



## Doll's Eyes

*Bari Wood*

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## Doll's Eyes Bari Wood

Eve Klein was born with a "gift" she doesn't want. It drove her husband away and her mother to suicide. It forces her to see things...to know things.

In her mind, she can see the pain, the terror, the blood. and the eyes-- cold and merciless, alive...yet dead.

Destiny has brought her to a remote and mountainous place, with no avenue of escape. For the killer's glassy doll eyes are now focused solely on Eve Klein. And he's coming for her now.

## Doll's Eyes Details

Date : Published December 18th 1994 by Avon Books (Mm) (first published 1993)

ISBN : 9780380720972

Author : Bari Wood

Format : Paperback 375 pages

Genre : Thriller, Horror, Fiction, Mystery, Adult, Fantasy, Paranormal

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## From Reader Review *Doll's Eyes* for online ebook

### **Jenny Randolph says**

It's a literary thriller. I read it because of the movie it is based on, but the two don't really have much in common.

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### **Book Vamp Jade Williams says**

excellently written. keeps you constantly on the edge of your seat as you imagine seeing horrors through another's eyes. this book also illustrates the damage that a parent/s can do to a child.

horrifying!

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### **Catherine Vera says**

Buen thriller, la trama es bastante rápida y van pasando los hechos a toda velocidad, lamentablemente el hecho de saber tan temprano quién es el asesino me desilusionó, además de que el "juego" del gato y el ladrón es predecible.

Las descripciones de las escenas están bien realizadas, llega a ser clínico el detalle de lo que ocurre con las víctimas y eso sorprende y le da un buen toque a la obra, pero por otro lado, la identificación con los personajes se hace débil, incluso de manera sorprende uno se conecta más con la historia del asesino que con los "buenos".

Sumando y restando, una buena historia para pasar el rato.

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### **Christine says**

The movie "In Dreams" is LOOSELY based upon this book. It's suspenseful and well written but the last few chapters just drag on and on. You know what SHOULD happen at the end, but it's as if the writer had no way of getting there and just kind of "winged" the last few chapters. Other than the end, the book is great.

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### **Rebecca McNutt says**

I really liked the premise of *Doll's Eyes* and the main character's journey to find a reason for why she can see the things she sees. On the other hand, towards the middle of the novel it just started getting confusing and going in circles over the same things over and over again.

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### **Koda Gallegos says**

While nothing like the movie *In Dreams*, this novel is a well written, nicely placed, smart thriller, with heart and humor delivered in the perfect moments.

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### **StrangeAeons says**

Bari Wood is an intriguing writer and my overall impression of her is that she's better than the sum of her parts. She uses pulpy and familiar themes throughout her novels which lend themselves (or are indebted to?) to horror cinema. She's definitely smarter than most of the pack though and can deliver one hell of a creeper both in tension and release. *Doll's Eyes* has the added bonus of moving along at clip. It's a page turner, if not quite a head scratcher; you know where this book is going, despite the surplus of red herrings, and especially if you're already familiar with trope of a psychic detective (Eve) journeying to a small towns who happens to chance upon the visions of a serial killer.

This isn't a languid, introspective fiction. This is a book plotted for thrills and chills. There's some cliches (a skeptical sheriff turned right hand man, a final confrontation between "Adam" and "Eve", etc) but as the killer catches up to Eve's there's an interesting twist (which I wouldn't spoil here).

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### **C.A. says**

I admit I never heard of Bari Wood and it wasn't until I saw the movie "*In Dreams*" (again) that I discovered it was based on a novel. I wanted to read *Doll's Eyes* for a couple of reasons, the least not being the fact that I am writing a very similar novel and I thought I could get some helpful insights.

This book is currently out of print but I found a used copy on Amazon and in a couple of days it was on my doorstep. I don't know what I was expecting but it was both better than I had hoped for and much better than the movie (which had nothing to do with the book. Nothing.)

I couldn't put the book down once I began reading it and I was hooked on her writing style immediately. It is suspenseful and although a little dated, it kept me turning the pages to find out what was going to happen next.

There was a plot hole or two but not enough to disturb my enjoyment of the book and the fact that it took place in an area of the country that I grew up in and involved characters that I recognized right away as residents of my old stomping ground didn't hurt either.

Well written and a page turner, what more can you ask for?

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## **Pippii says**

This is a fascinating crime story.

A serial killer, a clairvoyant woman and a desperate police officer.

Five women have been killed over the past two years, all in the same way. The officer in charge of the case, Dave Latovsky has no clues until the clairvoyant woman Eve Tilden touches a children's swing and discovers a dying woman and some clues of the killer.

Even if you, as a reader, know the killer from the beginning of the book, it is a surprising and scary thriller.

I enjoyed it a lot.

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## **Andrew Herold says**

The only reason I picked this up was because I had seen the movie *In Dreams* and it was supposedly based on this book. Well, I don't really understand exactly how they can say that it's based on this--they really have almost nothing in common, including the character names and most of the plot--but I would argue that this is a better story. I didn't really have high hopes for it, but in this case I was pleasantly surprised.

The characters are pretty well developed, the gore is somewhat restrained and elegant instead of splashy (which really worked in this instance), and the killer wasn't just this one dimensional embodiment of evil. Neither were the good characters for that matter. Even Eve, arguably the most blameless character in the story, was still flawed and a bit more unpredictable than you'd guess. I like Wood's style, too. More descriptive than most, which is nice to see.

