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# The Girl Before: THE SENSATIONAL INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER THAT EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT



## Synopsis

IF YOU ONLY READ ONE BOOK THIS YEAR, MAKE IT THE GIRL BEFORE... 'An outstanding debut that is more than a match for Paula Hawkins's *The Girl on the Train*' Sunday Times THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER THE SIMON MAYO RADIO 2 BOOK CLUB PICK THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER THE SUNDAY TIMES THRILLER OF THE MONTH 'DAZZLING' - Lee Child 'ADDICTIVE' - Daily Express 'DEVASTATING' - Daily Mail 'INGENIOUS' - The New York Times 'COMPULSIVE' - Glamour Magazine 'ELEGANT' - Peter James 'SEXY' - Mail on Sunday 'ENTHRALLING' - Woman and Home 'ORIGINAL' - The Times 'RIVETING' - Lisa Gardner 'CREEPY' - Heat 'SATISFYING' - Reader's Digest 'SUPERIOR' - The Bookseller 'This is going to be the buzziest book of 2017 . . . This year *The Girl Before* will be that book' InStyle \*\*\*\*\* Enter the world of One Folgate Street and discover perfection . . . but can you pay the price? Jane stumbles on the rental opportunity of a lifetime: the chance to live in a beautiful ultra-minimalist house designed by an enigmatic architect, on condition she abides by a long list of exacting rules. After moving in, she discovers that a previous tenant, Emma, met a mysterious death there - and starts to wonder if her own story will be a re-run of the girl before. As twist after twist catches the reader off guard, Emma's past and Jane's present become inexorably entwined in this tense, page-turning portrayal of psychological obsession. \*\*\*\*\* Following in the footsteps of *Gone Girl* and *The Girl on the Train*, *The Girl Before* is being brought to the big screen by Academy Award-winning director Ron Howard.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a VINE reviewer, you get used to "advanced praise" and publisher PR statements about how great this book is going to be. This book exceeds the hype, it might be better than they say it is. I was hooked and read it in two days about ten hours total reading time. Nothing is really what it seems to be, everyone has a hidden agenda and the characters might shift at any point. This seems to be a very straightforward story until the last 40 pages. However, the author has given us the information, if we notice it. The ending is very logical, given the story and the people. There is no 100-year relationship or rabbit out of the hat here. Be aware this is a very adult story with some graphic sex. Loved the book and looking forward to the movie.

You can definitely tell that a man wrote this book because it's told from the perspective of two young women who have no personality at all. It was very disappointing to read about how easily and without question these women fall for this weirdo guy just because he tells them he wants to "take them to bed". Not sure what woman that line works on these days, but I was definitely hoping for something a bit more than that. Whoever promoted this book thought did great because selling it as the next *Gone Girl*/*Girl On the Train* was the reason I bought it, but after reading it I found it to be a wannabe copy cat book who was trying so hard to be a *Fifty Shades of Grey*, *Gone Girl*, even a smidge of *Twilight* type story. It lacked creativity in my opinion and took me forever to finish. Usually I can read a book in a couple of days, but this one took me over two weeks to push my way through. It wasn't worth it either. Even if you want to listen to the other great reviews about this book, I would definitely suggest getting it from the library or borrowing it from a friend so you don't have to fork over actual money for this thing.

I have mixed feelings about this book. I enjoyed the concept and mystery surrounding the house. What I didn't like was Delaney making the female characters dumb. What normal person (male or female) would've put up with the demands of the rental Q&A? Make this a library book, don't pay for it.

I was totally HOOKED by this one! I could actually see the house in all its minimalism -- the "flying staircase" (I've actually seen one of those) and the buff colored stone - the kind of bareness that affects the mood, that brings a sort of tranquility along with it - or as an alternative.....brings a creepy unease. Some reviewers have criticized the book for the "dumb" tenants - namely, two women tenants - who accepted the strange list of "RULES" put in place by the owner-landlord, who is also the architect of the house. But I accepted the premise in that ONLY TWO women throughout the story were involved. I could imagine that in a population of apartment-seekers, TWO (and at different times) would be willing to say "OK - I won't leave things on the floor. And ok, also for a few other stipulations: "No clotheslines. No wastepaper baskets. No smoking. No coasters or placements. No cushions, no knickknacks..." Actually, that is going a bit into the area of "strange." So we have here a sort of "Modern Gothic" tale, that smooths and polishes the stones of the House of Usher, turning it into "One Folgate Street, London," and transforms strange Roderick into stranger-yet Edward Monkford (LOVE the name), the world-renowned architect. [The name "MONKFORD" brought to my mind - monks living in a Spartan monastery .... the image is there, with the name.] And who is this architect really? Is he mad? Well, possibly yes, thinks the Reader. OR - he may not be truly mad. OR - he may not be truly murderous (or maybe he is?) - but certainly he has his share of idiosyncratic tendencies. And the Reader cannot stop reading because all of the options just tangle as the story moves forward. This story was just as strange and intriguing as psychological fiction can get, when enhanced by and blended with the creepiness of gothic. Fans of the Strange: Read and enjoy! My rating says 5 STARS - but I feel I must take off half a star for the syrupy ending. Oh, after the cool bare floors and walls, we run into the gooey-ness of those last few pages? Still, I can overlook that ending somewhat, considering the hours of pleasure this book delivered!

Emma: Then and Jane: Now - two women who have similar looks and become obsessed with the same man. One Forsythe Place: a fourth character who controls all. I find J. P. Delaney's *The Girl Before* to be as good as Thomas Hardy's *Return of the Native*, or Daphne DuMaurier's *Rebecca*, two of my favorite psychological mysteries.

Just okay Too unrealistic to serve as a true psychological thriller. It became evident early on that the two main characters would have to be very gullible or desperate to live under such conditions required by their weirdo landlord. There are better alternatives available.

Very creative drama. I found the different perspectives of the two lead characters to be a unique way to tell the story. What a strange, twisted story though. Definitely kept my attention. I'm just still not quite sure how I feel about it, hence the 3-stars.

Decent read with a few twists. More like 3.5 stars. Interesting psychological manipulation of the characters who are willing to endure it because of trauma they faced, needed a change and thought this house will be the solution to their issues. Interesting perspective of morality & discipline. I enjoyed the first person perspective and the flipping of past & present. Wasn't thoroughly happy with the flat ending.

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