



Endless Night

Maureen A. Miller

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A woman hiding from her identity. A man trying to find his.

After witnessing a murder, Megan Summers ran until she reached the remote coastal village of Victory Cove. She has a new name, but she knows it's only a matter of time before the murderer catches up with her.

Jake Grogan has come to town to unravel the mystery of his heritage. Instead of finding his grandmother at Wakefield House, he discovers an attractive stranger who will do anything to get him off her doorstep. Trapped by a storm, he's forced to stay the night with Megan—a woman who keeps a handgun under her bed and closes herself off from the outside world.

Jake tries to dig deeper into his past, but he's distracted by his fear for Megan's safety and his growing feelings for her. Danger is drawing near and he'll do anything to keep her safe. Will it be enough to help them survive the endless night?

Previously published, newly revised by author.

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Endless Night Details

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From Reader Review Endless Night for online ebook

Erin says

Overall rating: 3.5 stars out of 5!

"That night..." she hesitated, "...was endless. It still hasn't ended."

One year ago while working late, Margaret Simmons witnessed a murder. Panicked by the sight, she fled Boston and found solitude & anonymity in Victory Cove, Maine. She changed her name to Megan Summers and picked up hobbies such as self defense, target practice, and superior nighttime navigation - skills she hopes will give her an advantage over anyone hunting her...

Curious to learn about his heritage, Jake Grogan is lured to Victory Cove by a letter written by his birth mother. At the suggestion of some of the townsfolk, Jake makes his way to Wakefield House - his grandmother's home. Instead of finding his grandmother, however, he comes face to face with a hauntingly beautiful Megan Summers and she's all too eager to force him from the porch into the unfriendly Maine storms.

Determined not to leave Victory Cove empty handed, Jake returns to Wakefield House and through divine intervention - or Mother Nature - he ends up stranded with the beautiful but hostile young Wakefield House resident. Extenuating circumstances thrust upon them, Megan and Jake find solace and strength in each other. Will these new discoveries protect them from the physical and emotional forces that threaten to destroy them?

Ms. Miller's thrilling tale was told dominantly from Jake's POV, adding to Megan's mysterious past and guarded present. Megan's narration, when voiced, was peppered with current thoughts/feelings as well as a combination of dreams and flashbacks, giving readers a glimpse into the nightmare Megan has been living.

The characters were developed extremely well and remained consistent throughout the novel. Megan, though terrified, was determined, brave, and self reliant. Jake was strong, caring, and resourceful (MacGyver, anyone?). Their relationship was a beautiful balance of wit, reluctant attraction, and restrained heat.

The writing was very well done; Ms. Miller created image provoking descriptions, humorous exchanges, and wonderfully crafted prose.

The passage I found most beautiful:

"There is a ghost at Wakefield House." Her lips parted, but he continued in a husky tone, "She's so haunting. So beautiful. Pure of heart. Something divine, yet cloaked in shadows. Rooted to this house as if chains were linked about her ankles. Her wings are spread, they pump and pump, but still she can't escape." His smile was sad. "And so she sits, as a sentinel-a prisoner, and waits for someone to come and release her."

Overall rating: 3.5 stars out of 5!

Cleffairy says

Reviewed at: Library of Lights

Date reviewed: 20 May 2011

Review link: <http://mykindaland.com/?p=286>

Endless Night is a very interesting and unique story. Not only it's fast paced, but the storyline is original and outstanding too. Initially I thought I wouldn't like the story, but boy was I glad to be proven wrong. I keep turning the pages to find out what happens next. And I was definitely raging with adrenaline as I read the book.

Anyone who loves a good thriller and a fast paced story should read Endless night by Maureen A. Miller. I can assure you that you will not be disappointed by this story.

I rate this book 4 out of 5 stars. I received an ARC of this book from Carina Press via Netgalley. I was not required to write a positive review for this book.

Michelle says

I didn't enjoy this one as much as I'd hoped to. I thought it would be more suspenseful than it ended up being, and sadly, I was relieved when I had finally finished it.

After witnessing a murder Megan Summers has spent the last year on the run but no matter how far she goes she can't escape the taunting phone calls "I know where you are Margaret." Living in a secluded house in a remote town she has spent the last year by herself, but when a tall dark stranger knocks on her door can Megan trust who he claims to be--a man looking for his birth family--or has he been sent to kill her?

So the biggest complaint I have with this story was Miller's writing style. I became extremely frustrated how she continually chose to interrupt a conversation with internal beratements, self doubt or describing a scene. I just wanted the dialogue to run between characters like a normal conversation, instead I either skipped over the interruption or had forgotten what was said casing me to re-read many scenes.

