



## Believe No One

*A.D. Garrett*

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Forensic expert Professor Nick Fennimore has engineered lectures in Chicago and St Louis - a ploy to get to Detective Chief Inspector Kate Simms. She's in the United States on sabbatical with St Louis PD, and he's keen to see her again. Simms is working with a 'method swap' team, reviewing cold cases, sharing expertise. But Simms came to the US to escape the fallout from their previous case - the last thing she needs is Fennimore complicating her life. A call for help from a sheriff's deputy in Oklahoma seems like a welcome distraction for the professor - until he hears the details: a mother dead, her child gone - echoes of Fennimore's own tragedy.

## **Believe No One Details**

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## From Reader Review Believe No One for online ebook

### Raven says

Having reviewed the first collaboration between crime author Margaret Murphy and forensic scientist Professor Dave Barclay, *Everyone Lies*, last year, I was looking forward to *Believe No One*, the second in the series. Relocating DCI Kate Simms and forensic expert Professor Nick Fennimore to the USA for the duration of this book was a brave and original move, so was interested to see how effectively this would work...

Without a doubt, all the essential tensions and unspoken chemistry between the main protagonists, so evident in *Everyone Lies*, shone through and the characterisation of Kate and Nick was pitch perfect. I like the more dysfunctional aspects of their characters very much, Nick's through the loss of his wife and child, and Kate through the pressures of her professional and personal life as a high ranking female detective. I also loved the premise of Kate hot-footing it to America at the earliest opportunity, to provide some distance from her suffocating relationship with Nick, only for Nick to appear in a true 'tah-da' fashion, like a genie from the bottle. The ramifications of the intensity of their investigation in the first book, and Nick's continuing torment over his own personal tragedy, provide a solid base for the development of their relationship throughout the course of their American sojourn. Sometimes, I did want to give Nick a good shake, as he does come across at times as too much of a little wounded puppy, rather than adhering to the adage that what doesn't kill you makes you stronger, and somehow undermining his professionalism as a forensic psychologist of some distinction. Likewise, Kate is a little indulgent with him at times, whilst trying to distance herself, so these less admirable facets of their characters, make them altogether more human, and interesting for the reader, manipulating our empathy back and forth between them.

Less successful for me was the actual realisation of the investigation that both Kate and Nick find themselves immersed in. There was nothing fundamentally wrong with the plot, which I found compelling, as the hunt is on for a serial killer, and serial killers, by and large always provide good morbid entertainment for the average crime reader. The little twists and turns of the investigation were pleasing enough, although I did find the direct echoing of Nick's personal tragedy, with the disappearance of women and children, a little forced at times. Being a prolific reader of American crime fiction, I can't quite put my finger on why, but I did feel that there was a certain lack of authenticity about the realisation of the American characters. I did begin to feel that they could have been transposed to any country, and felt they lacked a real sense of 'being American'. I don't know if this was due in part to the stiffness of the dialogue when Kate and Nick were interacting with their American counterparts, which to me didn't carry the cadence of realistic American speech patterns, or just an overall weakness in capturing the feel of the American location generally. It was almost as if the plot and the development of Kate and Nick's characters took prominence over the attention that should have been afforded to rooting the story in the location chosen and imbuing the American characters with an authentic voice.

However, criticisms aside, I would still recommend this book, along with the first, as a solid pick for crime readers. With the experience of Margaret Murphy accrued from many years as a crime writer, and the intricacy and detail of the forensic psychology that Professor Dave Barclay brings to the collaboration, the foundation is built for a long-running series. I, for one, am very interested to see what Kate and Nick get involved in next...

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## **Angela says**

A who done it series I will have to keep my eye on. I stayed in the middle of the story here without having read the first mystery. After seeing the complicated story within a story that is evolving I may need to return to book one. After receiving the novel in goodreads first reads opportunity, I learned a great deal about Dr Fennimore, a forensic professor with a knack for solving murders. With advanced intelligence comes social ineptitude and not even his English charm can save him from offending local law enforcement. Written like a TV show, it draws you in bit by bit only showing you the tiniest details in hopes that the story will tie together. If you are like me is torture because you just need to know what happens. Be prepared for a cliffhanger of sorts. Plot one gets resolved just at the end, leaving you wondering about the plot that spills over from book one into book two and hopefully resolves in three. The entire premise of the main characters dilemma is based on not knowing if his daughter is alive or dead in the world after his wife is murdered. The Hunt is on but to be continued. Shall we catch some unsavory types in the meantime? But of course.

