



Ghost Flower

Michele Jaffe

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Eve, a runaway, finds a new job at a coffee shop on the outskirts of Tucson. When she's approached by two wealthy teens who claim she bears an uncanny resemblance to their missing cousin Aurora, her life takes a turn for the dark and mysterious. Drawn into a scheme to win Aurora's inheritance, Eve finds herself impersonating the girl, who disappeared three years ago on the night her best friend Elizabeth died. But when Liza's ghost begins to haunt Eve, doing harm to the people close to her under the guise of "protecting" her, Eve finds herself in a nightmare maze of lies and deception that leads her to question even her own identity. She realizes her only chance is to uncover the truth about what happened the night Liza died, and to find Liza's killer - before she's next.

This teen thriller by Michele Jaffe will keep readers turning pages well into the night.

Ghost Flower Details

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From Reader Review *Ghost Flower* for online ebook

Rose says

I really don't know how to write this review. I don't know where to start, in which order to write it and how to express my feelings for *Ghost Flower*. So prepare yourself for the definition of an incoherent review. Ready?

I first saw *Ghost Flower* on Goodreads, back when it wasn't released yet. I wasn't *that* interested in reading it because I wanted to read Michele Jaffe's *Rosebush* first but added it to my wishlist (both books weren't high priorities on my wishlist, though). When my bookstore put a box with English books which each cost 3,99€ outside their store, I found *Ghost Flower* among all the other books and ended up buying it along with *The Solitude of Prime Numbers*.

To be honest, my expectations weren't high. The last few books in the mystery/thriller/whodunit genre I read focused more on the plot than the characters, which I'm not a fan of because I like my books more character-driven than plot-driven. Anyway, I had a feeling that *Ghost Flower* would be as plot-driven as most of those books and that's why I lowered my expectations.

Boy, did *Ghost Flower* prove me wrong. I have to admit, it took me some time to get into the story but as soon that happened, I was sucked in. I couldn't and didn't want to stop reading. Did I take meals? Nah. Did I drink water to survive the heat? Nah. (Which turned out to be really stupid.) Other human stuff you're supposed to do so that you can, you know, live healthy and feel good and *you know*? Nah. I didn't even think about all these things. Only when I really couldn't concentrate on the story anymore because I was so tired did I go to bed and stop reading.

At the beginning, this was the typical book in its genre for me. I mean, it was addicting and I couldn't stop reading but it didn't wow me yet. Then came the point where you find out piece after piece about the main character. But when you stop to think about it, it's really not anything important at all she's telling you about herself, which made my brain work in overdrive. The whodunit part of the story didn't interest and intrigue me as much as the main character and what was up with her. I turned all the theories around in my head and you know, it all had some mindfuckery quality to it and I loved every bit of the mindfuckery it put me through.

But I especially love me a good unreliable narrator (which I found in Eve/pretend-Aurora) and trying to understand her motives and what's behind all the not-telling and lying. I have to admit, I figured Eve/pretend-Aurora's secret out already halfway through. It didn't bother me, though, because I loved the theory (which proved to be right in the end) most anyway. I didn't figure the whodunit out, though, but I did like to think of myself as Junior Sherlock for figuring out the main character's secret.

And *although* I loved all the mindfuckery, trying to figure out Eve/pretend-Aurora, play Sherlock and figure out the Liza/Aurora whodunit/what happened... In the end, I loved Eve for being Eve (or you know, whoever Eve/pretend-Aurora was) and her backstory and everything about her. I can't explain it because I fear spoiling it for any of you who are interested in reading this book or for all the people I'm trying to *get* interested in this book, which I guess I'm failing at right now.

So let me do it the following (even more incoherent than this review has been so far) way.

I love her for this:

"AURORA SILVERTON IS A HOTTIE I'D PSANK HER ANY TIME," I read. "Great. Someone wants to p-sank me."

"It's a typo for spank."

"It's a synonym for stupid."

And for this:

"Superfluous. Fancy word. Where did you pick that up?"

"I have a library card."