I only got partial enjoyment out of the characters. Millers writing style made it difficult to become attached to them. I found a lot of things just became repetitive, and with all the internal dialogue, I felt the story grew stagnant. The plot was interesting but it just didn't seem to fulfill its potential. 'Endless Night' definitely lacked suspense, and become was predictable.

Betsy Horvath says

ENDLESS NIGHT is a well-written, gripping romantic suspense novel in the gothic tradition. Megan Summers is a woman with many secrets. Secrets which will more than likely get her killed. Jake Grogan is a man with secrets of his own, and mysteries he is determined to unravel. Bound together by determination, the weather, and Wakefield House, an old monstrosity of a mansion perched on the edge of the Atlantic in Victory Cove, Maine, these two people must learn to take the first steps towards trust and love. But can they hold on as the darkness from Megan's past comes swirling in to overwhelm them?

Kristi says

I was expecting this to be more suspenseful than it actually was. It was a nice semi-suspenseful romance. I enjoyed the few MacGyver type moments that were included in it especially. Overall, I enjoyed the romance, but would have liked a bit more suspense. I'll have to try a few of the authors other books to see how I like other things she wrote.

Wendy Soliman says

A well plotted, tense romantic suspense that kept me on the edge of my seat and guessing until the last page. Maureen kept cranking up the tension, making me live her heroine's fears and understand why she was tempted to lean on the hunky hero's broad shoulders.

I didn't want it to end. You won't either.

Debra Martin says

A frightened woman with a GLOCK, a man looking for answers and the secrets that connect them is the premise behind the romantic suspense ENDLESS NIGHT by Maureen A. Miller.

Megan Summers is the recluse that lives alone at Wakefield House in the small town of Victory Cove. She rents the large victorian house nestled on an isolated cliff far from town and only has minimal contact with the local residents. Her cover story is that she is an author and likes her privacy, but the truth is she is a frightened young woman running from a terrible secret.

Jake Grogan has received a mysterious letter telling him to find his birth grandmother Estelle. He has always wanted to know about his birth parents and his search leads him to Wakefield House and Megan. When a storm traps Jake at the house, he and Megan are forced together and that's when the story takes off. Megan's fear of strangers is palpable and Ms. Miller is a master storyteller allowing the reader to feel Megan's every tremble. It is the way that Jake handles Megan, her nightly demons and secrets, that draw you in. As the secrets are unfolded, Megan and Jake slowly learn to trust each other and that's where the story shines.

The suspense and romance are blended so seamlessly in this story. One moment the reader is enjoying a tender moment between these two when a shrieking alarm goes off to remind us that there is evil lurking outside ready to pounce. Who is Megan afraid of? Will Jake find his birth mother? Will they survive the raging nor'easter that threatens to tear Wakefield House off it's foundation? The ending to this story is a page turner--just when you think you've got it all figured out, Ms. Miller throws another curve at you. If you enjoy romantic suspense stories, ENDLESS NIGHT should be at the top of your TBR list. Definitely Recommended.

Tiffiane says

I really enjoyed this book. It grabbed me from page 1 and didn't let go. The mystery in the prologue was just amazing, and it intrigued me enough to keep reading until the very end.

A woman on the run for her life who hides in an old mansion on a cliff far-removed from society in a tiny

seaside town, just waiting for when her past life and the danger she is running from comes to call and she can't hide from it all any longer. Added together with a mysterious stranger on her doorstep who is looking for answers to his own unknown past, a huge storm that leaves them in the house for 3 days and wow! One great story.

The romantic scenes were written well, and I loved the easy way it flowed from page to page. I had a hard time putting it down, and the ending was spectacular. The only small problem I had with it (and why I'm rating it 4 stars) is because it did get a little bogged down in the middle of the book with some details regarding Megan's past that weren't really all that important to the story, and not enough details in Jake's. It was a very short read, and I wish it had been about 50 pages longer, with a little more detail in there about Jake's Mother, Grandmother and Uncle.

All in all, I really loved the book. Thanks to Carina Press and netGalley for allowing me to read and review this book for free!

Amanda says

You'll be awake all night eager to continue reading this tale of two individuals ultimately seeking their own identity. While the plot is haunting, the setting eerily beautiful (and colder than death), I quite enjoy Ms. Miller's ability to provide an underlying sense of humor and light into her characters.

I felt the fear of Megan's nightly demon, the hurt Jake feels as an adopted son seeking facts, and ultimately the love they find together. Learning that we are there to help each other, and no one person is strong enough to fight their battles completely alone.

