

LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of Tangled Secrets by Anne-Marie Conway

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

Daisy Theobald, age 11

'Tangled Secrets' is a book that contains many emotions. But it was definitely an un-put-down-able one. I really hope there is a sequel because I am dying to know what else happens in her life as she grows up. It starts off a little bit emotional but it is very good because then you feel attached to Maddie and feel like you have known her a long time. **I am going to recommend this book to all of my friends** and will be hunting for another of her books.

Lily Benner, age 9

A lot of twists and turns, I couldn't put it down, it made me want to read more and more.

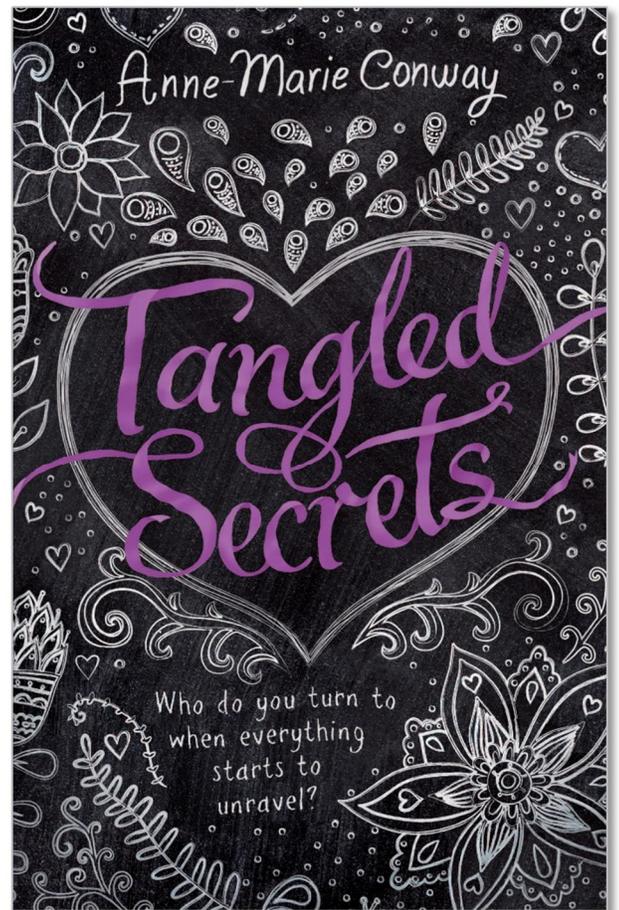
Having read 'Butterfly Summer' by the same author I knew this would be a good book.

Maddie is struggling to come to terms with her nan's death. Her mum's attention is hard to get because of problems with Maddie's brother Charlie.

Finding it hard to concentrate at school Maddie is given help in a counselling group run by Vivian. Also in this group is "bad boy" Kieran, who is tormenting Maddie. This makes things very hard until she begins to realise why he is the "bad boy".

On top of all this Maddie's dad springs an unexpected shock on the family.

Can Maddie work her way through all these problems and come out ok?



I loved this book, it deals with many difficult emotions in a sensitive way.

I shall be going out to buy her other book "Forbidden Friends"!

Caoimhe Kelly, age 12

'Tangled Secrets' is the most fantastic page turning book I have ever read. When I started to read this book I couldn't put it down.

The book is about a girl that has some problems in life. Not just all the girly gossip but she really does go through a sad, painful time. The author gets you caught up in all the emotions to the extent that sometimes I felt I was the girl or I was standing there watching it happen.

My favourite character was actually the girl called Maddie, who stayed strong even though she had her share of ups and downs. She always tried to deal with her problems. The author made me feel like it was a true story because of all the sad times Maddie has had. Sometimes I felt the answers were right in front of me but they were just tangled, obviously the reason for the book's title.

The novel makes you stop and think and makes you question everything that is going on. I don't really have a favourite part because it's too hard to choose when the story was so good.

It made me cry a few times here and there. The only thing I really hated about the book was that IT HAD TO END!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This is the BEST book I have ever read and I would recommend it highly to anyone.

I would like to give Anne Marie Conway the rating of 5 stars and I can't wait until she writes another book as good as this.

Leah, age 10

This was a heart-warming story of friendship, family, hidden secrets, the truth behind appearances and ultimately being brave. I loved it!

Maddie has been struggling at school since her nan died and everything seems to be falling apart - she's finding it hard to speak, her friendships are becoming more difficult and her parents seem to be keeping secrets.

