



Where There Is Evil

Sandra Brown

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An account of a woman's search for the truth about a child's disappearance and her own fathers' involvement. After Sandra Brown's 12 year old neighbour disappears the police investigation draws a blank. But 27 years later Sandra's father confesses to his involvement in the child's disappearance. Sandra delves into the case and in doing so discovers that her father was a known molestor of children, whose activities were known not just to everyone in the local community but also to the police.

Where There Is Evil Details

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Author : Sandra Brown

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Sarah says

I read this book in about two hours, not because I enjoyed it but because I couldn't wait to be done with it.

I found a lot of the author's background to be rather unnecessary and, especially towards the end, the book became extremely repetitive. I also felt that there was little description given to the area in which the crime was committed and that the author assumed the readers would know the area well - working nearby I have enough knowledge of the immediate area to follow the story but I don't think this will be the case for some others.

Overall, this could have been a fantastic and riveting read but instead felt dragged out.

wanderer says

Bought second hand in Romania, pre-ereader, out of desperation. True crime is much scarier than crime fiction so I don't read it often, but this book held my interest.

Douglas Osler says

This is the account of one woman's determination to protect children by revealing the truth about a family member's abuse of children. It is challenging and disconcerting but acts as an important stage post towards protecting children and forcing public attitudes and officials to face up to the truth. It is very well written too.

Angela Sevilla says

It is a real page turner, and will definitely rob you of some peace of mind. It was an inspiring account of casting out evil, even if it lies at the closest place to one's self.

El Amethyst says

An absolute page turner. Sandra has done Moira justice in this poignant book. Hearing how Sandra felt and how she dealt with the events in her life has given me much needed confidence in validating my own feelings and fight for the truth, that is an extraordinary feat indeed. Sandra has my utmost respect and admiration, her strength and courage is inspirational!

Linda says

Over the years I have read various newspaper articles about the disappearance of Moira Anderson without

having a stronger opinion about possible events other than wishing she was found, for her family's sake. I remember when Sandra Brown first hit the headlines stating that she thought her own father was responsible and wondering what on earth had possessed her to turn against him so categorically. I also remember reading the news article that stated that Alexander Gartshore, Sandra Brown's father, was felt by the Crown Prosecution Office to be the person responsible for the disappearance and subsequent murder of Moira Anderson in 1957 but none of these things had more than a passing impact on me until I read this book.

I found the content of this book to be more than a little disturbing. I grew up with people like Sandra's mother who would never accept the evidence of her husband's predatory ways and who firmly believed that you didn't speak out against your own, thankfully with far less cause to speak out about. I grew up with the freedoms and responsibilities that children like Sandra and her friends had. Thankfully I never met anyone who ever meant me or those I knew any more harm than the odd skelp for some misdemeanour or other, mostly deserved.

I found the links to Fred and Rosemary West and the disappearance of Vicky Hamilton uncomfortable. I also found Sandra's unrelenting quest to prove her father responsible difficult reading, especially when she sought the services of a medium and hypnotherapist.

Overall this is a story that will stay with me but not one that will sit easily. In some ways I admire her tenacity and strength of purpose but in many other ways I found it hard to stomach. I am glad she was proved correct in the end because if there had been any doubts at all about her father's guilt her single minded pursuit of what she believed to have been true would have been even more uncomfortable to live with.

Sarie says

A horrifying true story of one woman's frustrating attempts to prove her father guilty of murdering a little girl, Moira Anderson, in Scotland in the 1950s. Her father was quite renowned in the town for being a predatory nuisance to young girls (they weren't called paedophiles in those days), and it was interesting to find out that Fred West was also living in the area at the time! I did feel really uncomfortable reading some of the descriptions of what her father got up to but I had to keep on reading because I desperately wanted to know whether this monster was brought to justice and to know if they ever found poor Moira's body.

♥ Marlene♥ says

On Monday, March 19, 2007 I wrote about this book:

8 out of 10

Great read. Finished it in 1 day .I always hate when I finish a good book cause I have to start to decide which book to read next.

I still find it unbelievable how this story ended (won't spoil)

Mirjam Penning says

It's already years ago I read this book, but I do remember I found the story very interesting.

How it must be to wonder, suspect and realise your own father has something to do with the disappearance of a young girl. What's 'shocking' is that the community had an idea of the character of this man, even the police and his own daughter had no clue until she dived into this case.

Her father's name is Alexander Gartshore and Sandra has no doubt he murdered small beautiful child Moira, who disappeared when Sandra just was eight years old.

For Sandra it all started after her father told her Moira had been on his bus in the blizzard of snow just before she vanished. Only then she began to realise the true nature of her father's character and mindset.

Understandably, it turned her life upside down. It also explains the Dutch title of the book.

The original book has the title 'Where There Is Evil'. I like the Dutch title better in this case.

Pauline says

3-3.5 stars.

This was a difficult book to read; such an awful story and the way it ends makes you wonder what's justice nowadays ..

I really enjoyed this memoir (if that's one ?) and was startled by it. I can't imagine what the author went through all these years, fighting for the truth to be exposed, and never having it fully acknowledged officially.

The last 60 pages were a bit too long in my opinion and could have been shortened by half. I skimmed through all the justice jargon and was very frustrated by the way things ended for everyone ..

Fishface says

I cannot recommend this one highly enough. Wonderfully written, and what a story this author has to tell.

Jennifer says

What an eye-opening, but difficult book to read. I read a lot of true crime and murder mystery books, but nothing has ever affected me like this one has. The fact that evil was well known in the community, but overlooked then and still 50 years later is absolutely terrifying.

Shahrin says

This book made me SO angry! Angry for all the victims of paedophiles who tried to speak up and get help and were ignored. Angry because of the adults who must have known and remained silent! Angry for the innocence lost so cruelly and unnecessarily! Why?! How can anyone stay with a paedophile or let their child be abused or think that silence will make it go away! I am glad the silence is being broken and Sandra was able to write this book and not give up. I really admire her for her courage and strength. I really hope poor Moira's body can be found and laid to rest properly. I think for the moment I want to keep this book and loan it out.

Vishnu Vandana says

I respect the integrity of the protagonist.

Prashanth Kanichar says

don't read if you have a daughter. it will disturb u.