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## **Marci says**

I won this book in a goodreads giveaway. I loved this book. It was full of suspense...kept you guessing throughout. Loved Professor Fennimore...could almost feel his pain, always searching for his missing daughter. The author made you connect with each character. This is a stand alone book but I am assuming there must be another book that will continue on with storylines that were not tied up. I hope so as I would love to know what happens in these characters lives.

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## **Shelleyrae at Book'd Out says**

Authored by A.D. Garrett, the collaborative pseudonym of award winning author Margaret Murphy and renowned forensics expert Professor Dave Barclay, Believe No One is the second gripping crime fiction installment to feature DCI Kate Simms and Professor Nick Fennimore.

UK Detective Chief Inspector Kate Simms is on a six month 'method' exchange with the St Louis PD when her cold case team uncovers evidence of a serial killer dumping bodies along a 600 mile stretch of the I-44. For Professor Nick Fennimore, touring the Midwest promoting his latest book, it is a convenient coincidence that a case he has been invited to consult on in Oklahoma, concerning a murdered woman and her missing child, links with Kate's investigation.

As the ad hoc task force involving Simms and the St Louis PD, Fennimore and the Williams County Sheriff's Office, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and an FBI Behavioural Analyst get closer to identifying the killer, they discover a link to a crime that happened more than two decades before, and a world away. Fennimore is stunned by the possibilities given his own tragic loss, and with another body of a young mother and her child missing, he isn't about to let this killer get away.

Part police procedural, part thriller, the third person narrative exposes the perspectives of the investigators, the killer and a young boy running scared.

I really enjoyed seeing the case come together through the hard work and persistence of the officers despite political maneuvering from a boorish local sheriff and the occasional inter-agency skirmish. I felt Kate got a

little lost within the cast though I did like her colleagues, particularly the gruff Ellis. Abigail Hicks was an interesting character as well, and I was surprised to learn that deputy sheriffs receive so little training or support for their role.

The killer is suitably creepy with an interesting pathology and surprising motive. Some of the scenes involving the torture of his victims are disturbing, but thankfully are mostly light on details.

'Red' is the nine year old son of one of the victims who escapes the killer but is too afraid to go to the police. I felt both sad and afraid for him and I'm still not sure how I feel about the unusual situation he winds up in.

The personal lives of the feature protagonists, Kate and Nick, matter within the context of the story too, though it is Fennimore's history that is more relevant. Five years ago Nick's wife and daughter were abducted and while his wife's body was recovered in a marsh, his daughter has never been found. Fennimore is convinced she is still alive and the similarities between this case and his own tragedy has him on edge. Meanwhile Simms accepted the exchange in part to escape Nick and their complicated dynamic so she isn't thrilled when he involves himself in the investigation.

With a complex plot and interesting, well developed characters, Believe No One is an entertaining and exciting novel. Though it conceivably works as a stand alone I would recommend reading Everyone Lies first.

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### **Nisnis Bücherliebe says**

Ein unerträglicher, letzter Blick – Ein komplexer, intelligenter Thriller

Professor Nick Fennimore, dessen Ehefrau vor sechzehn Jahren brutal ermordet wurde und dessen Tochter Suzie seit dem spurlos verschwunden ist, ermittelt gemeinsam mit Detektiv Chief Inspektor Kate Simms, in älteren Mordfällen.

Als zeitgleich im US-Bundesstaat Oklahoma die Leiche einer Frau in einem See aufgefunden wird, sind sich Professor Nick Fennimore, unliebsamer und ehemaliger Mentor von DCI Kate Simms einig, auf die Spur eines brutalen Serienkillers gestoßen zu sein, der es auf junge, gebrochene Mütter und ihre Kinder abgesehen zu haben scheint.

Der Autor:

A . D. Garrett ist das Pseudonym der preisgekrönten Thriller-Autorin Margaret Murphy und des renommierten Forensik-Professors Dave Barclay. (Quelle: Goldmann Verlag)

Reflektionen:

„Ihr letzter Blick“ ist ein hoch komplexer Thriller, der mir einiges herausfordernd abverlangte. Zahlreiche Figuren, Geschehnisse, Schauplätze und zahlreiche Handlungsstränge galt es zu erfassen. Normalerweise mag ich komplexe Handlungen und Lese-Herausforderungen, doch dieser Thriller beherbergt eindeutig ein deutliches „too much“, da viele Informationen und Ereignisse die Handlung übersättigen.