I really enjoyed this book as you never quite guessed what was going to happen - I think I jumped to the same conclusions as Maddie and had to read the last few chapters in one sitting to find out what had happened. I think all my friends would love this book as Maddie is such a nice character - we would all want to go and help her find her voice again.

Lucy Pack, age 10

Warning! This book is not for boys!

*This book is such a fascinating read. I love the way the author uses language such as 'clinging onto her like a limpet'. It is also very normal as the story is based on family life and grieving for loved ones as I have experienced before. I would definitely recommend this book to others and I'm sure they will enjoy it as much as I did. I love reading, and I get so engrossed in the books, especially this one. **It is a mixture of comedy, mystery and sadness, also, on a scale of one to ten, I would definitely give 'Tangled Secrets' a ten!***

Simran Misir, age 9

Anne-Marie Conway filled this amazing book with a series of different emotions.

*She brought me to a world full of sadness and confusion. Maddie Wilkins is devastated when her Nan dies and she finds it hard to speak. But Maddie learns that there is always someone to turn to. I felt like I was sitting on the cemetery bench (her favourite place) with her and going to church vale school with her, watching all the scenes unfold. **Reading this book was extremely exciting and I wish there was another book about Maddie and what she does next.** I feel sad that this book has come to an end; but happy because I know what happens in the end. I am also glad that Maddie was a brave heroine that stood up for herself in situations like this. I would recommend this book to all girls above the age of 8.*

Elle Cogan, age 12

After Maddie's nan died, her world began to turn upside down. First a mysterious caller, then a strange friendship with a troubled boy. Maddie needs to face her fears- but does she have the courage?

6 months after Maddie's Nan died, a mysterious woman calls the house, asking to speak to Maddie's Dad. After finding out he wasn't home, the only information she left was her name- Sharon. When her Dad starts meeting up with her almost every night, Maddie begins to worry that she's losing him. Then, after seeing a woman at the cemetery, laying a note saying 'sorry' on Maddie's Nan's grave, she has even more questions. Who is the strange woman, and why is she sorry? At school, Maddie begins to share her fears with a special support group, where she gets to know the troublemaker of the year, Kieran. Can she find out who the real Kieran is, and who the mysterious Sharon is, or will Maddie leave her feelings tangled up inside?

I loved this book, and thought the storyline was amazing. The book was almost impossible to put down, and the way the author wrote was full of emotion. Although I found this an easy read, I still think it was a good book. I would recommend it for girls, ages 9-12.

Ella Tanner, age 9

'Tangled Secrets' is about a girl called Maddie who does not talk about her feelings and what is bothering her, not even to her best friend Gemma. They used to talk about everything but not anymore.

This change happened after Maddie's Nan died. Then she felt different and sad because her Nan and she were really, really close. So Mrs Palmer, her form teacher, thought there was something wrong so she spoke to Maddie's parents to see if she could help by getting her to join a small nurture group led by Vivian. Maddie got to the blue room where it was happening first; she found there was a pretty woman sitting down on a chair. Then the worst possible thing happened when Kieran Black stormed in. The one who Maddie always hated. He had always called Maddie, Maddie the mouse. Things then went from bad to worse as Maddie remained silent about her feeling. Eventually Maddie opened up to Vivian and the group about her feelings and problems and then things started to improve, especially as Kieran had problems as well that he was open about.

I really enjoyed this book because there were lots of good description and you could imagine how it must have felt for Maddie and Kieran. There was always some action going on. Always tell someone about your problems tell that person straight away do not keep it inside you otherwise it will get worse and worse.

Lucie Harrison, age 11

I could put myself in Maddie's shoes all the way through 'Tangled Secrets'. I cringed as she sat silently in lessons, sympathised as she talked with Vivian, and pondered as she figured out her family's deepest, darkest secrets once and for all. I would recommend 'Tangled Secrets' to anyone who has had to deal with loss or likes mystery books.

*Tangled Secrets is a brilliant story to read. All through the book, I felt as sad and confused as Maddie did as to what was going on with her dad. However, I enjoyed the book a lot because it was so easy to put myself in Maddie's shoes and be with her as she silently endured lessons, discussed things with Vivian, argued with Gemma and discovered her family's shocking secrets. **I would recommend this book to anyone who has had to deal with loss or enjoys mystery books.** Overall, I think 'Tangled Secrets' is an amazing book.*

Amie Coffman, age 11

I loved 'Butterfly Summer' written by the same author so was really excited to read this book and it didn't disappoint me at all. It is about a girl, Maddie who has a crisis of confidence in her life after her grandmother dies. Maddie's life seems to be full of secrets and she struggles to know how to deal with them. Eventually however she meets a boy called Kieran who helps her speak up and find her voice.

