



The Whisper Man

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If you leave a door half-open, soon you'll hear the whispers spoken... Still devastated after the loss of his wife, Tom Kennedy and his young son Jake move to the sleepy village of Featherbank, looking for a fresh start. But Featherbank has a dark past. Fifteen years ago a twisted serial killer abducted and murdered five young boys. Until he was finally caught, the killer was known as 'The Whisper Man'. Of course, an old crime need not trouble Tom and Jake as they try to settle in to their new home. Except that now another young boy has gone missing. And then Jake begins acting strangely. He says he hears a whispering at his window.

The Whisper Man Details

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Author : Alex North

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From Reader Review The Whisper Man for online ebook

Nic says

??????? 4 enjoyable stars

This was an easy to read, keeps you guessing book. I liked the characters and how they inter weaved with each other and particularly liked the chapters told from Jake's perspective.

I wasn't sure where the book was going till right near the end which was great.

So why only the 4 stars? Hard to explain, it just it lacked that little something extra, that thing that totally grips you start to finish. I don't know much about the author but based on this book I will definitely read another.

Laura says

Not many books scare me, but this one had me wanting to keep the light firmly on whilst reading before bed! I loved it!

The whole concept of 'The Whisper Man' and his notoriety both gripped me and disturbed me - who wouldn't be freaked out by hearing someone whisper through your letterbox? The fact that his prey were children makes it even more chilling.

The characters were well-written - particularly Jake, who is completely endearing. I also think that the father/son relationship after bereavement was sensitively handled, but also reflected the difficulties that may arise from that situation.

I really enjoyed this book and look forward to the author's next offering.

Thank you to Netgalley and Penguin UK for this advanced copy.

Helen says

This moved me a lot more than I would have guessed

I found my self tearfull twoeards the end and touched by the characters

I also had a sense that this book behind the thriller angle is ultimately a book about loss and grief and how we cope when these events happen in our lives

This was a good novel it did for some reason take me ages to get into it though and not so much a who done it as that sorts passed me by weirdly ,I was more engaged with the son and his emotional plight .

Thanks netgalley and publishers a lot for advanced copy

Wendy says

Nothing quite like having a creepy childhood rhyme embedded in your head as you turn in for the night, is there?

“If you leave a door half-open, soon you'll hear the whispers spoken...”

Not ideal for a restful night's sleep, that. Especially since *The Whisper Man's* muted antics are the source of extreme nightmares for parent and child alike.

Why? Well, the unsettling concept of child abduction partners something inexplicable to haunt the pages of this book, lingering long enough to amplify the fear factor just that little bit more.

Dive into this book and it'll soon have you questioning whether *The Whisper Man* is a figment of an overactive imagination or a living, breathing creature without a soul.

A pacey read, and chillingly calculated too. A few scenes are written so convincingly my senses remained on high alert way longer than the chapter that caused it. Oh, that reminds me: you may want to pay careful attention to your letter boxes... that's all I'm sayin'.

(I received a digital copy of this title courtesy of the publisher via Netgalley, which it is my pleasure to read and review).

Sophie Bristow Harris says

“The Whisper Man” by Alex North is a fantastic psychological thriller which I enjoyed immensely. The writing was clear, descriptive and very creepy!

The characters were well moulded and I liked seeing how fractured lives could be gradually reblended despite their issues.

A fantastic first book for me to start 2019 off. Superb writer which I hope to read many more of.

Gail says

I absolutely and utterly loved this book and was engrossed in it from the first page. I have literally just turned the final page and can barely see for the tears.

It is going to be hard for me to review this without giving the plot away, but I will do my best.

This is seriously good and I will never forget it, especially the wonderful DI Pete Willis and DI Amanda Beck.

Pete has made it his mission, for the last 20 years, to find the body of a little boy called Tony Smith. He knows who killed him, The Whisper Man aka Frank Carter, and who is incarcerated in prison for the horrendous murders of children at that time. All the bodies were found except Tony's and it has haunted Pete since.