And especially for *this* (even though reading this now brings tears to my eyes):

"The memory brought back the timbre of her voice and the tickle of her hair on my chin as I put her to bed that night and the feeling of belonging to someone, mattering to someone, having someone whose first smile in the morning was for you. Someone who slipped their hand into yours when they were scared and trusted you to make them feel better. Someone who knew you, the important things about you, and loved you anyway."

But Eve isn't everything I love about *Ghost Flower*, even though she is the thing I probably love the most about it. I mean, fuck this.

Just let me tell you all the stuff I love about this book sweet and short (although that just isn't possible with me but let me try):

The mindfuckery. Figuring Eve/pretend-Aurora out. The Real Person Behind Eve/pretend-Aurora. The secondary characters. The love interest (I really do love you, Mr. Love Interest). How creeped out the book made me feel sometimes. The *Revenge*-ish side of the story (you know you can always make me happy with *Revenge*-ish stuff). *The Host*-ish mathematical shape of love (hey, Ellis's shelf!). Choosing your own family. Ghost Flowers. Other spoilery stuff. And Coralee.

Coralee. Oh, *Coralee*. I love you, too. Especially for this kind of stuff:

"[...] Before he agreed to take me on, I was doing that thing where you talk about yourself by your first name? Horror face! Blaze completely saved me from me."

I stopped halfway out of the yellow sweater to gape at her. "Did you just narrate an emoticon?"

"I'm testing out catchphrases."

So now that I kind-of-told-you-but-mostly-gushed about the stuff that I love, I have to end this gush fest for a second with a pretty major complaint. The Name. As in *The Name*. I can't tell you which name I mean because while it wouldn't spoil anything major, it would spoil something for you. But *The Name*. I can't stress it enough. *The Name*. That's all I'll say. It's like a trick to make you go read this book because it can't be for the rest of my review, just for *The Name*, you know.

Anyway, what more can I say? I love you, *Ghost Flower*. You suprised me, you creeped me out, you made me forget about meals and other important stuff humans, like, *need to do*, you made me cry and most importantly, you made me happy. And even though *The Name* ruined the ending *a little*, the ending was perfect nevertheless.

Dear *Ghost Flower*,

Until I read you the next time and think of you when flying through Michele Jaffe's book catalogue:

Hugsbye (Coralee style),
Rose

Jannah (Cloud Child) says

Well! A very readable book, couldn't put it down. I think the ghost part was a bit unnecessary and had holes when explained in the end. The ending itself has mixed feelings for me.

But overall just for the sheer ride of it, regardless of technicalities it was a really good read with a few hilarious one liners. As another reviewer said this is not a perfect book, but so enjoyable you can ignore the inconsistencies.

One thing I gotta say though, I don't know if the author gave any credit but its highly similar in plot to Mary Stewart's 'The Ivy Tree' and it feels like she lifted a fair few of things from the original book from the double identity, the imposter scheme, the cousins, the horse whisperer scene to the unreliable narrative. But she made it a very well done and different story. So its forgivable (but I hope she gave credit where its due thats all!) Unless maybe Ive missed out on numerous books with this kind of plot lol..

PickyReader says

This is the worst book I have ever read. While the mystery is an interesting page turner, the facts distributed don't add up to the killer. There are too many rhetorical questions and statements throughout the whole book. Page 51, "I didn't realize then that I had been staring at half the answer since I arrived." Page 139, "There is no such in as ghosts. And for the next 43 minutes, I believed it." Page 295, "I was nearly at the door to Althea's room when I say the answer. Or thought I did." Those statements just break the fourth wall, and when the reader tries to pull the statements together to try to solve the murder mystery, THEY DO NOT EQUAL THE MURDERER. Heck, they don't even equal a ghost, apparently. I just despise the nonsensical way the author decided to end the book. Surprise! Eve is really Aurora! Yayy, happy ending all around!

Such a stupid ending. Things started to go south for me when Eve/Aurora started to get involved romantically with N.Martinez. That made absolutely no sense at all, because at first she hates the guy. Then he starts following her everywhere, so that obviously means he loves her. I really hated all the "false accusations" Aurora had. She thought it was the Family that wanted to kill her, then it was the ghost, then it was Bain and Bridgett who killed both Aurora and Liza, then it was Grant, then it was Collin. Then the real killer was a character WHO WASN'T EVEN MENTIONED IN THE BOOK UNTIL THE LAST 50 PAGES.

