

The background features a complex network of white nodes and connecting lines, resembling a social or data network. The nodes are of varying sizes and are interconnected by thin white lines. The overall aesthetic is modern and digital, set against a gradient background that transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. There are also some faint, larger geometric shapes in the background, possibly representing abstract structures or data clusters.

The Mother-in-Law

Written by Sally Hepworth

Published by ninastrattoria

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The Mother-in-Law

By Sally Hepworth

The Mother-in-law

Someone once told me that you have two families in your life - the one you are born into and the one you choose. Yes, you may get to choose your partner, but you don't choose your mother-in-law. The cackling mercenaries of fate determine it all.

The Mother-in-law Song

From the moment Lucy met Diana, she was kept at arm's length. Diana is exquisitely polite, but Lucy knows, even after marrying Oliver, that they'll never have the closeness she'd been hoping for.

The Mother-in-law Book Review

But who could fault Diana? She was a pillar of the community, an advocate for social justice, the matriarch of a loving family. Lucy had wanted so much to please her new mother-in-law.

The Mother-in-Law

The Mother-in-laws Sitcom

That was ten years ago. Now, Diana has been found dead, leaving a suicide note. But the autopsy reveals evidence of suffocation. And everyone in the family is hiding something...

The Mother-in-law Dance By Annie Chapman

From the bestselling author of *The Family Next Door* comes a new page-turner about that trickiest of relationships.

My reviews can also be seen at: <https://deesradreadsandreviews.wordpr...>

I am a huge fan of this author. *“The Mother’s Promise”* was my first Sally Hepworth novel and is one of my favorite books.

The first line in the description of this novel grabbed my attention!

“A twisty, compelling novel about one woman’s complicated relationship with her mother-in-law that ends in murder”

I couldn’t wait to start reading!

The story begins with a police car pulling up to the home of Lucy and her husband, Ollie. My reviews can also be seen at: <https://deesradreadsandreviews.wordpr...>

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The story begins with a police car pulling up to the home of Lucy and her husband, Ollie. Although the car doesn’t have its lights or siren on, she knows immediately that something isn’t right. “Police don’t arrive on your doorstep at dinnertime unless something is wrong.”

The police ask if they are relatives of Diana Goodwin and right away Lucy knows what they are going to say next!

The story then jumps back ten years to Lucy’s first visit to the Goodwin home. Ollie’s father is friendly and seems happy to meet Lucy as does Ollie’s sister, Nettie. But Ollie’s mother’s greeting is lukewarm. She’s not rude to Lucy, she is very polite; she just seems sort of cold and standoffish.

When Diana meets Lucy, her first thoughts are that Lucy was probably adored by everyone in her life and things probably came very easily to her.

“Take the pregnant refugee girls I deal with every day. They’ve been through unimaginable hardships, and here they are working hard, contributing and grateful.”

Lucy just wants Diana to like her. However, it seems the harder she tries the more strained their relationship becomes.

And now Diana is dead.

As they learn more about Diana’s death and more things are brought to light, Lucy finds herself questioning everything...some things just aren’t adding up.

Did anyone really know Diana?

I thought this was an excellent story filled with engaging characters and an entertaining plot. We are given insight into the complicated relationships within the family. I liked how it alternated between Diana and Lucy’s point of view in both the past and present. It was interesting seeing how they each read or misread the same situations.

As I mentioned in a previous review of “A Mother’s Promise”, Sally Hepworth does a wonderful job of bringing her characters and their individual stories to life. She creates characters that readers can relate to and empathize with.

This was definitely a thought-provoking read. I’ve read other novels that deal with the relationships between men and women and their in-laws, but I found this to be quite a unique story. I was really surprised by a few things and extremely satisfied with how everything came together in the end.

In my opinion, this was another winning story from Sally Hepworth.

I’d like to thank St. Martin’s Press for providing me with an advanced copy of this novel.

...more

The Mother-in-law Tongue Plant

All I can say is, Magnificent!! This book is headed straight to my favoritesâ€™ shelf!!

