



The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins

Reviewed by Samantha



Thriller, Mystery, Suspense, Psychological Fiction

Give a summary without spoilers!

Living in London, Rachel Watson took the train everyday to work and "people watched." While "people watching", she discovered an attractive couple outside of the window of her train, and quickly became obsessed with watching them from afar. Everyday, she took mental notes of their body language towards one another, their actions, and anything else she noticed. A few weeks later on the news, Rachel noticed the same woman she watched on the train went missing: Megan Hipwell. Megan's disappearance stunned and shocked Rachel, so she reached out to police officers. While Megan's whereabouts were still unknown, Rachel struggles with issues with her personal life including her roommates, mental health, alcoholism, her ex-husband, Tom Watson, and his current wife, Anna Watson. Rachel soon after starts having recurring memories from being blackout drunk, and slowly starts piecing it together. As the pieces start coming together, Rachel soon begins to see a connection between Tom and Megan's disappearance.

What drew you to this book?

I was interested in this book just by reading the back cover. It developed a really good background of the protagonist, Rachel Watson, and her situation. I really liked her insight throughout the novel and it felt real, in a strange way though. The plot twist at the end was very good and I did not see it coming.

Did it remind you of something that you've previously read?

Yes, it reminded me of the movie called "Gone Girl." It had a lot of similarities because of the general genre of both the movie and the book, but also they both were originally books but then adapted into movies later on. I think both the female protagonists were crazy, but you didn't really know until the end with the plot twists. I really enjoyed both of these media because of the storylines and the craziness of it all.

To whom would you recommend this book?

If you like thrilling books, this is the one for you! If you really enjoy trying to figure out the mystery by yourself, you would like this book. It doesn't make you scared, but it does have you on the edge of your seat throughout the whole novel.

Overall, did you like it and would you recommend it to others?

I would recommend this book to others because it was so good and suspenseful. It really made me try to think about what happened while reading the book from multiple perspectives such as Rachels, Megans, and Annas. It really helps you try to piece together the mystery because you get to see it from multiple people in the story. The plot was very good and the plot twist was unexpected. I think the plot and the background info/history behind the characters was essential but super well developed and made. I give the author a lot of credit because I couldn't connect the dots myself.

Anything else that you would like to add to this review? What made you choose it? Did you like the cover? Was it recommended to you? Did you find it at the library?

I chose this book because I really wanted to see if I could guess what happened to Megan, unfortunately I couldn't. There was a lot of history from the characters that you would definitely need in order to even come up with a possible explanation. I couldn't stop reading this book until I knew what happened.