



# The Night Visitors

*Carol Goodman*

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The latest thriller from the internationally bestselling author of *The Lake of Dead Languages* and *The Other Mother*, a story of mistaken identities and missed chances, forgiveness, and vengeance.

**“Carol Goodman is, simply put, a stellar writer.”—Lisa Unger, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Red Hunter***

ALICE gets off a bus in the middle of a snowstorm in Delphi, NY. She is fleeing an abusive relationship and desperate to protect...

OREN, ten years old, a major Star Wars fan and wise beyond his years. Though Alice is wary, Oren bonds nearly instantly with...

MATTIE, a social worker in her fifties who lives in an enormous run-down house in the middle of the woods. Mattie lives alone and is always available, and so she is the person the hotline always calls when they need a late-night pickup. And although according to protocol Mattie should take Alice and Oren to a local shelter, instead she brings them home for the night. She has plenty of room, she says. What she doesn't say is that Oren reminds her of her little brother, who died thirty years ago at the age of ten.

But Mattie isn't the only one withholding elements of the truth. Alice is keeping her own secrets. And as the snowstorm worsens around them, each woman's past will prove itself unburied, stirring up threats both within and without.

## The Night Visitors Details

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Author : Carol Goodman

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## From Reader Review The Night Visitors for online ebook

### Linda Quinn says

Alice and Oren are on the run from an abusive husband/father. When they are taken in by Mattie it seems like a common story of social worker trying to help, but this story mixes in past secrets and ghosts that turn the situation on its head.

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### Camille Kraus says

I won this book in the good reads giveaway! This was a great read to distract myself from pain. I found Carol Goodman to be a wonderful author.

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### Ellen Whitfield says

Freaked me out in the best way! I wasn't sure what to expect when I started this book, but it surpassed what I could have imagined -- all the characters are so well-realized that it felt like they were people I've known for years. And the ending? WOW.

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### Heather says

Gave me the creeps early on but when I realized that the boy in the story was clairvoyant, it just made it a sweet story of good-hearted adults saving an endangered child. Great read.

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### Jessica Smith says

**You can find this review and all my others over at [www.readbookrepeat.wordpress.com](http://www.readbookrepeat.wordpress.com)**

*I received a copy of this book from the publisher, Harper Collins, via Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.*

Wow, I wasn't expecting to like this as much as I did, it was absolutely brilliant.

Alice and Oren are on the run from an abusive husband and father when they end up with Mattie, a case worker, who has faced hardship in her life similar to that of Alice and Oren. Taking them in during a blizzard, which causes them to be snowed in together, while fleeing from an unknown assailant, the past is brought up and the three innocent people end up embroiled in a race for the truth in a decades long cover up.

The story is told from alternating points of view as Alice and Mattie. Alice is trying to get Oren away from his abusive father and is under the assumption that Davis, the boy's father, is dead, but is he? Once they are snowed in they start to learn a lot about each other and truths come to light that have been a big factor in shaping Mattie's life thus far.

This story deals heavily with domestic and child abuse but also makes a point of showing that there is always someone out there willing to go above and beyond to help someone in need. We see this in Mattie's character.

Alice is a hard and untrusting character, and the reader can understand why with all that she's been through, even from an early age. The way she was written perfectly illustrated the fear, guilt, and shame that people who have been through this situations tend to exhibit. But it also shows an understanding point of view and shows that just because someone is lashing out due to bad things that have happened to them, you should still give them a chance and not just abandon them, even if you don't entirely trust them.

Oren is the innocence in this story for sure. He is still afraid and unsure, but he still loves to smile, laugh and have fun playing games, especially if they include his favourite franchise, star wars. It gives him hope, and I feel that this bolsters the hope in the other characters. I mean, who wants to sit there and tell a smiling child who's been through a traumatic experience, that it won't get better. If Oren wasn't in the story, I feel that this would have gone in a completely different direction.

Davis was a fantastic addition to the cast of characters, embodying that which I personally find absolutely disgusting and not deserving of the chance to continue to do what he gets sick pleasure out of. So too was the addition of the character Jason, who only has a small bit part, but also exhibits a lot of what is wrong with the world today. His blatant pleasure in making a store clerk feel uncomfortable purely because she is not white, is prevalent in today's society and I love that it shows this. It was uncomfortable to read the small exchange but it was definitely necessary.

The addition of the small supernatural element was pure genius, and I feel that it really brought something to this story that sets it apart from so many others. It also was a great way for the story plot to progress and was done fantastically.

I actually found myself gasping at certain revelations, I did not see some of the big twists that were coming and that gave me butterflies. I love it when a story can surprise me, which lets be honest, these days it can be quite hard to find something that I can't pick the twists out of early on. So this definitely helped boost my rating.