The author provides just enough romance for me. When it does go beyond a simple swoon, it is so tastefully done. So yes, the suspense trumps romance in 'Endless Night'. There is a well configured and thought-out plot here. Ms. Miller provides great attention to detail and description, covering any hole with researched facts. D Battery anyone?

Overall, it may not be your cup of tea, but for me personally it's exactly what I want when I escape into a book at the end of the day.

Marcelle Dube says

Thoroughly enjoyed Endless Night, by Maureen A. Miller. Loved the gothic feel of the story and the growing, plausible attraction between Jake and Meg, each of whom has a secret, although Meg's may end up killing her. Great suspense, great fun. Maureen A. Miller

Tracy says

~* 4.5 Stars *~

Fantastic Romantic Suspense

She witnessed a powerful man commit cold blooded murder, then fled when he turned the gun on her. Horrified, terrified for her life, she ran to the police, only to come face to face with proof that powerful men

have long reaches. Megan Summers did the only thing she could do, she disappeared. Since then she's been hiding in the remotest location she could find, a weathered house on the outskirts of the coastal Maine town of Victory Cove. It's been a rough, lonely year, a year of tension and stress, of preparation, of living in seclusion and training herself, readying herself as best she can. Waiting for the phone call that she's always known would come.

When it rings, Megan knows. He's coming.

Receiving a letter from the woman who claims to be his mother shook electrical engineer Jake Grogan to his foundations. He'd known he was adopted since he was young but never wanted to give it much thought. Suddenly having a place to look, a source of information about his heritage, a name and location to start, meant more to him than he'd realized. With his adoptive sister's blessing, he dropped everything and left Boston to check out Victory Cove and find Estelle Wakefield. The woman who may be his grandmother.

He found Megan Summers and Wakefield House. The pretty but tense woman stirs a startling urge to protect within Jake, though from what and why he has no clue. When a nor'easter traps him at the house with her, the mystery of her obvious fear becomes just as tantalizing as his quest for his heritage.

They are strangers drawn together by circumstance, discovering an unwanted but irresistible attraction that could turn the most difficult times in their lives into the greatest happiness. But only if they can weather the threat of a man with no conscience and an intent to kill.

Fans of romance and romantic suspense should take note of Miller, because this is thrilling reading entertainment. There were so many great moments of pure, quality writing that I found myself in love early on, swept away by the lives of two characters who were exquisitely drawn and fit so very well together.

Miller's writing is a feast for the senses, with lyrical descriptive passages that paint startlingly clear visuals and evoke depth of emotion in sublimely subtle ways. Her grasp of the complexity of human reaction to difficult situations was well evidenced, translated into characters' actions and thoughts with a believability that is too often lacking. Her characters were real, with their own faults and mistakes made, regrets and disappointments, but they were also both decent, good people at their core, and their actions and dialogue felt very organic and natural to situations of varying emotional intensity.

The romance was exceptionally well done, though it evolved over a very short period of time. That's a pet peeve of mine, so imagine my delight when I realized that the depth of the emotional connection and the surrounding circumstances were so well drawn and thoroughly developed that instead of feeling too rushed, it felt exactly right. I loved Jake and Megan together, and I loved them as individuals. Miller made them both three dimensional and real, and I was fully invested in them and their story as it progressed. I was actually a little stunned at how thoroughly I was able to understand and sympathize with the actions and decisions that led them to this juxtaposition of their lives, and what they do with themselves after it.

Miller made it all very believable and truly enthralling.

I wish I was as happy with the story elements surrounding the plot thread of the killer. That's the only thing in the whole of the book that didn't work for me. The suspense and the threat the killer posed throughout the book was exquisitely tense and nerve wracking, and every time the phone rang, I clenched my Kindle a little tighter, but the final conflict and the scene of the big reveal fell completely flat for me.

The killer's motivations for the murder didn't interest or shock me, so the mystery solution wasn't very compelling, and the scene of the big reveal was clichéd and trite. It did a disservice to the quality of the rest of the book to have the killer and the heroine act out a quintessential bad guy confessional scene while the hero maneuvers to save the day. An odd switch to a choppy narrative flow with jerky little jumps in the

timeline during that big reveal scene and immediately following it just compounded the problem and seemed to serve no purpose beyond further obfuscation.