At one point, "Aurora" has just gotten out of the shower, isn't even dressed yet and thinks to herself, "Oh wait! I think BAIN is the killer!!!" Then, TA-DA, BAIN SHOWS UP IN HER BATHROOM AFTER READING HER THOUGHTS AND KNOWING SHE WOULD ACCUSE HIM OF MURDER!!! *dun da

DUN* She tells him all her theories, because, oh no. This is it, he's going to kill her with his rich-boy flashlight he keeps waving threateningly. Then she gets a phone call from Captain Obvious, telling her that she needs to get out of the house now. We turn the page and read, "I got dressed, borrowed Mrs. March's car..."

Seriously? SERIOUSLY??? Bain just LETS HER GO after she reveals that he has a motive for murder.

The ending was just stupid. I feel like this book is a waste of time and effort in trying to mentally solve a murder that has too many rhetorical questions that don't add up, and twists and turns that don't make sense or add to the story.

Okay. My rant is finished.

The end.

Tatum says

When I started reading this, I didn't have much hope for it, I regretted buying it almost immediately after I came home and vowed never to buy books I haven't heard about again.

I was pleasantly surprised when I was about a quarter of the way through, and I realized that I couldn't put it down. The plot was so twisted and full of lies at this point, that I simply HAD to find out whether the author was trying to fool ME. Throughout the novel, there are just enough hints to keep you interested without having to go back and forth each time. Stylistically, this was very interesting since she (Jaffe) incorporates a very strong Gothic element with the more dramatic qualities of the novel to create just the right amount of suspense. About 3/4 of the way, you are able to put different pieces together for yourself and speculate about endings; by the end, there are still quite a few surprises.

All in all, it was a very pleasant novel to read. My biggest problem with the novel was perhaps the fact that Jaffe teases you throughout the story, but doesn't leave any loose ends to keep you awake at night. Had she left the reader wondering the same way at the end as she has throughout the novel, it would have been a lot more satisfactory.

thelastword says

I haven't read a thriller in a long while, so this was refreshingly fun. Hundred pages in and I was too scared to move, occasionally peering around me to make sure that there wasn't a ghost in the room with me. The author here really excelled at building a creepy and suspenseful atmosphere; the unreliable narrator, suspicious characters, and the dead girl who haunts our heroine worked together fantastically. As a thriller, it crackles and sizzles.

As an investigative thriller though, it flails a bit. As Eve investigates the disappearance of the girl she's pretending to be, the story becomes a tad convoluted. She gathers information about the night of Aurora's disappearance throughout the story without once sitting down to piece it together and, since I was too busy being terrified, I couldn't pause to draw a map myself. Honestly, until now I don't know exactly what

happened on 'the night of the party [disappearance]'.

Even more unfortunate than this was the lazy writing at the end: (view spoiler)

All in all, even though it could have been loads better, it was fun and thrilling. And that is the nicest thing a thriller can do. So three stars.

Khanh, first of her name, mother of bunnies says

"Is this some kind of My Fair Lady thing where you win a prize by turning a guttersnipe into a countess?"

She smiled. "I love that movie."

Of course she did. Girls like Bridgette always loved that movie because it made the world seem pretty and made them believe that even though they were rich and clean, they didn't have to be morally bankrupt.

It was, in my opinion, a piece of shit. No one ever handed you a fairy tale.

I often overanalyze a book. Sometimes a book is so enjoyable that I find myself carried away, enjoying it despite its faults.

This was not a perfect book. There are major inconsistencies, it was pretty unbelievable in parts. There are paranormal elements that are somewhat out of place, but I DON'T CARE.

I enjoyed this book so much I overlooked most of its faults. This was a straight read through, no thinking, no overanalyzing required. I liked it. That's good enough for me.

It helped that this book contains one of my most beloved tropes: that of false/mistaken identity.

