



Sleep Tight

Anne Frasier

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WAKE UP, LITTLE DARLING. DO YOU LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?

He's looking for the perfect woman. Someone who won't disappoint him, like so many have before. Someone who'll love him ... someone who won't have to die for her mistakes.

GIVE UP, LITTLE DARLING....

FBI agent Mary Cantrell has been called to Minneapolis to hunt down a killer. Her reluctant return home is shaking her to the core, reviving dreadful memories. Years ago, her best friend was murdered. Now the man convicted of the crime, Gavin Hitchcock, is free--and Mary's own sister, Gillian, a local cop, has befriended him.

NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU SCREAM BUT ME.

As each clue to the new killings leads them closer to Hitchcock, Mary and Gillian put their differences aside and set themselves up as the perfect target--and the perfect trap. Unless Mary's own past has blinded her to an unimaginable truth ... and will plunge them into a waking nightmare....

Sleep Tight Details

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Author : Anne Frasier

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From Reader Review *Sleep Tight* for online ebook

Elena Alvarez Dosil says

I was offered a copy of this book in audio format from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Fiona, Mary's best friend appears dead on her sixteen birthday. Gavin Hitchcock was found guilty and convicted. Years later, Mary Cantrell, already an efficient FBI agent, is sent to her home town to investigate three murders, apparently executed by the same person. Gavin is out of prison, and Mary is decided to hunt him down, even if her sister Gillian is convinced of his innocence.

The story was compelling, and even though this is not the kind of book I use to read, it got my interest from the beginning. The author knows how to keep the reader's attention, and the characters were well developed, although at times it was difficult to understand their actions and motivations. There were a couple of details that I had problems to find believable. I also did not understand why the author decided to include some romance, it felt somehow forced.

There is an important twist to the story but I am not convinced about the execution. I think the truth should have been hidden to the reader a little bit longer, like it was for Gillian and Mary.

Hollis McCarthy's voice was captivating, and it reminded me of the narrator's voice from the series *Desperate Housewives*. She started a bit insecure but became more confident after a while. I observed a lack of consistency when interpreting voices, which made the character identification difficult at times. She also needs to work on the male voices, since most of them sound the same. Something that annoyed me was the audio production. It seems McCarthy did not hear about the proximity effect, since there's plenty of breathing, lips smacking and saliva noises. I agree the voice gains some quality when keeping the mic close but at least try to edit then those noises out. I even heard a page turn. I also would like to mention that she uses a sing song rhythm that it is more evident at the beginning of the book. I was not bothered by it but some people could find it disturbing.

All in all it was a good mystery/thriller book and if those gross noises were left out, it could have been a great listen.

Cece Kempf says

Personal Response:

Sleep Tight was a great book! I really liked how the book would switch between the killer's perspective and Mary's perspective. This book was hard for me to put down. Any chance I got, I picked it up to read. The part of the book that I did not like very well was when the killer turned out being someone I did not know about until the last few pages of the book.

Plot:

The plot of *Sleep Tight* was very good and relatively fast paced which kept my attention the whole time. Mary's friend ,Fiona, was murdered when she was only 16 years old.Mary became an FBI agent after this tragic event. A young man named Gavin was found guilty in the killing of Fiona. Gavin had recently been released from prison, and more killings have started. Mary flew back to her home town, Minneapolis, in

order to help solve the current series of murders. This killer was taking woman, keeping them, and then later returning them back where he took them from.

While working on the case, Mary was staying at her mother's house. Mary and her sister do not get along. Gavin and Mary's sister Gillian, were very close. When Gavin was arrested, Gillian did not believe it was him who killed Fiona. She had always stuck up for him. Gillian also hated Fiona with a passion. When Gavin was released from prison she gave him a place to stay, money, and moral support to keep him going.

Setting:

The setting of *Sleep Tight* took place in a modern century in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Some of the book took place at Mary's mother's house. Other parts of it took place all around Minneapolis as Mary investigated. I felt as though the book took place in the early 2000's, because I felt the technology used in this book was outdated. This setting was important to the plot line because when new information came up, they worked hard to get the information needed to find the killer. They used very old school ways to test blood and prints.

