. The whole concept made me think it was like *A Nightmare on Elm Street*, but it had a different twist to it. Instead of being killed in your sleep, the dreamers themselves are the killers. When they wake up they have no recollection of what happened, until they're left with a little hint at where they might've been and what they've done.

I liked the book, but I thought there could've been a little more added to it. This book leaves you with some questions that go unanswered the whole time. I feel as if I was more intrigued by the relationship between Emma and Jake. Any less of the horror involved would've made it just another love story between some troubled teens.

All of the characters except Emma were way too underdeveloped. Most of the book talks about Emma's past and her life in general. Readers don't really get a chance to relate with any of the other characters.

Personally, the book was lacking in the horror/gore parts so I would have liked to see more of that. Those parts of the book weren't as descriptive as I would've liked, but for others it could have been the perfect amount. Although there was a shock element at the end of the book the rest of the book was pretty dull.

It was still a good and quick read nonetheless!

Kieli Jo says

re read a creepy book I loved as a kid! did not disappoint

Michelle. D. says

I liked the book, I wanted to give it five stars, but there was a loose end that I just could not stand. The loose end was the whole Jake and Emma situation. I just love it when you get a book, and in the blurb, it doesn't mention anything about romance, and then in the book, there is some smoochy-smoochy or something. So, Jake and Emma both like each other and they hooked up in Jake's room before and yeah. And that's it. They like each other still, and worry about each other but nothing else happens. I mean, they were in bed making out with each other for heaven's sake. And I know that there was stuff going on in their lives but I can't stop worrying about what happens between them after.

Sometimes in the book when it is in dream sequence, I am confused. Like, not in all of the dreams, but in some of the dreams, I barely have any clue to what is going on. Maybe I was reading too fast, or just not paying attention or something but... I dunno. Blehy.

I KNEW IT! I KNEW IT! I had a feeling that person was making everything happen. I had a bad vibe coming from him/her. I never like him/her. Blehy. THAT PERSON'S AN EXSPIRED BURRITO!

I give tribute to all those people who died in the book because honestly, they didn't deserve to die. A moment of silence please.....

You ever notice that sometimes when you read a book and the book gives off this book-like smell. You just breathe it in and sigh. Not because it stinks or something, but because the smell relaxes you or makes you feel good. The copy of this book that I had had that smell. Ah....

So yeah, here's my review. I seem to notice that my review now-a-days seem to just really talk about what happens in the books and not about the writing itself, so let us say something about that.

Hmmm.

This book had very grown-up words. :D

Peace.

Christie says

Well I don't know where to start. Do I start by saying I hated all the characters? The author's writing style? The empty shallow ridiculous conclusion? Nah, I'll just say skip this b.s. book. ??

Jennette says

This book sucked :/

Anto Tilio says

Me re gustó la idea del libro y los temas que toca. Interesante y perturbador.

Me jodió al final con el malo. Estaba tan segura de quién era y si bien también sospeché del que terminó siendo me hubiera gustado más si fuera el que pensaba. Aunque el desenlace le da un toque más de condimento a la historia y el villano es un personaje digno de analizar.

Brittney Walker says

BEFORE:

I found Sleepless in the school library after being told that we're doing a project in english involving reading a book. No big deal.

The cover is amazing. Kind of cliche, but it makes you think. So a girl is wearing those eye cover things you use to sleep sometimes, and there's blood streaming out from behind it. E.W.

At 209 pages, this book is a bit shorter than I usually read, but this is for a class, so I didn't want to pick too big a book just in case I didn't like it. Because either way, I still have to read it. So, it's best that it's short.

I have high hopes for this book. I'm hoping that it will be scary, yet not too gory. It's hard to find a good book/movie that knows how to differentiate between the two.

So, I know by the blurb that Emma, the main character, starts having dreams, and she kills people in her sleep. Then people in her school start to have the dreams too, and kill people. They have to work together to stop themselves from killing anyone else.

Christina says

"Someone else will die soon, she tells herself. Someone else will die, and I'll be responsible."

A group of teenagers in high school are in a club. They all have one thing in common. They all went to volunteer in New Orleans. Something happens and it is making some of them sleepwalk.

This story is told through Emma and Jake. Each chapter is told through their point of view. The premise hooked me but I was a little iffy about reading this book because some of the reviews said it wasn't scary. I went into this book thinking I won't be scared but halfway in I got spooked... This may not be the case for most of you but if you are scared easily, beware.

*"Sons of Hypnos,
The gods who bring dreams into the world,
Bring us rest."*

(view spoiler)

Paige says

This book is about four teens who join this class. Then the pictures do some kind of voodoo type thing and make them kill people in their class or just people they don't like. Emma and Jake end up having this thing. Emma is trying to figure out what's happening to everyone. She finds out that Caitlin is behind all the killings. The killings are very graphic you can tell just by reading how gross the deaths are. There was this kid who is on the football team and his nickname is Hicky Stevens because he gives like every girl hickies. This one girl who hates him. She sleepwalks then she finds him at the train station where the class is and she pushes him over the edge right in front of a train. He dies. Duncan sets himself on fire because he kept dreaming about killing Lily the girl he likes. Lily goes insane. Jake, Emma, Caitlin, Duncan, and Lily try staying up all night when they start sleepwalking/nightmares. Emma and Jake end up sleeping in the same bed then they end up making out. Dr. Beecher ends up dead in the end of the book because Caitlin stabs him and hits him in the junk.

