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LoveReading Reader reviews of **Behind Closed Doors** B A Paris



Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.

Danielle Holyland

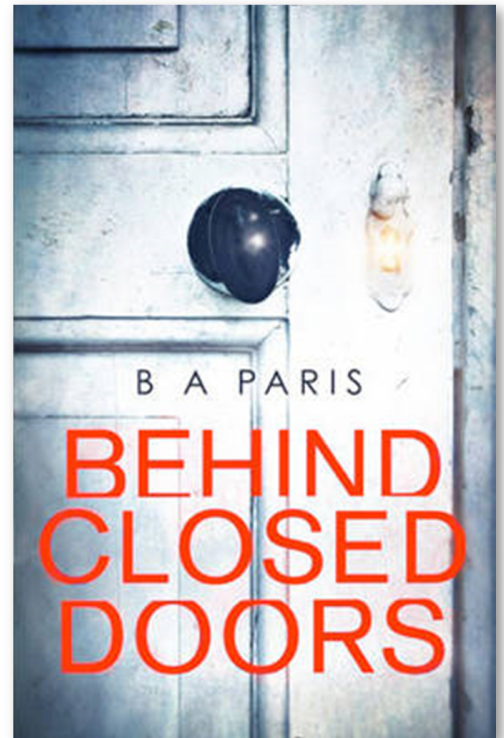
There's only one word for this book - amazing. This has got to be one of my favourite reads of 2015. I would urge anyone that loves a good thriller to read this book!

This book was amazing, I can't put into words how much I enjoyed this book. Although some parts are difficult to read, the amount of twists and turns in this book definitely keep you on the edge of your seat. Although the ending is predictable towards the end, you can't wait for it to come! I really felt for the main female lead, you certainly get attached to her. I have recommended this book to my family and friends. One of my top reads of 2015!

Angie Rhodes

Jack is a high-flying lawyer, handsome and charming, Grace is gentle, elegant and works as a buyer for Harrod's and has a sister Millie, who has Downs Syndrome and Grace adores her.

*A perfect golden couple, a perfect marriage - everyone falls a little in love with Jack, and everyone wants to be like Grace, who can cook, like a dream and yet stays so slim. What is the secret? Why, every time she makes a lunch or dinner date, does Grace not show, makes an excuse? And why when she does turn up is Jack always with her? Their friends laugh and say it's "The Honeymoon period", but is it? Or is there something else going on? Something much darker - windows with bars on, but no children to fear falling from them. **'Behind Closed Doors' is excellent - as the story unfolds, you the reader***



become panic stricken, hardly daring to breathe, turning the page ever so slowly so that you don't break the hypnotic spell B.A. Paris has woven, with her first novel.

Can't wait for the next one!

Sarah Borley

'Behind Closed Doors' is a book about secrets, lies and what really happens behind closed doors.

Wow, it was such an amazing book that had me gripped from the first page I couldn't put it down. It's a very intense book and you kind of know what's going to happen at the end, but it makes it more fun to read as you want to know when it happens and how. I think the characters are good and are portrayed brilliantly! A very good book - I highly recommend it.

Suzanne Marsh

*I welcome you all to a new author B. A. Paris who is a very clever new author. **B. A. Paris is most certainly going to be an author to keep a watch out for in the future. I couldn't put the book down I just loved every page of Behind Closed Doors.** I highly recommend B. A Paris as she certainly knows how to make readers feel the nervous tension without you not knowing what is going to happen from page to page. Full marks to this author who added in some breath-taking moments. How the author thought certain things up I just don't know, but it just goes to show this author has a brilliant first class imagination to keep readers on the edge of their seat.*

To Grace and Jack's family and friends every thing looks bright as roses on the outside, with the perfect couple who have the perfect marriage. Jack is handsome, a dedicated lawyer, and a loving husband. Grace, Jack's wife, is elegant, who gave up her job to be a consummate housewife, but who seems to be a prisoner.

Grace's friends and family seem to find it difficult to contact her as Grace does not have a mobile phone and what makes Grace's life even stranger is that she doesn't even have her own email address. It appears that Grace and her husband Jack share the same email address. Could that be because they have no secrets from each other, or is there something more to Grace and Jack's marriage?

www.ireadnovels.wordpress.com

Edel Waugh

*Domestic abuse can be a difficult situation to understand, but I think **the author did an excellent job of showing how a normal woman can get fooled and pulled into a relationship with a domestic abuser.** When these two characters, Grace and Jack, first get together everything is wonderful, romantic and a dream come true. There are tiny glimpses of unusual behaviour before the wedding from Jack but nothing that you could say with certainty was wrong - just a feeling, but it becomes clear very quickly that instincts should be listened to and quickly, but it is not always easy when it is not just you in danger. Grace is such a smart strong character trying to retain her own self while this monster tries to break her and he wants to keep on hurting her, and not just her, in every despicable way possible.*

It has been a long time since I have hated a character as much as Jack, there are no words strong enough to cover how much I despise him or how important hope is.