The only real complaint that I have is that her hero cop (another flawed character) seems a bit slow on the uptake. Unrealistically so, which helped to craft a more suspenseful ending, but didn't ring true regardless. Other than that, well worth the time.

Call is 3.5 stars.

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## **Heather \*Awkward Queen and Unicorn Twin\* says**

**UPDATE 9/25/14:** I just watched the movie and it is BAD. But it looks so nice. So maybe the book is better? I don't know. They should remake it and do a good job this time. Although nobody could portray Vivian Thompson like RDJ.

### **REVIEW:**

I read this book because of the movie based off it, *In Dreams*. In reality, the book and the movie have literally NOTHING in common besides a psychic woman. Not the names, not the crimes, not the settings, not ANYTHING. I'd actually known they were different before going in, but I didn't expect the differences to be so vast.

The pacing in this book sucked. The cops were so incompetent it was insane. They started suspecting the killer in the first half of the book but it took them until the last few pages to get him. There was a bunch of boring dialogue that added nothing to the story. I skimmed a lot of it in the last quarter. The killer was the only sympathetic character in the book. His backstory was suitably sick, but it also felt really random.

Okay, now here's why the movie is better. (It's been a while since I've watched it, so bear with me.) Robert Downey Jr. plays a guy named Vivian Thompson who escapes from a mental institution and cross dresses to fool a taxi driver and kills people or something? And he and Annette Bening's character Claire share a psychic connection and it starts to drive her a little crazy.

Some cool stuff in the movie includes an underwater town, a reservoir, an abandoned hotel, and a shit ton of apples.

So there you go. I'm not even sure why the movie bothers to credit this novel. The two are entirely different stories.

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### **Krystal Hickam says**

What got me interested in this book was the movie *In Dreams*. I'd read a few reviews when it came to the book vs the movie and it seems to me that since so much was changed, not a lot of people really cared for the movie. Personally, I enjoy both but as separate stories.

How different is the book? Well the basic story is still there, a psychic is able to see a serial killer who then goes out looking for her. Yet there is a lot that is different. The serial killer isn't just some guy lurking in the woods snatching up members of her family in order to bring her out, he's an active member of society. However, as in the movie, he is still emotionally damaged from past trauma he suffered. There are also characters in the book that aren't in the movie, characters in the movie that aren't in the book, ect. So it's those little differences that make both stand apart despite the movie being based on the book.

How is the book? Well, I am not really a fan of books containing detectives, mysteries and all that. I really enjoy more fantasy, sci-fi based books. However, I must say that this one drew me in. I will admit that part of that was because I did enjoy the movie, but I also enjoyed how it was written, paced, and the characters. To me, it was very interesting to see all the differences between the two mediums and the book itself is vastly superior to the movie. The way it is fleshed out is far more solid and the characters are more vivid. So even if you aren't a fan of this genre, I urge people to check it out. I happened to finally find my copy at a Half Price books after months of searching for it (yeah I could have just bought it somewhere online, but I didn't).

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## **Zion The says**

Eve Tilden Leigh Klein comes from a long line of extraordinary women. All it takes is just a touch for them to see your past or your future. In Doll's Eyes, Eve witnesses a murder at Raven Lake from the other side of the lake in a failed attempt at repairing her marriage. After having to convince the local detective and psychiatrist of her abilities, Eve's life becomes a little more dangerous when the killer starts hunting for her. It was a bright Wednesday afternoon when I went to the bookstore in the Fairfield Shopping center on Providence and asked the owner and his wife to help me find a book by a not so well known author. After asking a few probing questions, she helped me find Doll's Eyes by Bari Wood.

I happily paid for my new novels and proceeded to my hair appointment.

For the next 4-5 hours while two women with heavy accents braided my hair in Senegalese Twists, I was drawn in by the intense story Wood presented. I feel as though, the authors text adequately reached the intended audience. Her text and tone gave me chills as I became afraid when Eve first touched the swing and saw the murder. I cried when Latovsky broke down in Dr. Bunner's office. With each descriptive word, I had a vivid movie playing in my mind.

The way in which Wood executed this literary work, it is not too hard or easy to read. Her use of descriptive language effectively has you forgetting you're even reading at all.

I believe one of the biggest issues in the novel was whether Eve would help Detective Dave Latovsky with his case or not. There was a constant battle between Eve and her aunt Frances Tilden. Frances can see how using her power effects Eve physically and emotionally. There was also a battle between Eve and Latovsky. Latovsky needed her to find the killer but she feared he would find her and kill her. Personally, I agreed with everyone's argument. All points were equally valid.

What I love about Wood is her ability to captivate my mind and direct my imagination in her fictional world. Although Steven King is one of my favorite authors, when I read his work, I spend the entire time comparing his writing style to my own. Wood was able to captivate me so deeply that my mind was free of anything that she did not want in her world.

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## **Alysa H. says**

To anyone whose favorite thing about the movie *In Dreams* is the drowned town backstory: this is not in the book. So if that's what you're looking for, you will be disappointed. Similarly, RD Jr's character in the movie is wonderfully unhinged at all times, but the murderer in the book appears, most of the time, as a functioning member of society.

The only real similarity between the book and the movie is the heroine's psychic connection to the killer.

That being said, this is a good enough read on its own but it feels a bit dated.

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## **Tracy says**

2.5-3 stars

Kept me reading to the end to see how it turned out.

A bit wordy in places and frustrating as some of the text just didn't seem to matter or fit. Some of the characters were unnecessary and often times I'd forget who they were when mentioned again.

But, then there were segments that I wanted to keep reading and enjoyed.

A bit of a mixed review here.

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