Ich frage mich bei solchen Handlungen gern, wer soll tatsächlich Zielgruppe eines vor Komplexität

strotzendem Thriller sein, wenn ich ihn nur einer Handvoll Lesern empfehlen würde? Dem Mainstream entspricht dieses Buch nicht, schon einmal positiv, dennoch bin ich mir sicher, der Mehrheit wird die fast überladende Story auch dementsprechend nicht gefallen.

Gut gefallen hat mir hingegen das Glossar, das die polizeilichen, amerikanischen Abkürzungen von Datenbanken und Organisationen erläutert. Des Weiteren befindet sich auf den ersten Seiten des Thrillers eine Übersicht der zahlreichen Ermittler, die für den Leser durchaus übersichtlich und unterstützend zu werten ist.

Wenn man den zahlreichen Erzählsträngen konzentriert folgt, dann bieten sie auch eine gute Überschaubarkeit aller Geschehnisse und Handlungen aus Sicht des Täters und aus der Sicht der vielen Ermittler. Die häufig wechselnden Perspektiven entwickeln die Spannung, die immer wieder Spannungshöhepunkte aufploppen lässt. Viele Absätze habe ich ein zweites Mal lesen müssen, um die Story voll umfänglich erfassen zu können.

Die Figuren sind sehr detailliert entwickelt, haben alle einen durchaus interessanten Lebenslauf und stammen aus intelligenter Feder, so wie das gesamte Handlungskonstrukt, das insgesamt von einer spannungsgeladenen, explosiven und rasanten Stimmung zeugt.

Die Brutalität, mit der die Verbrechen einhergehen ist schon enorm. Das unendliche Leid der Opfer gibt zudem Raum für emotionale Betroffenheit.

Fazit und Bewertung:

Ein komplexer und spannender Thriller, der mich angenehm herausforderte, jedoch nicht bis in jedes Detail begeistern konnte.

4 Sterne

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### **Aisling says**

This is gritty and fast paced. A first, I think, for me where the book is in three perspectives; the detectives/police, the killers, and the next victim up. The author makes it work and the book flies by. There are a lot of characters at first since you have the U.S sheriff and officers and then the visiting U.K. Detective Chief Inspector and Forensic expert Prof Fennimore. And then there are the victims, the locals and some flashbacks for Fennimore. But somehow Garrett makes it all work. Author Garrett has a style reminiscent of McDermid or Minette Walters; dark and very urgent. If you enjoy those books where you can't sleep until the serial killer of your nightmares is caught, this is the book for you. Highly recommended.

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### **Rena says**

This is a little different than the first book of the series. In this one, our main characters are in the US and helping out two different investigations. The cases end up linking, and everyone works together to solve the murders. The killings are horrific and the mystery is good. We see a lot of the work that's involved in solving

these kinds of crimes.

The authors did a pretty good job writing the American voices, especially considering they're British and words are different here. There was one error that I caught. You know how Brits say "maths" while we say "math"? In the same way, they say "drugs" and we say "drug" as in a drug arrest. So one of the Americans said something like that, which we know wouldn't be the way we say it. But anyway, that's not really a big deal.

Looking forward to more from this series.

Received an ARC from GoodReads.com for review.

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### **Jackie Rogers says**

This is a real thriller. Enter two police agents from Great Britain. Actually one is a professor whose wife was murdered and child disappears. The inspector from Britain is in a country to exchange methods of crime solving. The two main Characters met when Nick Fennimores wife was murdered. Now they are on hunt again in the States for a serial killer. Envolves single women and their children. Has twists and turns as they chase this evildoer through the book. Found I couldn't put it down til finished. Written by two people authoring as one. Will read this author again.

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### **Sandy says**

3.5 stars

This is an intricate thriller for those who like the nuts & bolts of a police procedural. The blurb above gives a good synopsis of the story & the hunt for the killer makes for a gripping read.

Chapters alternate POV's. Some follow the task force as they piece together cold cases & come to realize what they're dealing with. Fennimore & Sims find themselves in Oklahoma with members of the St. Louis PD, FBI profilers & a local sheriff more concerned with how his hair looks on TV than the fate of some missing children.

In others, we follow the killer & his mysterious colleague as they carry out truly despicable acts. They are seriously twisted individuals & we are privy to information the cops are searching for. It adds a sense of urgency as young women & their children are taken. You desperately want the police to catch up & discover the killer's lair before it's too late.

But the chapters I found most affecting are those that tell of "Red", a 9 year old boy living in a trailer park with his ex-addict mother. It's no secret she will be one of the victims. His life, however, hangs in the balance & it's not til the end we learn his fate.