<http://edelwaugh.blogspot.ie/2015/11/behind-closed-doors-by-ba-paris.html?m=1>

Vikki Patis

I usually love books like this. Secrets, lies, the creeping feeling that everything is not quite as it seems. And this story definitely has those things. But, as I was reading it, I just felt like something was missing. Perhaps it was the characters; I didn't connect with any of them, and so the horror of what was happening wasn't quite as hard-hitting as it could have been.

The plot itself is fascinating and intricate. It holds terror and humour, shock and relief, and manages to twist and turn several times throughout the short novel. *The author managed to surprise me more often than I'd care to admit, and I was genuinely horrified at the way the story was going. But in a good, I'm-an-excited-reader-and-want-to-know-more way. I read this book in a day, so I think that speaks volumes in itself.*

I hate giving less-than-sparkling reviews, as I appreciate the hard work authors put into their writing, and see the good in all (or almost all) books. I think, with a bit more work, particularly on the characters, this could be a very strong thriller.

Anne Cater

B A Paris is a very gifted author, this story is incredibly well written and deals with the darkest and most evil of issues.

I have to start my review with one word; Wow! Just, Wow! I picked up my copy of Behind Closed Doors and was loathe to set it aside for even one minute, sadly I have to work and reading it in one sitting wasn't possible. Even so, I raced through this at a hurtling speed, often holding my breath and on occasion, stamping my feet in frustration on behalf of the lead character. Despite this, there were a couple of moments during the book that I HAD to put it aside, the emotional impact is huge and quite consuming, I had to take a few deep breaths, potter around for a while, and then return to the story.

B A Paris is a very gifted author, this story is incredibly well written and deals with the darkest and most evil of issues. There are times when the futility of Grace's situation made my heart thud. I could sense her panic and fear, so expertly expressed by this author.

The malevolence and venom, the out and out lunacy so carefully hidden is chilling and really very unsettling, but oh so brilliant.

<http://randomthingsthroughmyletterbox.blogspot.co.uk/2015/12/behind-closed-doors-by-b-paris.html>

Sharon Wood

Creepy and disturbing, but also addictive! *There were times whilst reading this that I found it rather ridiculous, at other times quite distasteful, but I still wanted to get to the end to see what happened. Jack and Grace Angel appear to be the perfect couple, but their wealthy veneer hides an unimagined truth.*

I read this book over a couple of days as it is well-paced, easy to read and I wanted to know the outcome. Indeed, I think the book sped up towards the end and I enjoyed that part of it much more than the main body of the book (which is unusual because often I find a good book is let down by its ending).

A psychological thriller in the same genre as Gone Girl and the Girl on the Train. *Not a one for anyone with feminist tendencies – or is it?*

Gavin Dimmock

Can the perfect couple in the perfect home really be so perfect? A less than perfect read for this reviewer.

Can the perfect couple with the beautiful home and ideal life really be true?

I finished my previous read twelve days ago and immediately turned to this book as, enticed by the synopsis, I was eager to read it.

Regrettably, I have not had the desire to pick it up and return to its pages for over a week now. And those first five days were hard work too.

The plot sounded great; a perfect couple with the perfect life, too perfect it seems and with a hint of something dark and sinister at the heart of the story. I feel this is a decent tale to be found for many folk but, alas, not for me.

Grace, a young independent woman, successful in her career and capable of caring for her younger sister, suddenly becomes compliant and weak when she meets “Mr Perfect”, in the shape of Jack Angel. A whirlwind romance later and they are getting married. Every detail of their lives, and specifically Grace’s, now decided and determined by Jack. Yet, it is far from a perfect life she now leads.

I read a quarter of the book before realising that I didn't care what caused Jack’s sudden switch from ideal suitor to brutal husband. I was a little shocked that Grace fell apart when she met Jack and the perfect marriage beckoned as her future.

Maybe it is just me but I found the characters to be unlikable, Grace especially. She seemed so weak and needy. Perhaps, in the rest of the book, she finds her earlier sparkle. Sadly, I will not be around to find out. For me this was a far from perfect read.

<https://themoustachioedReader.wordpress.com>

You can follow Gavin on Twitter: @Gav_The_Bantam

Sarah Harper

Theirs is an intriguingly perfect relationship. Jack, the defender of battered women and compassionate husband, Grace, his elegant and attentive wife. Inseparable and totally devoted to each other, or so it seems. But what lies hidden beneath this charming veneer? Cloaked in respectability, Jack and Grace are not all that they seem and humans can be far more manipulative, calculating and cold than you would ever think possible. Revealing too much would spoil this excellent story but it is with a sickening lurch to the stomach that Grace’s plight becomes clear to the reader. She sold her soul to Jack the day she married him but there is so much more at stake here and Grace must fight for the sake of the people she loves as well as herself.

*With fantastically well-constructed characters, a suspenseful plot and huge film potential this was a totally absorbing, yet at times uncomfortable, read. **An utterly compelling journey through the darker side of the human psyche. Your blood will run cold but you won’t be able to stop reading, I promise you that.***

Phyllippa Smithson

A 286 page alarming roller coaster of a read that portrays a very disturbing and haunting relationship that is wrong, very, very wrong. Quite brilliant.

