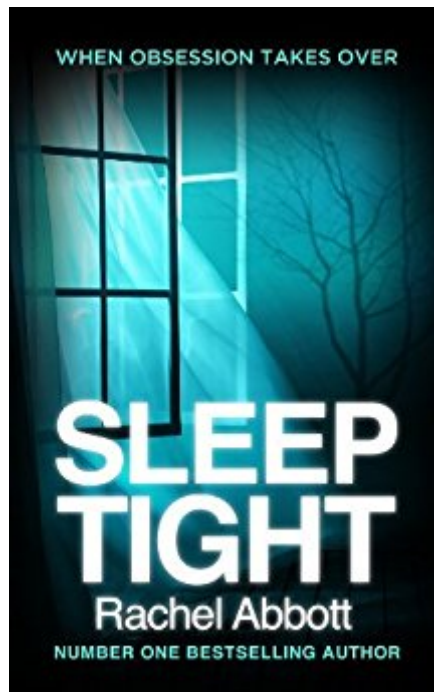


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Sleep Tight



Synopsis

From the author of the bestselling novels *Only the Innocent* and *The Back Road* How far would you go to hold on to the people you love? When Olivia Brookes calls the police to report that her husband and children are missing, she believes she will never see them again. She has reason to fear the worst; this isn't the first tragedy that Olivia has experienced. Now, two years later, Detective Chief Inspector Tom Douglas is called in to investigate this family again, but this time it's Olivia who has disappeared. All the evidence suggests that she was here, in the family home, that morning. But her car is in the garage, and her purse is in her handbag on the kitchen table. The police want to issue an appeal, but for some reason every single picture of this family has been removed from albums, from phones, from computers. And then they find the blood. Has the past caught up with Olivia? Sleep Tight if you can. You never know who's watching. Praise for Rachel Abbott: "Rachel Abbott will keep you guessing long into the night and just as soon as you've figured it out...think again!" - *Suspense Magazine* "It is one of those books that holds you hostage and is hard to put down until the end" - *Confessions of a Reader* "Abbott creates a tangled web of deception, secrets, and red herrings" - *Booklist* "Pure Genius: A Masterclass in the Perfect Thriller!" - *Love Books* "One of THE Best Mystery Suspense Novels Read This Year!" - *Vine Voice*

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Customer Reviews

This is my first ever book review and I felt almost "compelled" to write one for this book. Since I read 2 to 3 books per week that's really saying something! (What else is there to do for a retired lady but read when it snows every other day and the frigid temperatures make it so uncomfortable to leave the house!) Although I rely heavily on readers' reviews before selecting a book to purchase, I never bothered to write one myself no matter how much I liked or disliked a book. Call it being lazy, selfish or any other appropriate adjective! But this book just stands out from any other book I've ever read!! It's just that good! To say you "can't put this book down" is an understatement at best! My favorite genre is mysteries. So many times I find the plots and story lines to be either too predictable, too far fetched, too confusing, etc. None of these adjectives apply to this book! I'm not going to go into any of the details of this book. All I'm going to say is if you enjoy a good mystery, one that keeps you on the edge of your seat, one that you just can't put down, an ending impossible to predict, then by all means BUY THIS BOOK!

Olivia is controlled by her husband Robert. He watches her even when they are in the same room. Early in the book, he takes the children away, telling her he's taking them for a pizza, but doesn't return straight away. She knows he is giving her a message here "what he will do if she leaves him. The story gathers momentum as we follow Liv's point of view, her husband, her best friend and the police who try to fathom what has gone on, as Liv and the children go missing. The writing as always, is excellent, and the beginning of the novel is tight and claustrophobic. It becomes tense and exciting as the hunt is on. Fans of the policeman Tom Douglas will be pleased to see him playing a lead role in the story. There are twists and turns in this tightly constructed plot and towards the end I felt my heart racing as I hoped for a good outcome for a trio of innocent children. A darned good read!

In the spirit of full disclosure, I admit I randomly selected this novel, scrolling through the Kindle Lending Library, looking for something, anything potentially entertaining. Happy serendipity found Rachel Abbot's Sleep Tight! An American BBC viewer, I am quite fond of detective mystery shows

such as *Midsomer Murders* and *A Touch of Frost*, and Rachel Abbot deftly dishes the same enjoyment and mystery I experience watching my on-screen detective heroes. Abbott's fluid, evocative yet sufficiently succinct style avoids the slippery slope of overt minutiae. Quite frankly, I personally dislike first person narratives, and when I came to the first section of Olivia's personal narrative, I felt deep disappointment... nevertheless I pushed on, and for the first time in decades of reading, I discovered how the first person narrative can be a rare, exquisite tool- in the right hands. Weaving disparate perspectives is normally a disruptive and jolting reading experience, but Abbot banishes such technique bogeymen. Being the third book of an unfamiliar detective series, I knew nothing of the protagonist's past or established characteristics. This lack of knowledge in no way detracts from DCI Douglas' fully fleshed presence. Certainly there are hints of his past and a minor plot thread leading to her next book, yet *Sleep Tight* is written with internal completeness that allows it to stand quite comfortably on its own. I count myself very lucky indeed to have stumbled onto this finely crafted novel, and Abbot may be assured that serendipity has found her a new fan.

I had a real hard time getting through this book. It drags on and on with little suspense and mystery. It is about compulsions and control of a wife that does not want to be with her husband. I did not think it was ever going to end, The best part is the actual ending.

Okay, overall I enjoyed this novel, though I did find it went on a little too long toward the latter part of the book. I think the alternating POVS could have been signaled better. The sense of dread and tension was good and I "enjoyed" the creepy element. I thought the way the author fitted the leads of how Brookes works out how to get what he wants very good. It is a brave book which tackles obsession and the type of low cunning to make sure that the victim appears to be her own worst enemy and this one does it in spades.

Loved this story! The characters so real, you feel as though you are right there. Olivia was so well developed, she became my friend, I wanted her to escape the madman that was her husband. I felt the pain of Sophie when Robert confronted her. Loved the police that were involved, and the brothers from the past. All the twists lead up to a cohesive, tidy and surprising conclusion. Easy to follow, and a great twist to look forward to; I didn't see it coming. What are you waiting for? Go read this book, now! You won't be disappointed.

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