"Eve Brightman," (if that's her real name...) is as Orphan Annie as they come. She's been stuck in the foster care system for years. A prime example of how the system has failed our forgotten children. She is working at a Starbucks under a lecherous POS of a manager when she catches the eye of two wealthy, charismatic siblings, Bain, and Bridgette Silverton. They have a job for her. She is to pretend to be their long-lost cousin, Aurora. Years ago, a young 14-year old Aurora ran away from home when her best friend Liza committed suicide.

The family matriarch, the steely, powerful Althea is about to croak. The formerly beloved Aurora needs to be present if she is to receive any money in the will---money, that, of course, Bain and Bridgette wants.

"Eve" is at the end of her ropes. She agrees, for a price (specifically, \$250,000). And the game begins.

Don't let the intro quote fool you. This is no Cinderella story. No *My Fair Lady*. There is no grand transformation here, just a desperate attempt to fit in, to fill the role of a granddaughter, friend, niece. The role is to fool people, the stakes are major. There's no room for fucking up.

That is what I like about this book. It may take place in the world of the wealthy, but there's no sad attempt at floofery, it feels realistic. The characters are believable. The main character tough, but altogether vulnerable. She must never forget who she is, no matter how good the illusion.

I found myself getting pulled into the easy rhythm of their back and forth, of their banter. This is what it's like to be part of a family, I thought. To belong to people who care about you. As we laughed together, some part of me that had been inert suddenly flamed into life, filling me with the joy and wonder of a child reaching through a crowd for a favorite toy she thought was lost forever.

That feeling of belonging was gorgeous, like a mirage, tantalizing, false, and dangerously out of reach. It wasn't a good idea for me to get close to these two. I didn't want them to like me, and I didn't want to like them. We would all be safer if they stayed wary.

Expendable, I reminded myself. This was an act, and you are expendable.

I really liked almost every character in the book. They all felt realistic, it's somewhat of a soap opera, but to a lesser extent, which is perfectly fine, since we all have our mental image of the lifestyles of the rich and famous. But it felt more realistic. Not a caricature. The cast is diverse. There are actually people who aren't white in this book...and they didn't feel like token minorities.

There is plenty of mystery, many things that go bump in the night. While not a full-fledged horror, this book had just enough elements of a thriller to keep me engrossed.

The wide, dark corridor was silent, still. Empty.

Completely empty.

But the handle on my door had moved, there had been whispering, I'd seen—

The spirits will have their revenge, I heard the medium's voice.

This was not spirits, I told myself. There are no ghosts.

Altogether, an altogether enjoyable book. Not without its moments of absurdities...

I stopped halfway out of the yellow sweater to gape at her. "Did you just narrate an emoticon?"

But as a whole...I enjoyed it enough not to care.

LJ says

Eve, a teenage runaway is propositioned one day by two snotty rich kids. Will she pose as their missing

cousin Aurora so that they can ensure Aurora's inheritance on her eighteenth birthday? They offer her \$100,000 and all she had to do is stick around long enough to collect the money and then give it to Bain and Bridgette, the rich kids. It's tempting for Eve, who lives in a \$53.50 a week room and barely makes enough from her Starbucks job to stay alive. She's also coming from a place of deep loss, as we later find out her kid foster sister has recently died. Eve feels she has nothing to lose, but to exert her own control over the situation, bargains them up to twice the original payment price and thus begins her Eliza Doolittle plunge into the lifestyles of the rich and famous.

Bain and Bridgette tutor her in a crash course program to get her up to speed on the Silverton family. They don't tell her much about what happened to Aurora, which is alright in their plan because Eve/Aurora is supposed to insist that she has amnesia and doesn't remember anything from her three-year disappearance. As the story advances, Eve manages to piece together more and more of the story and becomes invested in solving the mystery of her double's disappearance and the suicide/murder of her best friend Liza.

The "ghost" part of *Ghost Flower* enters in when Eve/Aurora starts to receive mysterious phone calls listed as "UNKNOWN NUMBER" on her cell phone. From the snippets of conversation, it appears that Liza is contacting her from beyond the grave. Eve also experiences several terrifying nights in her grandmother Althea where she is staying, as scratching and rattling door handles and faint voices fill a couple of her nights there.