Characterization:

The main character was Mary Cantrell. Mary was the youngest of her siblings and a private investigator working for the FBI. After reading *Sleep Tight* I saw that Mary was a very emotional girl who was dedicated to her work. Mary was in her late 20's and caucasian.

Gillian was another one of our main characters. She was Mary's older sister. Gillian worked for the police station in her hometown, Minneapolis. Gillian was very strict and I found her to be rude towards Mary. Gillian later became one of the victims which really tied her relationship together with her sister.

Thematic Connection:

I believed the theme for *Sleep Tight* was justice. At age 16 Mary's best friend Fiona was brutally murdered. Mary later grew up and became an FBI investigator. I think the theme was justice because a case came up in Mary's home town of Minneapolis. She heard about killings that were similar to what happened to Fiona. She jumped up and volunteered to take the case. Mary fought hard and long to help the girls who went through what her best friend went through.

Recommendation:

I would recommend this book to any girl or guy over the age of 15. This book was very suspenseful and should be read by mature audiences only. I felt someone over 15 would be able to handle all of the murder, suspense, and abuse throughout the book.

Matt Schiariti says

I instantly became a fan of Anne Frasier's after reading the fantastic Hush, followed by Play Dead. Sleep Tight is another well written and fast paced thriller from an author who's starting to climb her way up to the top of my 'must read list'.

That being said, there were one or two things that kept it from getting a full five star rating.

Mary Cantrell is an FBI agent with a tortured past. She's called back to work a case in her native Minneapolis when women fitting a certain profile have been abducted and turn up dead from the very spots they were taken--like returned merchandise. There's a sick killer on the loose and he's looking for the perfect woman. None of them are living up to his expectations.

Complicating matters is Mary's sister Gillian. She's a BCA cop who's also assigned to the case. That in and of itself isn't the major complication though. The conflict comes from one Gavin Hitchcock who's a friend of Gillian's. A friend of Gillian's who just so happened to be imprisoned for killing Mary's childhood friend Fiona on the day of her 16th birthday party. Mary, Gillian and their mother's lives were never the same from that point on and that's where the real drama in this story comes from: the three of them being thrown together by the case involving the serial killer after five years of estrangement.

Frasier's characters are always flawed and/or rich in interesting back story. As you can tell from the paragraph above that's the case once again with Sleep Tight. Mary became cold and distant since finding her friend dead all those years ago and having to deal with her little sister who, in her own way is trying to still live up to Mary's image, makes for a story brimming with conflict that's just flat out great reading.

Frasier also writes disturbing villains VERY well. The scenes where the reader gets inside the killer's twisted mind are very disturbing and much like a train wreck, you know it's going to be horrible but you can't take your eyes off of it. And I mean that in a good way.

As I stated earlier in the review, there was an issue or two that kept it from getting a five out of five. The villain reveal. I won't spoil it but it left me a little flat when I learned 'whodunnit'. It seemed a bit out of left field. There are read herrings aplenty, which is good and Frasier does those very well, but this one kind of seemed like a 'fast one'.

Also, when it's discovered what really happened on Fiona's 16th birthday, it was kind of obvious. No big shocker.

Despite those issues, I recommend this to anybody that's already a fan of Ann Frasier (preaching to the choir, right?) or anybody that loves a well written thriller with well fleshed out, interesting, and completely real feeling characters, great dialogue and a fast pace.

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Linda says

I tell ya, it's an amazing world we live in. Used to be, when I was on the lookout for a new author, my resources consisted of the local librarian and maybe a friend or family member. If I was lucky I'd score a book or two from the suggestions. Now thanks to Al Gore and his Internet , all I have to do is rate a few books on Amazon or Goodreads and I'm given more suggestions than I know what to do with. I can even read a couple chapters of a book before I commit to it. It's the best card catalog anyone ever dreamed of!

So I'm kind of on a mystery/thriller binge and I seem to be batting 1000, with SLEEP TIGHT by Anne Frasier being another home run. WOW! What a great psychological thriller! This was another one I couldn't put down. The plot, the characters, the pacing-- everything was top notch. Thank you Anne Frazier for the great read and thank you Amazon for the suggestion!