Then a six year old boy, Neil Spencer, goes missing and it has all the hallmarks of what had happened 20 years before. Pete and Amanda are determined to find Neil alive but their prime suspect is locked up.

The story is also told from the point of view of Tom Kennedy and his fantastic young son, Jake (I so loved this little boy). Tom and Jake are both missing Rebecca (their wife and mother) who died suddenly the previous year and Tom is struggling to cope with bringing up Jake and his own grief.

It's so refreshing to have two detectives who work so brilliantly together and who trust each other's judgement totally. Also there's no arguing with hierarchy to get the job finished. This book is quite simply nothing more than it is, does what it says on the tin and works absolutely beautifully.

The subject matter is at times hard to take and at one point, during the middle part, I realised I wasn't breathing and tears were pouring down my face.

This will stay with me for a long time and I can not recommend it enough.

I received an ebook of The Whisper Man through NetGalley for an honest review. My thanks to Penguin UK - Michael Joseph and Alex North for the opportunity.

Publication date: 13 June 2019

#TheWhisperMan #NetGalley

Debbie Littley says

I know this gets said a lot in reviews and it is a huge cliché but I couldn't stop reading this book! I started reading at 6pm and it is now 6am so it kept me going right through the night so enraptured that I didn't even notice the night slipping away. I don't get spooked easily but tonight I was glad of the company of my massive hound dog and I'm pretty sure if I had heard my letterbox rattling I might well have gained more grey hairs than I already have!

I've not read such a genuinely chilling book like this for a long time, there are so many elements its hard to know where to begin. There is definitely a touch of the supernatural added to the mix of sadistic serial killer but so real that it was those bits that had me reading with the lights on!

The only comparisons I can make are Silence of the Lambs crossed with The Sixth Sense and Nightmare on Elm Street all combined but so so much better!

'If you leave a door half open, soon you'll hear the whispers spoken. If you play outside alone, soon you won't be going home. If your window's left unlatched, you'll hear him tapping at the glass. If you're lonely, sad and blue, the Whisper Man will come for you.'

That was what brought back memories of my childhood, watching Nightmare on Elm Street for the first time and hearing that Freddy Krueger rhyme – 'One Two Freddie's coming for you' and the chills that caused and

this one did the same, except now I am considerably a lot older!

Jake is 100% the star of the show, his character is brilliantly portrayed and you cant help but feel for the poor lad, and then there is 'The Whisper Man' an abhorrent fascinating character that is all to real, as is the notoriety that these killers receive.

This is an outstanding debut novel of the highest order, a psychological thriller that is in a league of its own that will truly chill you to the bone.

A book that you seriously don't want to miss this! #TheWhisperMan

The Whisper Man will be published on 13 June 2019

Huge thanks to the author Alex North, publishers Penguin UK – Michael Joseph and NetGalley for my copy of this book in exchange for an honest and independent review.

<https://debbiesbookreviews.wordpress...>

Liz Barnsley says

If you leave a door half-open. Soon you'll hear the whispers spoken...

The Whispers begin in June 2019 and you might want to make a note of that because this novel is very very good indeed.

The Whisper Man has it all, extremely beautiful writing, exquisite plotting, a wonderful sense of place and a sinister undertone that may well keep you up at night.

You've probably seen a lot of hype surrounding this one, it was one of the hottest and most sought after proofs at Theakstons Old Peculiar Crime writing festival this year and for good reason. Turns out the hype is pretty much right on the money.

Darkly delicious. That ending will haunt my dreams.

Janet says

I received a DIGITAL Advance Reader Copy of this book from #NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

From the publisher, as I do not regurgitate the contents or story of books in reviews, I let them do it.

In this psychological thriller, Alex North weaves a multi-generational tale of suspense, as a father and son are caught in the crosshairs of an investigation to catch a serial killer preying on a small town.

