



Closer Than Blood

Gregg Olsen

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"You'll sleep with the lights on after reading Gregg Olsen." --Allison Brennan

"Olsen will have you on the edge of your seat." --Lee Child

The first time was easy. No one ever suspected the victim had been murdered. The crime long buried, the dark passions guiding the killer's hand are still alive. But the need for revenge cannot be denied. Only one person can stop the killing. Only one person can identify the killer. Only one person knows the face of death--is as close as the face in the mirror. . .

Praise for Gregg Olsen's novels

"Wickedly clever Twisted."--Lisa Gardner

"Olsen writes rapid-fire page-turners." --"Seattle Times "

"Grabs you by the throat."--Kay Hooper

Closer Than Blood Details

Date : Published (first published January 1st 2011)

ISBN :

Author : Gregg Olsen

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Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Thriller, Suspense

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From Reader Review Closer Than Blood for online ebook

Dawn says

This was so good. Had a really good villan this time. I always end up liking his books, yet I always pass them up at the library if I've got other choices. It's almost like I forget I like his writing until the next time the pickings are slim and I grab one of his books.

Barbara Barth says

Mirror image twins, Tori and Lainie. Cold hearted Tori turns serial killer at 17 who's seemingly too clever to get caught. Fifteen years after Tori's first "kill" the girlfriend of the first victim and childhood friend of the twins, police detective Kendall Stark, becomes involved with the most current murder case. Always suspicious of her boyfriend's death, the detective starts uncovering other suspicious deaths in Tori's past. The trick is proving what was so cleverly covered up was actually murder...and to do it before Tori kills again. This time Tori has her twin, and Kendall's good friend, in her crosshairs.

It wasn't a heart thumping thriller, but it was a well crafted story with dimensional characters. A pleasant way to pass this superheated Sunday afternoon.

Andrea says

I couldn't put it down. Maybe it was just because I got a Nook for my B-day and wanted to get on it, but it WAS a very good read. I love his writing style and the shorter chapters. It makes me read a book faster. It was a little confusing at first, with all the characters, and I wish I'd had the time to read the first 100 pages at one sitting. I'll definitely read more Olsen.

Tomi says

Good story line, but not very well-written. Jumpy, with some loose ends.

Vivian says

The reader is re-united with Detective Kendall Stark. She isn't working a current case at the beginning of this story but is simply involved in the periphery. Why? Kendall feels that an evil and devious high school classmate, Tori, is more involved than just being the innocent bystander in her husband's death. Tori's twin sister, Lainie is the proverbial good sister and she also feels that there is more to this story than meets the eye. Is this another instance of Tori getting away with murder...literally and figuratively speaking?

I enjoyed the intrigue and mayhem that is unveiled throughout this story. There are times when Kendall's

investigation into the past and present seems to go off half-cocked but, trust me, it makes sense in the end. The theme that ties all of the little stories together seems to be what secrets are we all hiding and what lengths are we willing to go in order to protect those secrets. The characters might seem trite at first, good twin vs. evil twin, but Lainie, as the good twin, is not the perfect child or adult. She has her fair share of faults and weaknesses. However, Tori goes a long way in epitomizing the evil twin. She is so much more than a femme fatale, although she fits that role quite well. As the story unfolds, Tori becomes not only hated but reviled by the reader as well as the characters in the story. This feeling of camaraderie with the characters is one of the things that makes Mr. Olsen's writings so unique, in my opinion. I've read all of his fiction works and enjoyed them all and **Closer Than Blood** was no exception. A well-written and well executed mystery that brings thrills and chills.

Donna says

3.5 stars. Tori Connelly just shot her husband and laid the groundwork to cover up the crime. She appears to have gotten away with murder before so why not this time too. Detective Kendall Stark is pitted against her in this story.

I am a Gregg Olsen fan. I like his series with Detective Stark and medical examiner Birdy Waterman. The medical examiner only had a small role in this book. I had to rate this book down primarily because of the editing. The story seems to be all over the place. Points of view and time frames change in the middle of pages with no warning. Made it difficult to read and keep up with what was happening. I rate it up because of all the twists and turns in the story. I absolutely did not see the last big one coming. Personally, I like a shock to come out of nowhere.