Jennifer says

I'm extremely conflicted about this book. On one hand, the front story, FBI agent returns to her hometown to

assist in solving a crime while facing her own demons, is suspenseful and often riveting with it's breakneck twists and turns. On the other hand, the back-story, aforementioned personal demons and a little romance, seems a bit stunted. Although the characters are very well written, I think I would have enjoyed a bit more development on them - especially the relationship between Mary & Anthony, at times it's palpable, and others....well, stagnant. Other characters come into play with virtually no introduction, make a few quips, and then fade away again. While they all serve a purpose, the lack of development or substance in them left me wondering often.

Overall, a very well written thriller that will keep you on the edge of your seat and your dinner cold for lack of wanting to put it down.

Dora says

Well crafted suspense tale

Frasier gave us a well crafted tale of Mary Cantrell, a profiler for the FBI, who is sent back to her hometown of Minneapolis after being shot protecting her partner Anthony. She is sent there for two reasons: to help her recovery and to help with the profile of a serial rapist and murderer. Mary is not happy with this posting because it brings back memories of the death of her childhood friend and the rift with her sister who never believed that the person imprisoned for the friend's murder was guilty.

Although what was done to the young women was brutal, this book did not read as gory as some books do on the subjects of rape and murder. For me this was a plus.

If you do not like books that have female characters that continuously place themselves in risky positions requiring others to rescue them, you might not like Mary's sister Gillian. If you have triggers for rape, you should probably avoid this book.

T.R. Horne says

This is my first Anne Frasier novel and undoubtedly won't be my last. I like her writing style and she definitely knows how to create a weird and gut wrenching antagonist to a story! Yes, there is a reason I rated this book 3 stars even though I really liked it. But let's start from the beginning...Agent Mary Cantrell is on a case in her hometown of Minneapolis because there have been a string of killings. Flaw one, her boss thinks it's a good idea to go back home while recovering from a gunshot wound to relax...while working on a murder case? In your hometown? Yeah, that's relaxing...

Flaw two, the story digs into the protagonist's past pretty deeply and I'm not sure if we ever really get out of the past enough to enjoy the present case. For instance, Mary's sister is now a cop/field agent for the local police working on the same case. Mary is doing double duty by looking into her best friend's murder (which has been solved, guy served his term in prison and everything, yet...she's still looking into it). The majority of the story is about the past case while the new case is far more interesting because the antagonist is supremely weird and does increasingly heinous things to women.

The antagonist is an interesting person and you really fall into wondering why and how these girls end up in

the predicament they're in. Unfortunately, you have to wait until the very end of the book to get your fill of this character. Overall, the book was interesting enough and I knew what the ending would be in regards to the old case yet I was still satisfied with the story and its overarching theme of family woe, secrets and acceptance. There was another flaw in the book that is very miniscule but I'd be remiss for not bringing it up. The romance that occurred seemed really forced and I got absolutely NOTHING out of it.

All in all, even with the flaws, the book is kind of enjoyable so I'll definitely try out the author again in the future. Frasier wrote a kick ass antagonist that had me cringing...I don't think I can remove some things he did from my mind....

Raging Book Reviews Recommended

BookLoversLife says

When Mary is called back to her home town of Minneapolis, she knows it's not just the serial killer case she has to work on, but also her rocky relationship with her sister! Add to the fact that Gillian, her sister, is also a cop and is assigned the case with her. Mary knows that she will have to let bygones be bygones and bury the past. That's fine till she hears that her best friend's killer is still living in the town. The whole reason she left to become an FBI profiler was because her best friend was murdered by Gavin Hitchcock, who Gillian stood beside and believes to be innocent, even though the evidence was overwhelming. Mary says it as a betrayal, hence the tension between both. Now though, with bodies piling up, Mary has her sights on Gavin, but is he truly capable of the heinous way the girls are found?

