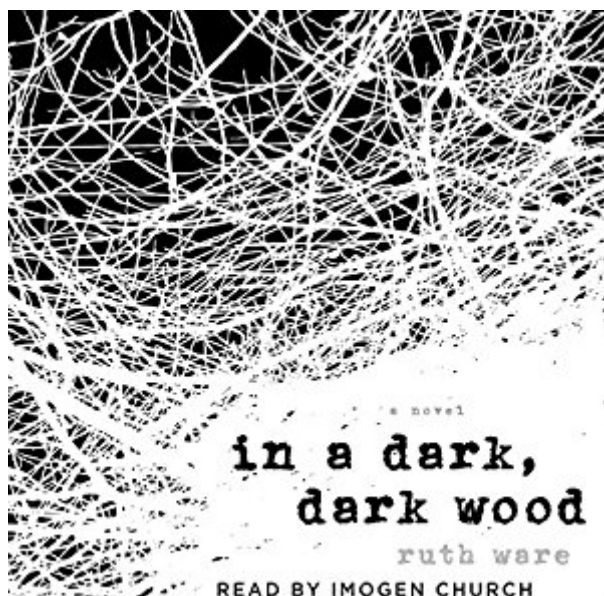


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In A Dark, Dark Wood



Synopsis

What should be a cozy and fun-filled weekend deep in the English countryside takes a sinister turn in Ruth Ware's suspenseful, compulsive, and darkly twisted psychological thriller. Leonora, known to some as Lee and others as Nora, is a reclusive crime writer, unwilling to leave her nest of an apartment unless it is absolutely necessary. When a friend she hasn't seen or spoken to in years unexpectedly invites Nora (Lee) to a weekend away in an eerie glass house deep in the English countryside, she reluctantly agrees to make the trip. Forty-eight hours later, she wakes up in a hospital bed injured but alive, with the knowledge that someone is dead. Wondering not "what happened?" but "what have I done?", Nora (Lee) tries to piece together the events of the past weekend. Working to uncover secrets, reveal motives, and find answers, Nora (Lee) must revisit parts of herself that she would much rather leave buried where they belong: in the past. In the tradition of Paula Hawkins' instant New York Times best seller *The Girl on the Train* and S. J. Watson's riveting national sensation *Before I Go to Sleep*, this gripping literary debut from UK novelist Ruth Ware will leave you on the edge of your seat through the very last tick.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 9 hours 34 minutes

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Audible.com Release Date: August 4, 2015

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

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#47 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > TV, Movie, Video Game Adaptations
#263 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature

Customer Reviews

As many reviewers have already written, the plot is LUDICROUS and the tea scene at the end is absolutely MADDENING. This book was slow and I was sort of shocked when the murder happened at about 50% of the book (I read it on my Kindle so I don't know page numbers.) I thought to myself "How are they going to fill up the rest of this book?" And I was spot on: this book could've ended at

the 50% mark and I would've liked it more. On the plus side: it's an easy read that you can finish on a domestic flight. How they are going to turn this into a movie is beyond me. No doubt, it will be a boring movie. Basically, here's the book so you can save your money (there are no real spoilers):

- 0%: Meet Nora
- 5%: Start ludicrous plot line
- 10%: Meet a motley crew of annoying characters
- 25%: Tequila and cocaine
- 50%: Murder (an alcohol and drug-fueled murder? Ruh roh!)
- 60%: Nora can't remember what happened.
- 70%: Nora still can't remember what happened.
- 80%: "Oh why, oh why, can't I remember what happened?" asks Nora.
- 90%: Eureka, Nora remembers what happened!
- 95%: Nora's having tea with the murderer because killing someone sure makes me thirsty for some Earl Grey.
- 100%: Thank God this book is over.

I have to admit up front that I was very disappointed in *In a Dark, Dark Wood*. The story centers on Nora, a 26 year old crime fiction writer who is sometimes referred to by other characters as Lee, Leonora, or Leo. Nora is invited to a bachelorette weekend party to celebrate the marriage of Clare, a person she hasn't seen in a decade. The reunion is awkward (Clare is marrying Nora's old boyfriend) and the guests include various stereotypes: the mentally unhinged Flo, catty Tom, stressed out new mom Melanie, and sassy best friend Nina. Toss in lots of alcohol, a little cocaine, and plenty of bad feelings and you have the makings of a really unpleasant party. And then there's a murder which leaves Nora battered with amnesia trying to put her memories back together. Touted as a mystery in the Agatha Christie mold the story plays out more like a Scooby-doo tale. The author drops conspicuous clues repetitively. Two characters who are of similar build wear identical clothing (Jinkies!) and there's a shotgun hanging on the wall loaded with blanks (Ruh-roh). There are other warning signs as well -- no phone service, mysterious footprints and a missing cell phone. The author lays out the clues in an heavy handed, overt manner. The characters come across as fairly shallow and juvenile. There didn't seem to be anyone to root for -- not even the murder victim. The ending is quite obvious -- although not to Nora which reinforces her characterization as incredibly dim (especially for a crime fiction writer). I don't want to give out any spoilers, but the tea drinking conversation near the end of the book is ludicrous. I can not recommend this book.

Obvious villain ... silly plot line ... who makes big life decisions off texts with no verbal follow up for 10 years???? Ridiculous ...

Well, the story started fine but as it moved on, it became rather boring at the middle with so many unnecessary details. The ending was not thrilling as there was no real motive for the crimes

committed (at least that what I thought) and the protagonist has learned nothing from her experience at all. She ended up the same as she started off at the beginning of the story....very disappointing. The idea of the story is fine but the story itself could've been better....

It won't take you long to figure out who done it but the writing is excellent and the pages keep turning. A cast of characters gather for a bachelorette party in a glass house deep in the woods and one of the games becomes deadly serious. This is the perfect mystery for a day on the beach. Recommended.

This book is a quick read but hardly worth the trouble. The suspense is minimal as is the character development.

It started out okay, the writing g style was annoying and filled with too many irrelevant details. I thought it started to get interesting about 2/3rds in but there was no escaping the stupidity of the main character and sad and predictable ending.

A big disappointment.

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