I love the themes this dealt with, as said above, a real look into abuse and how hard it can be in today's society for the abusee to get away and stay safe. The revelation of decades old secrets that are now being forced into the life, and knowing that what happened in the past has shaped the characters into what they are today.

All in all, this was AMAZING, and I highly recommend it to everyone!!!

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## **Lisa Wright says**

Upstate New York in winter is the setting for this gripping story of abused women and the weight of the past. An experienced volunteer meets a bus in a small town upstate to transport a woman and 10-year-old boy fleeing their abuser to safety. Mattie knows you never take a client home, but the weather convinces her to break her own rule. Revelations raise the tensions and soon the women are fighting for their lives. Exciting and satisfying.

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## Lori Rader-Day says

Twisty. You'll like it.

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## Michelle says

Mar 26, 2019

3.5 A fast-paced thriller with a woman and her boy on the run who are helped by another woman with her own secrets. Ghostly apparitions, vengeful men, and long ago secrets revealed made this an engrossing read, though the accumulated coincidences took this down a notch for me. I've read almost all of Ms Goodman's books and this one was good, but my favorites are her gothic mysteries.

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## KC says

After fleeing from an abusive life, Alice and 10 year old Oren end up in upstate NY. Mattie, a local social worker, breaks protocol and brings them to her childhood home. As a pending snowstorm threatens the area, the three strangers unveil their stories while unearthing secrets from their past. This is a fast paced domestic thriller with a slight supernatural element to boot. I enjoyed this story up until the ending which tragically fell apart. For fans of Kay Hooper and Heather Graham.

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## Tara (Blog About A Latte) says

I almost want to give this book a 5-star review!

I give it a 4.5 \*technically\*

This book is SO good. I was instantly drawn into this book. It starts off so suspenseful that you don't even know what to think or make of it. I don't want to say too much but there's some things that are huge reveals and plot twists and it's just insane. I don't know why I have never read a Carol Goodman novel until now but she is definitely an author I will be picking up from again!

The Night Visitors is a psychological thriller novel that holds many secrets within its pages. There is Oren, the for some reason "too-smart" 10-year-old boy who has something -special- about him. There is Alice, who is on the run from her abusive ex. And Mattie, the social worker helping the runaway pair by breaking the protocol rules, and who has some secrets of her own as well. Altogether this story makes for a huge page turner. The way the dialogue and chapters end make me gasp. And want more.

I really recommend this for anyone who loves suspenseful thrillers and is always wondering what is what and who is who. This book took me on many different paths and I was always hit with something else being revealed. What a page turner! I really loved this book and can't wait for others to give it a chance!

\* NOTE

Thank you to William Morrow Books for sending me an ARC for this review. I loved it!

### **Tara says**

A tightly plotted, tense thriller that doesn't let you take a breath. The characters here are so compelling, and I feel like even though the story moves very fast, taking twists and turns throughout the whole book, I get to know these people really well. This is one of those books that just when you think you've figured out where it's going to go, it surprises you...and then surprises you again. I also love all the motifs here--stars, sky, constellations, Star Wars. And the snow! A delightful read from one of my favorite suspense writers.

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### **Melissa Brennen says**

The only saving grace to this book was Mattie's character. The numerous coincidences and plot twists/shockers were actually tiresome at the end.

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### **booksbikesbooze says**

3.5 stars, rounded up to 4, for THE NIGHT VISITORS by Carol Goodman.

THIS BOOK WILL BE OUT 3-26-19!

THANK YOU Molly @ William Morrow Books for my review copy, in exchange for an honest review!!!

The cover of The Night Visitors is what originally drew me in – it looked spooky, creepy, and wintery. Perfect for these colds months. When I first spotted it on goodreads it jumped up on my list of “most anticipated books of 2019”.

With a blizzard in Buffalo, I picked a perfect day to start this eerie, winter, mystery. This book is told between two alternating views – Alice & Mattie, both in the present time. Unexpectedly, this book really pulls at your heartstrings diving into abuse, loss, love, secrets, pregnancy/adoption. There was so much more in here that I didn't expect, when I thought I would just be reading a spooky winter read.

I enjoyed the descriptive cold, snowstormy setting in Delphi, NY throughout the book. I REALLY loved when there was an unexpected mention of Buffalo at the end of the book – how cool ?

This was a perfect winter read!

Thank you again WILLIAM MORROW BOOKS!

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### **Sherrie Saint says**

This book is disturbingly good. It is one that will stick with you for a while. The abusers in this book are so

horrible but the character of Mattie and how many people she helps and the lives she touches is awesome. It was hard for me to like Alice but by the end of the book, I had gained a great deal of respect for her. But my favorite part of the book was Oren and the relationship he builds with Caleb. Absolutely fascinating.

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