The mystery is good. Readers will keep guessing until the end who the murder, and even the intended murder victim (Liza or Aurora?) is. The murderer's identity is toyed around with too, as the author throws suspicion around the Silverton family members and several key outsiders. There's some hot kissing, a hinted at rape, and some lesbian relationships thrown on top to add to this thrilling potboiler. Sometimes the descriptions and similes are a bit overdone, but it really just adds to the enjoyment of this guilty pleasure read. In the end, you discover that Eve was actually Aurora all along (no!) and there's a final scene where she confronts the real killer who turns out to be Liza's perfect sister.

Jasmine says

Ghost Flower was certainly a peculiar book, but in a good way! We are first introduced to Eve as a runaway girl working in a Starbucks. She is approached by a brother and sister with a very enticing deal. The siblings want Eve to impersonate their missing cousin Aurora for a sweet \$250,000, so they can access her trust fund. As per any thriller, Eve ends up becoming more involved than ever anticipated.

Though at times the plot was slow, I totally did not expect the end, which was a nice surprise. The story was very well written though there are some "ghost" elements that are perhaps a bit overplayed. Without a doubt, "*Ghost Flower*"'s strong point is Michele Jaffe's carefully crafted plot line which came together in SUCH an interesting way. This is definitely a book you have to finish in one sitting; when you read one chapter, you end up so intrigued that you have to keep going!

Nicole says

Eve bekommt eines Tages von einem fremden Geschwisterpaar, Bridgette und Bain, denen sie während ihrer

Arbeit begegnet, das Angebot sich als deren verschollene Cousine auszugeben um ans Erbe ihrer Großmutter zu kommen. Das Geld soll sie mit den Geschwistern teilen und dann einfach wieder von der Bildfläche verschwinden. Eve, deren Leben alles andere als rosig ist und die selbst keine Familie hat, ergreift gerne die Chance ein neues Leben in Wohlstand zu beginnen und bereitet sich zusammen mit Bridgette und Bain auf ihre Rolle als reiche und verwöhnte Aurora Silverton vor...

Das ist "Geisterblumen" unbedingt lesen wollte, lag zunächst einmal ausschließlich am tollen Cover, das schaut nämlich wirklich ganz, ganz toll aus und ist einfach wundervoll gestaltet. Aber auch der Inhalt hörte sich ganz interessant an, Psychothriller lese ich generell ja auch ganz gerne. Trotzdem bin ich froh, dass es dieses tolle Cover gibt, denn alleine durch die Inhaltsbeschreibung wäre ich nicht unbedingt auf dieses Buch neugierig geworden und das wäre wirklich schade gewesen.

Michaele Jaffe versteht es meisterhaft diese wirklich komplexe und verblüffende Geschichte zu erzählen. Bis zum zweiten Drittel dieses Buches war ich eigentlich der Meinung, ich wüsste, was noch kommen würde, tatsächlich wusste ich aber gar nichts. Zunächst scheint eigentlich alles recht einfach und übersichtlich zu sein und ich bedaure, dass ich hier nicht genauer darauf eingehen kann, aber ich will niemanden den Spaß an der Geschichte nehmen indem ich zu viel verrate, deswegen halte ich mich lieber etwas zurück. Mir ging es jedenfalls so, dass ich bis etwas über die Hälfte der Geschichte total im Glauben war, die Geschichte und den Verlauf durchschaut zu haben, im letzten Drittel wird allerdings alles durcheinander gewirbelt und es gibt mehrere wirklich überraschende Wendungen, die ich so nie vorher gesehen hätte. Ein wenig überrumpelt war ich teils auch, man muss schon ziemlich aufmerksam lesen und alles gut mitverfolgen um zum Schluss noch alle Fakten von der Fiktion zu unterscheiden. Der Autorin ist hier eine wirklich gute Täuschung gelungen, die Geschichte hat richtig mitgerissen und wusste auch am Ende mit einem sehr guten und schlüssigen und keinesfalls an den Haaren herbeigezogenen Ende zu überzeugen.