*I liked Maddie as I thought she was brave and inspiring as she eventually overcame her problems. **The book kept my attention throughout as I was desperate to find out the truth behind the secrets!***

Hannah Baer, age 11

*This book is about a girl called Maddie whose grandmother has recently died. She is really upset and the school sends her to a nurturing group at lunchtimes. She realises that another boy in her group's mother died as well. Everything starts to unravel and some things that she has never been told about her unfold. **This book was good because the characters were interesting and they each had their own kind of background to them.** I like the part where she finds out that her father had another daughter with his ex-wife and Maddie saw the step-sister by her locker so she was curious. Is book is probably best for people who have recently lost a member of their family or a friend (age 10-12) and older readers because some things can be confusing and too detailed*

for younger readers. **Altogether, I would rate this book 8/10** and I would recommend this book to some of my friends.

Eileanoir Gray, age 11

'Tangled Secrets' is the best book I've ever read. It has helped me admit things that I thought I would never be able to tell anyone. I loved the part of the friendship between all the characters. **I couldn't leave this book down and it was just as if Anne-Marie Conway put a spell on me.** This book, in my opinion, is for boys and girls age 10+. Even adults would love this story especially the relationship between Maddie, Charlie, the Mum and Dad. Their bond is so strong.

It was a most exciting, touching and surprising book. Everything a book should be.

Please read this five star book, you will love it.

Isabel Kardos-Stowe, age 11

I really enjoyed this book and would highly recommend it to girls over the age of 9.

'Tangled Secrets' is about Maddie, a school girl, who is going through a tough time following the death of her Nan. At school her grades are dropping and she seems to have lost her voice. When she is put in a group with Kieran Black, an unlikely pair, she seems to be growing in confidence. But who is the mysterious lady her dad's been seeing and will she cope with another big change?

I really liked this book because you got to know all the characters and their personalities really shone through. I also felt the emotions of the characters. There was always something happening which kept me engaged and I would look forward to reading it. My favourite character was Kieran Black because he is incredibly naughty in class, but actually when Maddie got to know him (and found out some of his secrets) he has a story to tell. Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed this book and would recommend it to girls over the age of 9. I would rate this book 8 out of 10. A very good read.

Dulcie Johnson, age 11

This is a very involved, intense book. It felt like Maddy was struggling a lot to be herself and find her voice. The novelist is very

good at setting the scene and making you root for the characters

There are not many authors who I really relate to and I've not read the other ones but I think I relate to this author very much. This is a very involved, intense book. It felt like Maddy was struggling a lot to be herself and find her voice. The novelist is very good at setting the scene and making you root for the characters

Maddy is a very interesting character and you really felt her grief over her Nan's death and the fact that she just was trying to get her mum's attention all the time. I thought the whole mystery over the woman that her dad was meeting was good. I really felt for Maddy and how she kept everything inside. Sometimes I felt that the writing was a bit too Jacqueline Wilson - but it was still really good. I'd definitely recommend this to my friends.

Cora Willans

This is an exciting book with happy and sad parts in it. I think girls would enjoy it more than boys because the main character is a girl.

Personally I really enjoyed this book and would definitely read it again. My favorite character was Maddie because sometimes I get emotional when I miss someone. I think it is sad at first because Maddie and Charlie lose their nan but turns happy because it turns out they have a sister! I would recommend this book to girls 7-11years old. I would give it a 9/10.

Lola Frary

This book has everything in it. Sadness, friendship and an exciting mystery. What more could you want?

Maddie is under great pressure. Her nan, closer to herself than anyone, has died, and she is struggling to find her voice. Worse still, her mum seems to only have eyes for Charlie, her younger brother and cuts Maddie from her life. Things go from bad to worse when dad keeps meeting a strange woman in a blue scarf. Maddie cannot cope with the pressure anymore and the only thing that can save her is friendship. This book is on the edge and has a tension that you can feel throughout the story. The ending of the book is so heart-warming, it almost made me cry. I definitely recommend this book to anyone.