Darlene Cardone says

I really can't understand the 4 and 5 star ratings on this book. It was written more like a young adult book, the plot was never hidden for you to figure out, and the "twist" at the end was a dud that I figured out right away and was never explained where it came from. Very cheesy.

Jeff Dickison says

A really Godawful book by a major author. The old evil twin versus the good, but slightly stupid, twin plot. Would be perfect for Lifetime movies. Full of violence and pedophilia sex, in fact, it's just raunchy. It's fascination is very similar to gawking at a recent wreck on a highway. Not recommended.

Milissa says

Great Book

This is my first time reading this author's books. This had a great plot. Great character development. There was a good plot twist. I plan to read more of this author's books.

Lori McD says

So... it seems to me as if this is really the 2nd book in the series with Victim Six being the first book - which I haven't read. It's really irritating to me when no one list, including Goodreads, can figure out how to put these books into a semblance of order.

The Author writes both True Crime and Crime Dramas. After reading the other supposed 3.5 Waterman and Stark books, it's obvious that he has a theme: he likes women serial killers. And his femme fatales are all about using their feminine wiles to get whatever they want. After Brenda Nevins, Tori is almost tame. She's still interesting, in that it's anyone's guess as to what happens next. The Author holds back just enough detail to keep you reading, so no matter how much you think you know, you don't quite have the whole picture. It's clever without "cheating" as I call it - like Agatha Christie often does, where the Author completely leaves out a very important clue/detail until the final resolution; without that information, the Reader couldn't possibly know the full story. No, Mr. Olsen gives enough of the picture so that you see the pieces of the puzzle coming together, but not so much that you can completely guess the next move or the final big picture. There's always something that you didn't or couldn't foresee. I like that in a book.

The final giveaway, however, is such a small detail, that even Tori forgot about it! And that's exactly the kind of detail that trips up even the so-called masterminds!

Not quite the best of the books, IMO, but I did appreciate more background on Kendall and her family. Makes the latter tension in her marriage more understandable after reading the closeness in this book.

Kaye says

Gregg Olsen always delivers. This is the second in his Stark and Waterman series. Nothing is truly what it seems, Kendall is on a committee planning her class reunion, while she also has work and family to keep up with. Secrets from the past keep rearing their ugly heads. I had trouble putting this down. Olsen's characters are realistic and the plot is realistic. I would recommend this to anyone who likes thrillers that will keep you awake at night.

Book Madness (Elif) says

?kız karde?ler Tori Ve Laine birbirinden siyah ve beyaz kadar farklıdır. 15 yıl önce birlikte yaptıkları kaza pe?lerini bir türlü bırakmaz. Tori'nin tesadüfi bir ?ekilde ölen iki kocası ?im?eklerin hedefine Tori'yi koyar. ?kızların arasındaki sırlar, yalanlar, entrikalar.

Kitabın sürükleyiciliğini çok sevdim. Yazar sonunu ters köşe yapmaya çalışmı?. Bence yapmı? da. Sürprizin bir kısmını tahmin edebildim, diğer kısmı beni aşırttı. Sadece görüntüsüyle erkekleri parmağında oynatan Tori tüylerinizi diken diken edecek.

Kitabı ben çok sevdim. Siz de seveceksiniz ??

Diane says

This is the first book I have read by this author. It was an easy read and that was what I was looking for at the time. A bit predictable but overall a good book. I would read other books by Mr. Olsen.

Naomi says

What (dramatic pause) AN AWESOME BOOK!!!! I didn't think Gregg Olsen could get more twisted than in his book Victim Six, yet he has in this book! THIS BOOK IS NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART!! This book has a pretty graphic and mind blowing twists and overall story line. If one does not like ummmmm, "sexual" twistedness, you will be deeply, deeply offended by this book and thus mark it down! And here is another heads up to this type of reader..if you don't like these story lines, I would not read Gregg Olsen's fiction!

Marianne Stehr says

A fast paced, read in one day thriller. this one is written from a perspective I am not normally pleased with, the killer being revealed early on and the "catch" of the book is catching the killer, but in this one it was done very well and I found myself reading faster and faster as I went on. Another well done work of fiction by one of my favorite authors!
