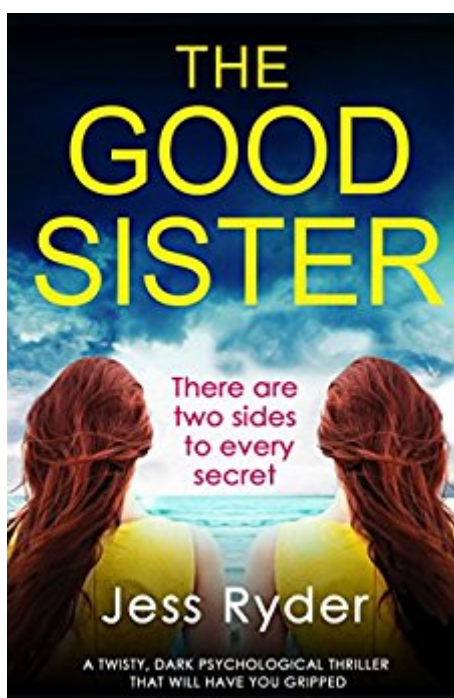


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The Good Sister: A Twisty, Dark Psychological Thriller That Will Have You Gripped



Synopsis

Two sisters. One secret... A lie that could destroy them both. When her father dies, Josie is devastated to uncover he led a secret life: another house, another family and a half-sister called Valentina. Both with red hair and icy blue eyes, Josie and Valentina could be mistaken for twins. But the similarities end there. Josie is "Sweet, reserved, jealous, thief. Valentina is "Care-free, confident, dangerous, liar. They share secrets. They tell lies. And for one sister, dark memories begin to surface. Should the other be scared for her life? A nail-bitingly tense and unputdownable read that will keep you turning pages into the night. Perfect for fans of *Gone Girl*, *The Girl on the Train* and *Sister Sister*. What readers are saying about *The Good Sister*: "More twists and turns than a Himalayan Mountain track. All I can say is READ IT!!!!!! I promise you I love it." Nigel Adams Bookworm, 5 stars "This is, without a doubt, one of the best psychological thrillers I have read this year... OMG this book is so darn good!... I kept telling myself, "Just one more chapter", then before I knew it, I had devoured it in one day! If you are looking for a fast-paced engaging read, this is the book for you! I highly recommend giving it a whopping 5 stars." Sistas With Books, 5 stars "A nail biting, roller-coaster ride. I absolutely loved it! This book really had me gripped and I could not put it down. There were a few completely unexpected twists which left me absolutely shocked (I really didn't see that coming) and the ending was really jaw-dropping!" Goodreads Reviewer, 5 stars "It was a seriously dark, creepy, twisty thriller. I didn't guess the major twist at the end and really didn't expect that at all!... My first book by this author is definitely won't be my last! Five Stars!" Stardust Book Reviews, 5 stars "Oh a whopping 5* from me! This had me up to early hours of the morning. It really gripped me. The ending had me gasping in awe. Truly a masterpiece." Sue and her Books, 5 stars "The Good Sister is a novel which keeps you guessing right from the very beginning, up until the very last sentence. It was powerful, thought-provoking and shocking, and has made its way onto my 2017 favourites!" The Beauty of Reading, 5 stars "I'm still dizzy from the roller coaster ride!" Bibliomania "Whoa boy! This novel is a deeply scary and chilling psychological thriller that made my nerves buzz with tension." Summer in December, 5 stars "This was a truly outstanding story, very cleverly done, I was gripped from start to finish and I literally couldn't turn the pages fast enough for wanting to see what was going to happen next. There were so many twists and turns within the story that I think I spent majority of the book sitting on the edge of my seat in anticipation. I truly can't recommend it enough." Goodreads Reviewer, 5 stars "You know how you've been on this massive rollercoaster ride and you get off and your legs are all wobbly and the world is spinning and you need to sit down? Yeah, that's [The Good Sister is so incredibly dark

and twisty! I found this psychological thriller to be utterly gripping and engrossing. A true and exciting page-turner!â™ Novel Deelights, 4 starsâ™ I COULD NOT put it down! Ryder does not simply take something thatâ™s been done before and redo it â™ she blows the theme out of the waterâ™ |â™m still in shock and awe, shaking my head in disbelief as I write this because I canâ™t believe the twists she throws at you.â™ Artistic Bent, 5 stars