This was quite long yet I ended up listening to it over 2 days (despite certain issues with the narration, which I'll get to in a bit). I found the character development to be amazing and loved both Mary and Gillian. Every family has their spats and I'm glad to see the girls working out their issues properly. Also the killer was super creepy and being inside his head was even worse. This author sure knows how to write a disturbingly warped villain!

The plot was relatively fast paced and kept my attention the whole time. I thought that there were certain parts that were kind of disjointed and unnecessary, and the whole sub plot with Mary's best friend's bit was rushed and seemed to be added as an after thought. Saying that though, I still thoroughly enjoyed this and will definitely try something else by this author.

Now, onto the narration! Hollis McCarthy took a while to grab me. She had such an annoying sing song tone at the start, that totally isn't suitable for such a serious book, that it nearly made me not finish! Also the background noises were so distracting at times. If this had a proper production edit then maybe the tone wouldn't have annoyed me as much. Also, her voices were very similar and it became hard to distinguish who was talking at any given time.

I received a copy of this for review. This in no way affected my thoughts.

Betsy says

Sleep Tight is the first book I have read by Anne Frasier, but it will not be the last. My kind of story. Hunting

a serial killer. Excellent plot and characters. Looking forward to reading more from this author. 4.5 stars

Petra says

Because Mary's friend Fiona was murdered when she was 16-years-old, Mary decided to join the FBI. Gavin, the young man who was found guilty of the murder, has recently been released on parole. Mary's sister Gillian, who also works in law enforcement, has always stood by Gavin and believed him to be innocent. This led to the sisters drifting apart and Mary hasn't been home in years. But when several young females are abducted in her hometown and turn up dead, Mary returns and helps with the investigation. She thinks she knows who may be behind these latest murders.

For the most part, this was a really enjoyable serial killer story with a tiny hint of romantic suspense and a lot of focus on family interaction. The characters were interesting and quite likable. I particularly liked Gavin actually but felt his story was left incomplete at the end. Some of the story, particularly towards the end, felt disjointed. I think I would have enjoyed it more if Fiona's case had been more smoothly integrated rather than tucked in at the end.

Sadly, this was one example where the audiobook narration didn't enhance the story for me. The narrator decided to insert pauses in the most bizarre places within a sentence. It really stopped the flow of the narration and led to some of the dialogue sounding unnatural. Her sing-song-cadence was quite often distracting and didn't feel in tune with the suspense of a thriller.

This audiobook was provided by the author, narrator, or publisher at no cost in exchange for an unbiased review courtesy of Audiobook Blast.

Cynthia says

Wow just WOW from the author writing style of detail scenes to the emotional narration this is one book that will keep you on the edge leave you hanging there guessing to the outcome. This was an audio I had major trouble putting down I needed to know who the killer was. As with most it is never who you might think but lord you would never have thought...it never cross my mind of who the killer was many years ago of a young innocent 16 year old. The author gives you two stories inside one about the killer from long ago and the 2nd of the serial killer. Could they both be the same, could they be tied in together and did the right man go to jail so many years ago?

Mary hasn't been home in many years she has been trying to outrun her youth and all the bad memories it brings. When she gets shot protecting her partner the FBI sends her home for some R and R. Knowing she can't set still they bait her with helping on case where a serial killer is killing blonde hair woman. She doesn't want to go home to face her past but she has no choice she has been ordered they need a profiler and she is the one. On her return to her home town she is faced with her sister who has been helping the killer of her dead friend. How could her sister not see he is the killer and might be the killer of the new women. She and her sister has been at odds since the trial now with Gavin free and new girls are coming up dead her sister is defending him. At this rate the sister will never see eye to eye and always be at odds. With each girl that comes up missing Mary and her sister are pulled deeper into the case will all eyes turning to Gavin. Could Gillian have been wrong if so what will it do to her when she has spent so many years helping,

believing and caring for a killer?

Hollis did a wonderful job of narration from her power emotion she puts into the read to her tones and different characters. I do feel she needs more work on her male voices some are very close to others. Her female voices so fit each women character from her tones you have a vivid picture of what each character looks like. You get the feel of how they carry their selves down to how they walk. Her tones are right on the mark from excited to sorrow. You have no trouble feeling each characters emotion if she cries so does the narrator. If she is sad you can hear it in her voice. You have no trouble knowing what each one is feeling. I heard no background noise and no breaks. The audio was even with no parts being high or lower just a smooth rich listen. Hollis voice is clear and powerful making this a wonderful listen that I totally enjoyed. For me the narrator made this story more so than if I had read just the book.