I thought this book was really good. It was a good read. You could read that book in days. It was graphic and fun to read. I would recommend people read the book

Brooke Nicole says

Pretty good short book for my reluctant YA ass. I really liked the relationship between Emma and Jake, and DRUGS! Bongs, weed, and a Big Box of Weed. Nice touch

Mitchel Broussard says

It starts off menacing enough, with a prologue meant to grab your interest (it may, did for me) and then moves along with frequent mentions of a class trip to New Orleans where something "terrible" happened, something nobody wants to talk about anymore. Turns out someone was murdered (shocker, I know) and the group of kids, including the teacher, swore never to tell anyone what happened.

Unfortunately, for everyone involved, when they got back home, one by one they start having nightmares, and one by one they start killing other students. This is the part that kind of lost me, I mean I know it would

be terrible if i woke up to find out i had drowned someone in the ocean, but there's no real threat directly aimed to the main characters throughout the book (well except at the end, of course.) I just never felt like any of them would die or were in trouble, because they weren't. Only unimportant, barely mentioned characters get bumped off. And of course the one character from the group that does get killed, is done so by lighting himself on fire, he was just paranoid, never in real danger. He was also the least developed and most uninteresting of them all.

And then there's the final twist. I mean i can't say i saw it coming, because i didn't, and it was a nice change of pace to have something unexpected, i just did not fully see the character's motivation to do this to all of her fellow students. Yeah, she was "troubled" and having an affair with the teacher, whatever, i just felt there could have been a better reason for her to want to murder half her class. But, the way she did cause the sleepwalking was really neat: through hypnosis using this old projection machine with character's names etched into creepy old paintings. Sure its completely implausible but it sure is nifty!

So, it's a pretty quick read that is hampered down by a unfortunately uninteresting take on the "I Know What You Did Last Summer" story, a group of uninteresting characters, and a meandering plot that never really feels like it actually goes anywhere, especially anywhere interesting. I'd give it a 2.5 if i could, but i cant, and i'm not feeling generous today. A 2 out of 5.

Christina says

It seems to me that YA horror books are either good (original or using tropes in new ways) or bad (stuffed with clichés like a Thanksgiving turkey). It's difficult to find books that go beyond the low budget horror films kind of *suck*. *Sleepless* was not one of those books. It just wasn't very good.

The New Orleans backstory where the starting point of all that ensues was not fleshed out enough. I wasn't comfortable with the fact that it was right after hurricane Katrina and the whole cliché of *evil* Voodoo magic was brought up. It just came across cheap and disrespectful.

As for the characters, I disliked them all. Didn't care about who died or who lived. *shrug* The romance was highly annoying. Jake and Emma..I could have crawled into this book just to murder them both.

Jake is your typical pothead *and* drug dealer. He's failing out of high school. No direction whatsoever in life besides wanting to sleep with the pretty Emma. And Emma likes him too. I don't understand why but 99% of the time she's thinking about him. Everybody else is dying but who cares, right? He admits he thinks he killed a girl on the beach, considering he woke up with sand all in his clothes and bed..but does this bother her? Nope.

Teens are dying under mysterious circumstances and this is her train of thought:

"Why won't he touch me like that? Emma keeps asking herself."

Not only that but she had some petty reasons to hate another girl. The list was things like big breasts, blonde hair and blue eyes, perfect body, and "putting the moves on Jake Hardale."

... I know girls can be petty to the point of childishness..but in all my days of disliking someone, it was *not* because of their breast size or hair color. Emma retracts some of this once she gets to know the other girl a

little more, but it's painfully obvious that a dude is trying to write girls and it just didn't work. The only character with any real depth is Jake, even then it's not much besides getting high and hoping to bang Emma.

If you're looking for a good horror book to read, this is not it. So underwhelming from beginning to end.

Annie says

Isn't the cover amazing! It caught my eye right away and I couldn't wait to dive into the story. But, in the end, I was disappointed with many aspects of the book but in love with other parts.

I've found that most horror novels I read start off horribly. They're incredibly boring and I have to force myself to read the book. *Sleepless* was no exception. Even right now trying to write this review, I can't remember what the first half of the book was about. I just read it. I did soak up the main details and the important plot points but nothing else really mattered I just wanted something scary to happen. Also, I was not a fan of the way the novel switched between telling the present and telling the past and the dreams. I found it to be choppy and confusing.

That being said, the last half of the book was amazing. It was scary with great twists, everything that should be in a good horror novel. Best of all it was very fast paced nothing that was unneeded happened. Also Fahy's descriptive writing which I had found long and annoying in the beginning was greatly appreciated during the ending because it brought the story to life.

Even though, it took me a day to read the first 100 pages and an hour to read the last 100, I did enjoy the novel. The ending was enough to redeem the book in my opinion. What do you guys think did you like the book?

Check out my book review blog at www.anibelle.blogspot.com

Kate D says

I like this book. I like the creepiness and the way the characters deal with it, although I would have liked more interaction between Emma and Jake. It was pretty much a solid, rereadable book.