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Customer Reviews

This fast-paced psychological thriller is Jess Ryder's second novel, and it is an excellent read. The chapters alternate between first person narrators, giving you a sense of each sister's thoughts and personalities as the story unfolds. The short prologue sets a dark tone for this novel. It catches your attention, an ominous scene full of mystery. From there the story picks up in the present, about 25 years after the prologue. Decades of lies and deceit are uncovered, a double life that has now destroyed two families while leaving both sides with nothing but unanswered questions. The two sisters, Josie and Valentina, are polar opposites. When Valentina is forced to relocate, she chooses to move closer to her long lost sister. However, she soon starts receiving dark and threatening text

messages. In fact, both sisters experience threats from unknown people. A cryptic note left at the crash site leaves the sisters with even more questions, and they set out on their own to investigate the truth of what really happened to their father. Meanwhile, Valentina yearns to have a life more like Josie's, except she wants to keep her sense of thrill and adventure, living life to the fullest without thinking about consequences. As the sisters become closer, the stack of lies continues to mount. Everyone warns Josie to stay away from Valentina and forget about their father's double life, but Josie is hopeful that something good will come out of the situation. The sisters begin to mesh into each other's lives, causing Valentina to have more influence as Josie begins to fall off the rails. Josie doesn't realize the level of manipulation that Valentina is capable of until it is too late. The story comes full circle around 80% into the book. All of the lies and deception are laid bare as the truth begins to unravel. Each chapter of the book begins with a short narration of Viking folklore. At first this seems somewhat inconsequential, but it makes more sense and becomes more relevant as the book progresses. Some parts of the story are very predictable. By the end of the book, through many twists and turns, you are left with a shocking conclusion that is as brilliant as it is devious. I would recommend this book to fans of thrillers and suspense. I received this as a free ARC from Bookouture on NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

The Good Sister, by Jess Ryder, gets an okay from me. While I enjoyed the twists (and there are a couple of big ones), much of the book felt very Single White Female. It's such an overdone plotline that I simply couldn't believe that our girl didn't immediately see what was going on. In fact, points to the next author who borrows that plot line and has the main character actually reference the book/movie! (If you borrow it, own it!) I sort of liked our girl, but she was way too naïve to be believed. Any normal human being would have put a stop to much of this early on. But, remember those twists I mentioned? While they don't exactly move it away from SWF territory, they do add some interesting aspects to it. In fact, one of them is one humdinger of a jaw dropping twist. I admit there was one thing in the book that simply made no sense to me. In fact, it took me out of the book as I tried to wrap my head around it. I finally just gave up, went with it, and finished the book. However, you can tell it still lingers. An entertaining read. Not groundbreaking or particularly original, but the author does manage to play with your head more than once! *ARC Provided via Net Galley

I don't read a lot of psychological thrillers these days. I think I read too many in the past and have become a bit immune to them. However, The Good Sister, which I was initially attracted to by

the stunning cover, managed to keep me completely gripped throughout the whole story. This is a fast paced, hard to put down kind of a book. At times this was a tense, heart racing, panic inducing thriller. I found myself getting so frustrated that one of the characters was so trusting of another. Then I felt unsure who to trust myself, and doubting my own judgement of the situation. There were so many twists and turns I began to feel like I was playing a game of dizzy daleks. I don't really want to say much more about the plot or characters themselves, as this is definitely a book that's best read knowing very little about what is going to happen. However, I do want to discuss the incredibly interesting historical snippets about Viking life at the beginning of each chapter, mainly as I believe it has taught me something about my own ancestry. The very beginning of the prologue begins with the following: Today, about a million people in the UK are descended from the Vikings. A finger deformity known as Dupuytren's disease is found in some people with Viking ancestry. I gasped when I read this. I had never heard of Dupuytren's disease until my dad developed it a few years ago. As soon as I started this book I had to message Dad about it, and he explained even more about the disease and its connection to the Vikings. Next time I see his bent fingers I won't be able to help myself imagining him holding a Viking sword. Until now, I've never really thought that deeply about my ancestry. I just knew I was half Irish and half Yorkshire. The ginger hair on my mum's side of the family wasn't really a surprise, with her being Irish, but I've often wondered about the ginger hair on my dad's side, and I'm now wondering whether that came from the Vikings too. I grew up in York and so was surrounded by things of Viking influence for the whole of my childhood. I loved Jorvik Viking Centre, although I always thought it smelt funny. Upon meeting my husband at eighteen, who loves eating BBQ sauce, I discovered the funny smell in Jorvik Viking Centre smells just like BBQ sauce. Now, every time my husband has the sauce, I can't help but think of Jorvik. I also loved the Viking battle re-enactments that used to take place on the river with burning boats. York has been calling me back over the last year. Cornwall is just too far away from my childhood home, so I intend to move back there in a few years. Hopefully the now suspected Viking in me will be content with my return to the north. Whether I'm Viking or not, I'm more than happy to spend the rest of my life believing I may very well be. Gosh, I read a fictional book, and now I'm looking at my existence in a whole new light. How great is that!

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