The author has put a lot of time and thought to the plot giving you a heart beating exciting read that will keep you on the edge of your seat. You will go from I am sure he didn't do it to OH YEAH he did. The author will keep you guessing on many parts in this story. This is a wonderful suspenseful read with a lot of twists, turns, thrilling and at times it's chilling. There were times I had my mouth open and other times I was just so shocked I didn't know what to do. I had a few funny looks at the noise I was making why shopping. She author throws in a little romance and a touching read of a family trying to find their way back to each other. There was not anything that I did not like in this book. I loved the authors writing style the way she kept my busy and entertained. This book with touch you in so many ways bring you into the mind of a killer who cares nothing for the people he takes. If one doesn't suit oh well you return them for a refund kill one take another....

I really had trouble putting this audio down. I listened on my 10 minute breaks you think not much can happen in 10 minutes. You might be surprised. I usually read during my lunch but in this case I listened. Things that didn't take me long to do I found took longer I just did not want to put it down. The author gives you entertainment at its finest. This is the first I have read or listen to by this author and narrator it sure will not be the last. The author has no trouble holding your attention leaving you waiting more.

Kimmy says

Haven't read in a long time ..however Anne Frasier has won me with Mary Cantrell's character and brought back from my anime binge I had been having lately. Something about this psychological thriller had me on my toes and questioning who really was the killer. I liked the book overall and would recommend this someone else to read.

Selu says

[since he was a victim too—sent to prison for 10 years when he was innocent! (hide spoiler)]

Regina says

I enjoyed this story. When sisters Mary and Gillian were teenagers, Mary's best friend and Gillian's hated

enemy, Fiona, was murdered. Both women went into law enforcement as a result and Gillian's best friend, Gavin, went to prison. Years later, Gavin is out of prison and Mary is a successful FBI profiler. Gillian is local law enforcement. Add a new series of kidnappings and killings and you have a very good premise for a taut, suspenseful thriller. And parts of this book were very good...I enjoyed getting to know Mary, Gavin, and Gillian, and even Anthony. But other parts felt like a teen romance...and the actual reason the guy is kidnapping and killing women just didn't seem that plausible.

I found myself listening for hours, wanting to know what happened in the end. Did Gavin do it? Would Mary solve both cases - the old and the new? The new case was written and solved nicely, even with a few holes. The writing was good. I cared about these characters. But then Anne didn't finish the job. The old mystery felt summed up almost as an afterthought. I was disappointed. I cared about Gavin and wanted to know how things ended for him.

The narration was decent even though Hollis McCarthy has a way of reading that is slightly sarcastic to me. I got used to it, in the end, and enjoyed the story. Just wish it was wrapped up a little more neatly.

I received this audiobook for free from Audiobook Blast in exchange for an honest review.

Sam Martin says

There might be spoiler below. I will try not to spoil it too much for you. I rated this book a 3.5 stars.

I just finished this story. I was a little disappointed with it. I felt there should have been more chapters dealing with Mary's friend murder and Gavin's law issue. I wanted to know how everyone felt on knowing the truth about who had done it. I especially wanted to know how Mary felt about the friend she really didn't know. Since her death plays a great role in her life of who she is today. You found out who did it on the last chapter but it left me feeling flat. I remember me saying "Like, that it" "Where the rest of the chapters" "What about Gavin!" Speaking of Gavin. I felt like there should have been more to the Gavin storyline. She gets you to care about him then leaves you hanging on what is going to happen to him next with the case against him. The author has you wondering what is real and what is not real when dealing with Gavin. The questioning night of the rape made me believe it was real, not like it was with Gillian. Will he get the help he desperately needs? I just felt there should be more.

I like this author but this is my least favorite book. If she continues with this book as a series, I hope she clears up Gavin's storyline.