Oh that poor mother-in-law! Boy, sheâ€™s been getting a bad rap lately. This is the third book Iâ€™ve read recently regarding a so called â€œevil mother in law.â€• This time...itâ€™s just a bit different.

There are two sides to every story. Maybe itâ€™s time we all heard the mother in lawâ€™s side of the story....

Told from 2 points of view of Lucy the daughter-in-law and Diana. Yup, you guessed it...Diana â€œthe mother in law.â€• All I can say is, Magnificent!! This book is headed straight to my favoritesâ€™ shelf!!

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Lucy is over the moon about marrying Ollie and becoming part of his family. Sheâ€™d also like nothing more than to befriend Diana and develop that special bond between mother and daughter-in-law. If only it were that simpleâ€¦ or easy.

When Diana is found dead in her home no one knows if it was a suicide, or if someone with an axe to grind may have wanted her dead. After all, itâ€™s not a stretch to say she may not have been the kindest person to those closest to her.

Oh my gosh! I absolutely could not put this book down! This was such a different take on the typical mother-in-law story! I just loved it! I ran the full gamut of emotions reading this book. It will make you smile, shock you at times...it may even bring a tear to your eye. It did for me.

Sally Hepworth does such a fantastic job creating a character that you can love and hate at the same time! This is my second book from her and while I loved *The Family Next Door*, this one just blew me away! I was so ready for something original! Needed a different take on a subject that has been repeatedly done. This was that book! Fantastic job Ms. Hepworth! I am now anxiously waiting for your next release!

A buddy read with Susanne(Thank you Susanne!)

Thank you to Jordan Hanley at St Martin's Press for an advanced copy to read and review. ...more

5 Simply Irresistible Stars.

Sally Hepworth is the Master of Domestic Suspense! This is a heart pounding mystery that I was racing to finish! It's complexities and craziness had me wild-eyed right up until its shocking end. A favorite read for this the year!

Mother-in-Laws, as well all know, are not to be trifled with. Sometimes they're scarier than others and sometimes you hit the jackpot. Perhaps it's because of the competition factor, mothers not being able to let go of their sons, or wives 5 Simply Irresistible Stars.

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Mother-in-Laws, as well all know, are not to be trifled with. Sometimes they're scarier than others and sometimes you hit the jackpot. Perhaps it's because of the competition factor, mothers not being able to let go of their sons, or wives simply not feeling like they measure up. Whatever it is, Lucy, (one of the main characters in Sally Hepworth's "The Mother-in-Law") knows exactly what I'm talking about. Here, she desperately tries to make a good impression on her Mother-in-Law, Diana, and she fails miserably. Silly, Lucy.. Mommie Dearest always knows best!

Diana however, isn't so lucky after all. In a crazy turn of events, her body is found in what initially looks like death by suicide. Nothing about Diana's death adds up and once the investigation begins, everyone in the family is scared stiff. The only motive the cops can find? Money. It always comes down to money, doesn't it? If only things were that simple.

In "The Mother-In-Law" by Sally Hepworth, the twists and turns simply kept on coming and none of them are foreseen. Discount whatever you think you know, start from scratch, then do it all over again. The storyline is utterly wicked with moments that are simply jaw-dropping. The characters are multi-faceted, and their intentions are never straight-forward. Having read three of Ms. Hepworth's prior novels, this was my favorite to date. The characters, the mystery and the storyline all came together in a way that fit perfectly: like a jigsaw puzzle, where, once the pieces interlock, I couldn't help but sit back and smile, absolute perfection! A favorite of the year for 2018!

A buddy read with Kacey! This was my favorite by far Kacey!

Thank you to Jordan Hanley at St. Martin's Press and to Sally Hepworth for a galley of this novel in exchange for an honest review. It was my pleasure.

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Published on Goodreads, Twitter and Instagram.

*Will be published on Amazon in April of 2019. ...more

The Mother-in-law Sally Hepworth Vk

Mixed Feelings: One fascinating character coupled with one who was lacking turned this into just an ok read for me.

The Mother-in-Law is a family drama that tracks the tumultuous relationship between a mother-in-law and her daughter-in-law.