Ihre Figuren, von denen es im Buch wirklich viele gibt und die auch zum größten Teil allesamt eine wichtige Rolle spielen, hat Michele Jaffe hier auch wirklich sehr facettenreich und liebevoll ausgestattet. Besonders die Protagonistin hat mir zugesagt, ich fand Eve sehr sympathisch dargestellt, habe den Eindruck erhalten einen guten Bezug zu ihr zu haben, ohne dass ich jedoch hinter ihr Geheimnis kam, bevor es nicht an der Zeit dafür war.

Schon alleine durch die eingewobenen mysteriösen Elemente musste ich während der Lektüre einfach dran bleiben und immer weiter und weiter lesen. Der Spannungsbogen war von Anfang an bis zum zweiten Drittel gleichbleibend hoch und konnte sich dann zum Schluss noch einmal steigern.

Ich halte "Geisterblumen" für einen wirklich guten Psychothriller aus dem Jugendbuch-Segment, der allerdings sicherlich nicht nur für Jugendliche, sondern auch für Erwachsene gut lesbar und überraschend ist. Von mir gibt es hier die volle Sternzahl, mich hat dieses Buch total überzeugen können.

Roshini says

Why Ms Jaffe, why? After stringing me along for 377 pages, you cop out and deliver a one page ending? Come on! Bad author, or more likely, bad editor! One whole star off for you!

Now that I'm done ranting, let's get to the positive aspects of this book. This was a really good mystery, considering I didn't figure out who the culprit was until the author revealed it in the last few pages. Sure the

story was a little on the unbelievable side at times, but hey, it worked, for the most part anyway. Almost everyone is a suspect in this tale, as practically everyone has their own agenda! There are questions at every corner. Who is Eve? What happened to Liza? Is Aurora dead or alive? Can Bain and Bridgette be trusted?

There were some parts of the story that I found to be unnecessary in the sense that they really didn't need to be in there. Also, there were points where I found myself confused between Eve's story and that of Aurora's... whose memory was it?

Would I recommend it? Probably, because it was a page turner. But the ending, sigh, that was just anticlimactic to say the least.

Jessie (Ageless Pages Reviews) says

Love love loved this. IT'S SO GOOD. Full of suspense and a great read.

Kirsty says

It might just be me being a bit thick but I got to the end of this book and wasn't all that sure what I'd actually read or if I even knew what had happened in this book.

The first part of the book made sense. I totally got it. Poor girl looks like missing rich girl is 'hired' by rich girl's rich cousins to impersonate her so they can get her money. The story was quite good. Poor girl moves in gets all the riches she's dreamed of and learns how to be proper. Also learns rich girl's family is mostly made up of bitches. Again I'm up for a bit of that particularly because the put downs are so brilliant.

Then we came to the second half. This is where my mind was blown and I wasn't sure really what happened. It went a bit like this in my mind. poor girl starts to dig into family problems especially around rich girl's missing best friend and rumours of murder. Cousins go nuts, grandmother goes nuts, friends of rich girl goes nuts, poor girl goes nuts. I'm not actually sure which parts of the book were dreams and which parts were her making stuff up and which was real. I just don't get it!!!!

anyone want to enlighten me??

Renaë says

This book. You guys. This. Book. HOW DID I NOT KNOW ABOUT THIS BOOK? Oh boy. This book made me so happy. I mean, first off, go read that jacket copy. Does that not sound like a brilliant book? Does it not? Yeah, it definitely does. In fact, Ghost Flower is even better than it's advertised as being. So basically, I could just end this review right now by saying that this is the best YA mystery/thriller I've ever read, and that everyone should go read it. Right now.

Okay, okay. I actually have a lot more to say. So here goes.

First off, the mystery in Ghost Flower is superb. Well, there was one annoying villain monologue, but aside

from that, it was awesome. Eve gets thrown into this crazy world of the ultra-elite where there's a lot left unsaid. She's pretending to be Aurora, but is Aurora dead? Did she just run away? And why? Who the heck killed Liza, because obviously she didn't commit suicide? Michele Jaffe's storytelling causes readers to ask so, so many questions. Nothing is as it seems. I mean, Liza's ghost is running around attacking people and calling Eve/Aurora on the phone. Crazy, crazy stuff. Also? There is a twist at the end (several, in fact), and they seriously blew me away. I don't get to say that very often.