The 2 MC's are quirky individuals that obviously have a lot of history. Neither is particularly likeable but excel in their professions. I actually like the procedural part of the plot more than their personal story. There is a previous book in the series & I think it would have helped to read that first. Maybe I would have warmed to them knowing their shared past. Having started with this one, I found the frequent references to Fennimore's personal history distracting & I just wanted to get back to the present story line.

Peripheral characters include a local sheriff's deputy & the colourful people who inhabit rural Oklahoma. Their stories make for great reading with distinct personalities that jump off the page & I found them more

than compelling than Fennimore & Sims.

It's a well written thriller full of interesting forensic techniques & gadgets. The last quarter of the book is a page turner as the task force races to find their man before another woman dies. Not everything is tied up with a neat bow, leaving questions that will likely reappear in the next book. If you're a fan of gritty/graphic suspense stories, this is a good summer read.

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### **Qukatheg says**

*I received this book for free through Goodreads First Reads.*

This is a detective story, as such it's hard to summarise without resorting to spoilers. Detective Kate Simms is a part of the Method Exchange Team, reviewing the files of unsolved murders. They discover a number of the murders might be related. All single mothers with a troubled past and young children. A serial killer. Meanwhile, professor Nick Fennimore is consulting on a more recent case, another single mother. And then the killer strikes again.

Can they figure out the identity of this experienced killer?

I loved the variety in characters, the cooperation, politics, tensions and interactions between them. The story started out a bit slow but quickly gained momentum and just kept going 'till the last page. A great read.

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### **Jennifer says**

i won this book in the Goodreads giveaway and i found this book to be an excellent example of a good police and suspense story line.i enjoyed this book and will be reading it again in my 2016 readings.

I thought this book showed some extreme procedures and felt that this book would not be a good young adult read.

This book is a follow up to the book "Everyone lies", with kate Simms and nick fennimore where they try to find a serial killer before it strikes again.

This book is recommend to anyone who likes good mysteries and suspense...

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### **Christine says**

I loved this book. It completely took my breath away! The perfect read for anyone craving a lovely level of in depth forensic crime writing, with some wonderful characters.

This is book two featuring Professor Nick Fennimore, an expert in forensics and Chief Inspector Kate Simms. Set mostly in the States, it follows the hunt for a sadistic killer. What I loved was the feel of American crime fiction. I could have sworn I was reading an American author. It had the same clever sense of place and quirky characterisation, you would get from a Karin Slaughter or Jeffrey Deaver.

Fennimore is on a book tour in America and is asked to help out on a case by Deputy Hicks. Simultaneously Chief Inspector Kate Simms is on secondment in the States, working with the police. Soon both are reunited

looking for a chilling serial killer of young women.

Over the course of the book, we see the killer in action, hear from a frightened child and get in depth coverage of the investigation. It is completely absorbing. As well as that, there are the cultural tensions and differences between the British and American characters. I loved the translations of key American phrases and words, and how cleverly this was all done.

Just superb, if your taste in crime is for detail and intelligent intense reading! Recommended.

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### **Jaksen says**

Won this book via Goodreads giveaway program. I like crime thrillers, mysteries, etc., and have read many a 'difficult' book, but this one...

Not for me. Didn't finish, but read far enough to know I didn't care for it. Too gruesome in depiction of torture, binding victims, etc.

The other sections are well-written but very generic. Stereotyped characters. The MC who is female, who is disrespected by many of her 'colleagues.'

But it is the long scenes of victims being tortured, and someone off-screen watching them die via Skype, nah...

Nah.

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### **Robyn Smith says**

The combination of an established crime writer and forensic specialist works well under the pseudonym of AD Garrett. This book, the second in a series about an English female detective chief inspector and a forensic professor, follows Kate Simms to Chicago where she is working on cold cases with an American police team. Nick Fennimore's appearance unbalances Kate who is trying to forget the problems she encountered in her first case with Nick in England.

Fast-paced and very accurate in police procedural and forensic detail, this book is a great read for those interested in crime and forensics with the tension of a complicated relationship between the two main characters. Also, the cold cases being investigated are very real to Nick, whose own wife and daughter disappeared ten years before, his wife being found dead, but his daughter's body never found.

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### **Patricia says**

I couldn't put BELIEVE NO ONE down and wish that I could give it another half star. This is the second book concerning forensic expert Professor Nick Fennimore and Detective Chief Inspector Kate Simms. I have not read the first novel, but I intend to. The story-line is about a serial killer who targets young mothers. The characters are so believable; I especially enjoyed 9 year old Red. It's a mad race to try and

catch the killer before someone else is killed. Such a clever read!

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