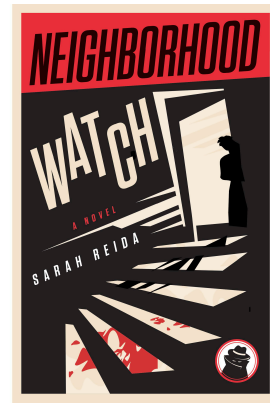


NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

READERS' DISCUSSION GUIDE



1. Given the general awfulness of the killer's victims, whose end was the most satisfying?
2. How was the mode of each death poetic justice given the victim's character flaws?
3. The victims aren't the only ones who suffer. Of the other narrators, who was the most affected by the events surrounding the crimes? Do you think they'll recover from this impact?
4. Even though they're extremely different at first glance, Adelaide and Ray are very important to one another. Why?
5. Helen is once referred to as "the neighborhood gargoyle." Her observational prowess results in her creating her life's masterpiece. Do you think, if given the choice, that she would prefer the preservation of her Jasmine Lane over this accomplishment?
6. Had the events of the novel not happened, do you think Ray would have made peace with herself or eventually reconnected with her family? What emotional shields or defense mechanisms does (or did) Ray use that hurt her?
7. Did the killer's last planned victim fit the same mold as the others? If not, how was this character misinterpreted?
8. The women who allow the killer to escape each have a reason for doing so. What is each reason, and which is the most understandable?
9. Do you think the killer will strike again?
10. Did you suspect anyone else as the killer?
11. Of the characters, who was the most fun to read?
12. If you were to cast *Neighborhood Watch* as a TV miniseries, who would play each character?

FACTS ABOUT *NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH* AND ITS AUTHOR

1. Sarah Reida really does live in Alpharetta, Georgia. It is very safe and has no serial killers. In fact, it is so safe that this is how she got the idea for this book.
2. By trade, Sarah is an attorney for veterans who do business with the federal government.
3. Sarah has too many rescue animals, including a tailless cat.
4. *Neighborhood Watch* is Sarah's first attempt at an adult novel. Previously, she had a series of literary agents (three total) who represented her in pitching middle grade books to publishers. Of five books pitched over ten years, only one was published by a small press.
5. Sarah wrote *Neighborhood Watch* over a period of two months while her two small children were at school. She deliberately wrote shorter chapters so she would be able to complete two a day.
6. When *Neighborhood Watch* was finished, Sarah submitted it to small presses that accepted un-agented submissions. It was under contract seven months after she began the project.
7. Other than keeping track of the order of character chapters and jotting down events that needed to happen, Sarah did not write *Neighborhood Watch* using an outline.
8. Faith is the only character based on a real person.

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