After the sudden death of his wife, Tom Kennedy believes a fresh start will help him and his young son Jake heal. A new beginning, a new house, a new town. Featherbank.

But the town has a dark past. Twenty years ago, a serial killer abducted and murdered five residents. Until Frank Carter was finally caught, he was nicknamed "The Whisper Man," for he would lure his victims out by whispering at their windows at night.

Just as Tom and Jake settle into their new home, a young boy vanishes. His disappearance bears an unnerving resemblance to Frank Carter's crimes, reigniting old rumours that he preyed with an accomplice. Now, detectives Amanda Beck and Pete Willis must find the boy before it is too late, even if that means Pete has to revisit his great foe in prison: The Whisper Man.

And then Jake begins acting strangely. He hears a whispering at his window...

This is one seriously spooky book --- don't read it during a wind storm, for sure as I certainly kept hearing things!!! It is wonderfully crafted and suspenseful and the characters were well fleshed out and interesting. If you like thrillers and spooky books, read this one: just don't expect to go to sleep afterwards without ear plugs so you don't hear whispering...

As always, I try to find a reason to not rate with stars as I love emojis (outside of Instagram and Twitter) so let's give it ?????!

Tammy says

Review TK

Pauline says

Review to follow as requested by the publisher.

Mo says

What a fantastic debut. A creepy psychological thriller , this book had me hooked from the start to the end . Great writing and a great storyline . I lol forward to reading more from this author . Easy 5 stars

Shannon says

This was really creepy and the story unwound brilliantly. Also found the father / son relationships endearing. Would say it's more a crime story than a whodunnit though!

Beadyjan says

The Whisper Man is a fabulous crime thriller which scared me witless and has me in tears more than once. It's a fabulous read.

It focusses heavily on Fathers and their relationships with their sons and features a wonderful little lad called Jake, who with his Dad Tom has moved into a new house in a small town called Featherbank, ready for a fresh start, following the sudden death of Jake's Mum.

But it doesn't prove to be the tranquil place these guys have hoped for. The house looks and seems a little strange and Featherbank is a tight-knit community where years earlier a serial killer who targetted young children gained notoriety as The Whisper man. But he is still locked away paying for his heinous crimes, so when another little boy goes missing not long after Jake and Tom arrive, it obviously can't have anything to do with the earlier murders. Well that's what the investigating police, DI Pete Willis and DI Amanda Beck, assume.

Pete was heavily involved in the murder investigations 20 years earlier and has made it his lifes mission to try and uncover the resting place of one final victim whose body has never been found but this triumph has eluded him and shaped his personality. And when 6 year old local lad Neil disappears, he is adamant that with his colleague Amanda he will find this little boy alive.

As the investigation goes on, Jake begins to worry his Dad, he reports hearing whispers outside his bedroom and has gained an imaginary friend.

The story is deeply emotional and heartbreaking as the fates of murdered children and sick predators are revealed. But throughout it all runs the thread of love and hope that is the unbreakable bond between fathers and their sons, whatever their circumstances.

I galloped through this book which I received via Netgalley. I feel it may well be one of my favourite reads this year as I was so immersed in it and loved reading it. This book combines a haunting and eerie feel alongside the terrifying brutality described and the redemptive qualities of family ties. I was sucked deep into the storyline effortlessly and I can't help but recommend anyone who loves a dramatic thriller to read this and feel it would make a superb tv show.

Louise says

SPOILERS SPOILERS

3.5 stars

I breezed through this on one long train journey, and didn't notice the time passing.

It was creepy, not just for the kid and his seeing things, or the whisper man, or the serial killer who keeps boys bodies in his extension (I really wished I understood better the timeline on these boys being taken and killed), but also for the fact people will pay to be in the same room as a victims bones... that one was probably more scary, as could possibly happen.

I very much liked the Pete character, more so when we got his back story.

Overall, it was a good page Turner, with a few twists that made me rethink what I thought was going on.

Definitely one I'm buying for others.