Frankly, though, I don't want to belabor those points, because so much of this book totally rocked my world. Jake was perfect as the nice guy with some issues, protective and intelligent, and Megan was a spectacular heroine. She's strong, and though she's been afraid for a year, she's worked with that fear, honing herself into a weapon and turning her home into a fortress in preparation for a conflict that she's always understood would be a battle for her life. Fear defined part of her character, and so did independence and steely intent. I found her fascinating and sympathetic. And the sexual chemistry and growing emotional intimacy between Jake and Megan was beautiful to read.

There were, in fact, a couple of passages that were so beautifully written that they literally hit me like soft body punches. One in particular sticks out in my mind. Megan has one of her guns in her hand, a gun she's taught herself to shoot and shoot well, one she keeps so close and has in hand so often that the impression of the grip is often found on her palm. She's speaking to Jake.

Slowly, painfully, she lifted it in offering and managed a raspy plea. "Can you take this? It's grown so heavy."

The wealth and depth of emotion in that one small passage was astounding. With one short bit of dialogue Miller wrenched my gut and made me feel with jagged clarity just how close Megan is to the end of her rope, how worn out she's become by a year of solitude and fear and grim anticipation, and how dangerously close she is to the breaking point. Really simple and subtle, but so layered and complex. And brilliant for it.

Passages like that, and a narrative chock full of different but equally impressive story elements guaranteed that even with the minor grievances I mentioned, *Endless Night* knocked it out of the park for me. Tripping over truly quality writing in a genre I favor is one of the best treats for me as a reader, and I felt like a kid at Christmas with this gem. Fans of romance will love Jake and Megan, fans of romantic suspense will appreciate the atmospheric tension that permeates the book. I loved both, and know that I'll be searching out more from Miller in the near future.

Disclosure: An ARC of this book was provided to me by Carina Press via NetGalley. This rating, review, and all included thoughts and comments are my own.

~*~*~*~

Reviewed for One Good Book Deserves Another.

Shirley Wells says

"After witnessing a murder, Megan Summers ran until she reached the remote coastal village of Victory Cove. She has a new name, but she knows it's only a matter of time before the murderer catches up with her. Jake Grogan has come to town to unravel the mystery of his heritage..."

Megan Summers is a wonderful heroine - sharp, funny and brave, the sort of girl you'd love to have as a best friend. Maureen Miller creates a wonderful setting around the remote village with weather so temperamental you can feel the wind in your hair and the rain on your face. And then there's the wonderfully strong and capable, utterly gorgeous Jake Grogan...

I loved this book! Highly recommended for all lovers of romantic suspense.

Sassbot5000 says

Single sentence summary: Jake never really cared that he was adopted but when he receives a letter from a woman stating to be his mother and that he needs to talk to his grandmother, he knows he needs to find out what happened to the woman who gave birth to him.

This is an enjoyable romantic suspense novel where Jake's story is only part of the plot. The major part of it is really about Megan and the fact that she witnessed a murder a year ago and has been running ever since. I liked Megan's character but the one that seemed more developed, I felt, was actually Jake. Megan is running from the murder she witnessed a year ago and but Jake seemed to have a little more depth and diversity of character to mean.

Megan was a bit of the damsel in distress and Jake turns out being a bit of the knight in shining armor. It was cute in the way. Jake had unexpected ways to help save Megan. I liked that. Megan thinks she can take care of herself but I think Ms. Miller did a good job showing how hard it is to think of all contingencies.

I enjoyed Endless Nights and found it to be a quick and at times suspenseful romance. The main characters, for the most part, were entertaining. 4 Stars.

I received this book from Carina Press via Netgalley.

April says

Very good romantic suspense. The beginning was a bit bumpy for me but once the story hit its stride I had a hard time putting it down.

Megan and Jake are very likable characters and they felt real. I liked that the author used both of their points of view so that as the reader you know much more than either one and can see how easy you can make mistakes when you only have certain information.

I loved that the ending was not what I thought it was going to be. I was actually a little afraid I was going to get there and be disappointed. Nope. Satisfying ending.

I'm also very intrigued about the possibility of faking a D cell battery with a C and three quarters...anyone know if this is true? Of course, I rarely use either but still intriguing!

Amy R says

This was another great book by Maureen A. Miller! It was full of suspense and romance. I like how the romance is throughout the book - sometimes the little kisses or looks at one another are all at one part of the

book (the end), but these were along the way which I like.

The suspense was definitely there because I was exhausted by the end of the book (in a good way) as I felt the storm and all the emotions from the characters. Meg was fighting for her life and felt the path she chose was the only way. I was relieved when she finally could let Jake in to help her unload some of her burden (even though she did not want to). I kept thinking more was going to be uncovered/said about Jake's past, but in the end I think the way everything turned out was appropriate. I would highly recommend this book.