Grace is so committed to her 17 year old sister Millie who suffers Down 's syndrome that she provides the parental role that is missing as a result of their real parents wanting no part in their lives. This commitment has come at a cost. Grace has not been able to fulfil her own dreams of meeting that special someone – any potential man rejects the fact that Grace and Millie come as a package.

So when Jack, handsome and a successful lawyer, steps into Grace's life, he appears almost too good to be true as he embraces Millie as if she was his own. And after just a few short months, Jack and Grace marry and, to those who witness their marriage, they are a happy, loving and totally perfect couple.

But there is someone beyond the marriage who begins to see beyond this seeming perfection and starts to question why Grace can never be contacted directly, why she is never available without Jack by her side, why she is losing weight yet appears to have a healthy appetite.

Can that someone put the facts together in time to save Grace, who herself realises the clock is ticking if she is to save Millie.

The reader is only released from this incredibly unsettling story at the very final page and the very final word at which point the truth is revealed.

I really cannot recommend 'Behind Closed Doors' more highly but be prepared to be somewhat distressed by the highly credible plot.

Laura Gardner

A chilling read which will stay with you for a long time.

From the second you read the back cover of this book I challenge you not to be intrigued, but this book isn't for the faint of heart. This book is hard hitting and very disturbing but, absolutely, amazing.

When I say that I can't put a book down I normally mean that even when I have to put that book down I'm itching to pick it back up again. With 'Behind Closed Doors' I found myself even struggling to stop to eat or use the bathroom (thank goodness for my super-fast reading skills or things might've been very tricky, very quickly).

Jack and Grace, from the outside, seem like the absolutely idyllic couple. They have money, looks, a beautiful home and they love each other immeasurably - Or so it seems.

Jack is a lawyer who specialises in prosecuting in domestic violence cases, he lavishes his wife and dotes on her every move. Grace is the epitome of a beautiful house wife and is absolutely devoted to her teenage sister who has Down Syndrome. As a couple, on paper, they couldn't be more perfect.

But not everyone believes the front that they show the world, and if you want to find out why then you're going to need to pick this book up.

It's dark and chilling, it's beautifully written despite the subject matter and it will keep you wanting to know more. Until the very last page I could not stop absorbing every little detail, guessing what was going to happen and getting that feeling in my stomach when you just Need to know the ending, but you're dreading getting there because such a fantastic book will have ended.

I think this book will be one of the big hits of 2016.

<http://www.petitmoi-bigworld.co.uk>

Chris Bertenshaw

Highly readable story of a trapped wife with a deranged husband. Good for anyone who likes thrillers that look like there is no hope.

I enjoyed this, though not without one major problem. It's fast-paced, believable (which I know because I've read about this exact thing happening in real life), and does the 'one-chapter-in-the-past-followed-by-one-in-the-future' method of storytelling well. It has a highly sympathetic main character, the kidnapped wife Grace, and a despicable, charming tyrant of a husband, Jack, as well as a supporting cast who include Grace's sister, Millie, who has Down Syndrome, and is set to come and live with the married couple when she leaves school.

I raced through this, entertained enough to want to see how it ended, but I really found Jack's persona to border on pantomime-villain at times. He flicks between charming, doting husband, and evil maniac well, but it feels a bit over-the-top at times. It doesn't detract from a well-told story particularly, but he isn't written as well as someone like Amy from 'Gone Girl'.

I'd recommend this as a thriller to race through, with a good punch-the-air feeling at the end, but I don't think this will turn into a classic of the genre.

www.bertass-reviews-anything.blogspot.co.uk

Sallyann Spittle

What a brilliant book - it had me hooked from the first page. *The story is told from the eyes of Grace who is hiding a secret that she does not want to be part of. The author has a knack of keeping you guessing right until the very end. The writing is so good, you feel as though you are part of deception yourself.*

*The story of Jack and Grace seems to be the tale of a perfect love match with everything going their way - there is nothing that this couple haven't got or could not get - they are the envy of all their friends. However, all is not as it seems and to find out the story - you **MUST** read the book and you will not be disappointed. There are points in the plot where you think you know how it is going to pan out but watch out for the surprises.*

Definitely a book to recommend - brilliant!

Humaira Kauser

'Behind Closed Doors' was impossible to put down. A riveting and addictive page turner for sure!

This book is a work of art; very few authors can write exceptionally and have words flow off the page so smoothly.

I loved the complexity of different characters; I love the different sides that were explored of Jack and Grace. I love how unique and complex each character is - there is more than that meets the eye; there are those that may seem to be flawless and those that are perceptive enough to know the truth.

I can see this becoming a big motion picture; that's how brilliant 'Behind Closed Doors' is.

Sharon McKinlay

A deeply unsettling, chilling book.

Hated the main character Jack so much. Read the book in two days as I was so desperate to see how it ended.