The way this story unfolds is absolutely enthralling. Like Eve, the crazy world of the Family is at once a fairytale and a nightmare. For Eve, who's never had family and who desperately wants to belong, it's like she gets everything she's ever wanted, only to realize it's all a lie. The Silvertons are any typical multimillionaire family—they bicker, they have petty rivalries...and one of them might be a murderer.

I enjoyed Eve as a character a lot also. There are some things about her I can't say because of spoilers. But she's definitely a girl with a past, and that past affects how she acts and how she views the world. Over time, Jaffe reveals more and more about Eve, and I really came to enjoy her presence in the book. She's a forward, resourceful person who takes matters into her own hands. She won't just take something at face value, and she always goes out to investigate things for herself.

And one last thing: the romance. Now, the romance takes up exactly 4 pages in the entire book, but it was awesome. I never say this, but I finished Ghost Flower feeling severely miffed by the lack of kissage. Also, can't explain things because of spoilers, but the love interest's name was adorbs. HIS NAME, okay?

So. Yeah. Ghost Flower is an intense and thriller mystery novel with plenty of twists and great characters. It was just an all-around unputdownable book and I loved it to pieces. Michele Jaffe did a flawless job with this one.

Sara says

I enjoyed reading this book immensely. I didn't mind the implausible plot. My mind kept racing, trying to figure out all the possible scenarios that could account for what was happening. The library had put the "supernatural" sticker on the spine of this book but don't let that fool you - I would not call this a supernatural book even if there is "ghost" in the title and a ghost mentioned on the back blurb. Sure, there's a ghost, but the plot is a basic thriller/mystery.

It's a typical plot - poor girl masquerades as rich girl to try to get an inheritance since said rich girl has disappeared. The rich girl's cousins put her up to it, having found her as a lookalike at Starbucks. (Which gets a rather bad rap in this book, interestingly enough.)

So - it's not that simple. What happened to the rich girl (Aurora)? What happened to her best friend, Liza? Did Liza kill herself? Kill Aurora? Was Liza murdered? By Aurora? Did Aurora kill herself? Was Aurora murdered by someone? Is she a runaway? If so, WHY??? It's creepy as the poor girl (Eve) realizes something is very, very wrong with the Aurora scenario and something very unsettling about The Family.

My only complaint is the last chapter. I felt it got wrapped up really well right before the end. The last chapter was almost too much information for me, too unnecessary, and too contrived for how the book had been going.

Maryam Dinzly says

I purchased this book from a book sale, and the moment I read that it was about impersonating another person and murders, I was like OH YEAH. MY TYPE OF BOOK. Okay, maybe not my type of book, since I don't really have a particular type. It's more like the synopsis got me curious. And since it was on sale, VIOLA, I bought the book. And I honestly do not regret it one bit.

As stated above, this book has quite the suspense and mystery surrounding it. When Eve was offered a whole lot of money to impersonate some random girl named Aurora, she knew that she would be stupid to not take up the job offer. After all, what could go wrong? A LOT OF THINGS. It seemed that Aurora disappeared three years ago on the night her best friend, Liza, committed suicide. Suddenly, it does not seem like a suicide especially when Liza's ghost started haunting Eve, and hurting the people around her just to protect Eve.

This book has a twisted plot, like no other. I finished reading the book with my mouth agape, and my eyes super wide. I really like Eve's character. She's the main character and this whole book was written in her POV. There were times when she had abrupt thoughts that do not make sense, but I think that's the whole point of the book. But the way she carried herself, damn, that kickass personality of hers. I really really love this book and I have no idea how to describe how much I love it. Is there a love aspect going on in this book? You'll have to read to find out. And no matter what, you'll never guess who the murderer is until it's too late, until the murderer shows himself/herself. Because in this book, EVERYONE is a suspect. Everyone has secrets and it's really unnerving how everybody seemed evil HAHA. And this book is not draggy at all. Every part of it is crucial. The different scenes are like bits and pieces of the clues, and you have to put them all together. I thought A LOT while reading this book. And I was so sure that I could solve the identity of the murderer.

BUT I didn't. Sigh.