The book begins with the reader learning of the death of Diana, mother to Ollie and mother-in-law to Lucy. The narrative is divided into both Lucy and Diana's perspectives over the course of ten years.

Diana has been described as some as a hateful character. Mixed Feelings: One fascinating character coupled with one who was lacking turned this into just an ok read for me.

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Diana has been described as some as a hateful character. While she is not necessarily likable, I found her chapters to be fascinating! As cold as she was, her character was much more compelling than Lucy's, who fell rather flat for me. I wanted to know more about Diana--especially her past and her relationship with Tom. There are allusions to what shaped her, but I wanted the whole picture!

I am split between so many elements of this book: The characters, the narrative structure, the plot, etc. At times, I was completely enthralled, whereas during other times I was bored out of mind. I wanted more--I felt that the reader is only offered the surface of Diana and Lucy's relationship. We dive in a little deeper towards the end, but it seems like in an effort to keep an element of surprise going throughout the novel, we lose what could have been a more complex reading of the relationship between these two women. I also thought that this book was trying to be too many things at once: Domestic drama, women's fiction, psychological thriller all in one. Overall, while I loved some parts of The Mother-in-Law, it just didn't work as a whole.

I received an ARC of this book from NetGalley and St. Martin's Press. ...more

Families - there is the one you are born into, the one you marry into and the one you choose.

When Lucy marries Ollie, she desperately wants to be accepted into his family, especially by his Mother Diana, as Lucy lost her mother at an early age. But from day one, Diana appears reserved and distant. The rest of Ollie's family embraces Lucy but Lucy feels that she just can't do anything right in Diana's

The Mother-in-Law

eyes. Lucy is a lively woman who chooses to stay home with her children and is doing the best she can. Families - there is the one you are born into, the one you marry into and the one you choose.

When Lucy marries Ollie, she desperately wants to be accepted into his family, especially by his Mother Diana, as Lucy lost her mother at an early age. But from day one, Diana appears reserved and distant. The rest of Ollie's family embraces Lucy but Lucy feels that she just can't do anything right in Diana's eyes. Lucy is a lively woman who chooses to stay home with her children and is doing the best she can to be a good mother, wife and daughter in law.

Diana was basically disowned by her parents during her later teenage years for choices she made and was taken in by her Aunt. She eventually meets her husband Tom and her life changes for the better. With Tom, Diana raised two children: Ollie and Nettie. Diana often must play the bad cop in her family yet has a generous and giving nature with the refugees she helps.

I don't want to say any more about the plot and encourage fellow readers to go in knowing as little as you can about the plot. This book pleasantly surprised me. I have been a fan of Hepworth since reading her first book and this book lived up to my expectations of her writing. I loved how she gave us the inner thoughts of each of the two main women - Lucy and Diana. I also appreciated how she showed each's intentions and how often intentions can be misread, or someone might have difficulty fully articulating his/her motives/thoughts/emotions to another person effectively, thus causing others to make inaccurate assumptions about that individual. It's what you say, how you say it and sometimes the things you don't get the chance to say, choose not to say or don't say. Relationships are tricky things. In fact, relationships can be messy. Worry about overstepping, worry about not being liked, worry about not teaching your children the skills to live, worry about being over bearing, worry about not being involved...ah...all the worries.

Diana and Lucy are not the only characters with relationship issues in this book. There are quite a few things going on in the relationships of others in this book as well. These subplots which are a part of the larger plot are just as important and show issues which can occur in marriages, with co-workers and with people we interact with in our personal lives.

I found this book to be a fast read which did not disappoint. I enjoyed how the Mother in law/daughter in law complicated relationship unfolded. How each tired with the other in her own way. It was refreshing to read both of their POV sections to see how they interpreted situations and often misinterpret each other intentions.

But this book is also not all about relationships, it is also about what happened to Diana. There is a mystery here. Was her death a suicide? Was she murdered? Who knows? One must read to find out!

I found this book to be thought provoking and captivating. It was a fast read which did not disappoint this reader.

The Mother-in-Law

Thank you to St. Martin's Press, Sally Hepworth and NetGalley who provided me with a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. All the thoughts and opinions are my own. ...more