



Toyer

Gardner McKay

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Los Angeles. There are two seasons, day and night. Toyer. He is a natural response to Los Angeles. There has never been anything like Toyer, but of course, each time there never is. Each time, the newest cutting-edge lunatic has the same refreshing aspect: he is unimaginable. Maude Garance. She is a doctor, thirty-six years old. Her face is complicated by woven scars of fatigue, she is on the brink of a breakdown caused by a disorder in her patients - Toyer's victims -that she cannot cure. Doctor T. Chief-of-service at Maude's hospital. Married too long to the wrong wife. All he can do now is to love Maude without mentioning it. Sara Smith. A reporter. A story, any story, is sent from God and God has sent her one. Maude dislikes her on sight. Jim O'Land. Sara Smith's boss at the Herald, a man easily followed. He publishes Toyer's thoughts. Unprecedented in journalism, he says, a first. The Uncastables. Three comfortably unemployed actors. Telen Gacey came to Hollywood on a whim and is ready to leave. Peter Matson has star quality but cannot act. Billy Waterland, a would-be comic, ex-gymnast, dreams of stardom. Jimmy O. A pale ginger cat with a direct stare, humble. Maude called him a savior in cat's clothing who'd come to rescue her. She was right. These are the players in Gardner McKay's first novel, Toyer. Their lives intersect and intrude on one another with terrifying results to produce a novel that is as compelling as it is rewarding.

Toyer Details

Date : Published January 1st 1999 by Little Brown and Company (first published 1998)

ISBN : 9780316561181

Author : Gardner McKay

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Genre : Fiction, Thriller, Mystery, Crime, Plays, Suspense

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From Reader Review Toyer for online ebook

Alena says

Meh.

Thriller about a serial killer who doesn't quite kill but renders his female victims in a vegetative state and a doctor and a journalist who try to find him.

The beginning was quite interesting, to see the doctor, Maude, run up against all kinds of walls because the people in charge don't take the crimes really seriously, but it fails to build/keep suspension and is rather boring. I skipped a huge chunk in the middle and read the ending just to see what's going to happen and it is kind of predictable. The writing also left a lot to be desired. So. Meh.

Charlotte Broadwater says

This book kept me on the edge of my seat. Was wanting to see how each character would end up in this story. Trying to find out who toyer was and how he would end up. The ending was ok but it left you wondering What happened. The ending left questions instead of answering them. Good book for anyone who like criminal minds.

Manny says

[the female psychiatrist, who's become just as crazy as the guy who's been stalking her, performing a home-made lobotomy on him in the comfort of her living room (hide spoiler)]

Marie-Eve Anctil says

J'ai beaucoup aimé ce livre m'a tenu en haleine du début à la fin

Isabella Tugman says

I wasn't impressed with this book. It was just kind of....blah. Not thrilling or mysterious at all

Jasper T. says

Uninteresting, and the killer was obviously based off of Ted Bundy.
Boring and dragged on info you didn't need to know.

Anthony March says

I think it's rather unique as far as mystery/thrillers are concerned. I thought the author gave life to a "killer" without being overly specific.

Etienne says

Ce livre est tellement rempli de hauts et de bas qu'il devient très difficile à noter (près d'un 3,5, mais le manque de constance m'empêche d'y aller pour le 4 étoiles). Ce qui est étrange c'est que les hauts et les bas varient dans tout. Par exemple, l'intrigue par moment très forte et un bon suspens, tombe, dans d'autres passages du livre, complètement applat, et les nombreuses longueurs ne l'aident en rien. Les personnages sont de manière générale assez peu attachants et intéressants, on est dans le cliché, à l'exception de Toyer qui, sans rien dévoiler, possède un «background» intéressant, mais qui finalement est, selon moi, mal exploité. La fin tombe définitivement à plat, sans doute ou ambivalence cette fois. Malgré tout, j'ai quand même lu assez avidement ce roman et je me retrouve assez embêté, car j'ai bien peu de raison de le recommander, mais tout aussi peu de raison de vous dire de l'évitez. J'ai passé un moment correct en le lisant, mais je ne le relirai certainement jamais et ne suis pas plus tenté qu'il faut de relire cet auteur.

Stéphanie says

On m'avait parlé en bien de ce livre. Mais, j'ai été déçue. Bien que le début m'avait mis sur les dents, j'ai trouvé qu'il y avait beaucoup de longueurs, de moments qui auraient pu ne pas y être et qui auraient accéléré le rythme. La fin m'a aussi laissé sur ma faim. Bref, peu impressionnée.

Jitka Jitulisko says

Hra?i?ka --- myšlenka z prvních stran- kdyby film byl jen par minutový trailer v?bec by to nevadilo, trailer je ak?ní úžasný, ale samotný film je ?asto d?s, Pro? se nepromítají 2 hodiny trailery... stejn? je d?la n?kdo jiný než tv?rci filmu... Ta holka mi mluví z duše!!! Tak to se mi hned ze startu líbilo. Holka mi bude sympatická ...

Postavy - Maude - Vystudovaná inteligentní žena co se utápí v smutku po zesnulém manželovi, vzteklá z ni?eho ned?láni ú?ad? na dopadení hra?i?ky , riskuje svoje místo upiji se v depresích. Bezmoc když návladní ?ekne, že vraždy jsou prioritní a hra?i?ka p?ece nevraždy... Avšak Maude se nehodlá vzdát ani za cenu toho, že ji odeberou licenci je rozhodnutá ud?lat vše pro jeho dopadení.

Sara - ambiciózní noviná?ka, která se chytá nej tématu a píše o n?m. Šok a strach když se s ní spojí a za?ne p?es ni komunikovat a vztek když Ji všechno za?ne p?ipadat nemorální a bojí se, chce p?estat ,ale nakladatel ji to zatrhne dopisy jsou jeho majetkem protože ona je jeho zam?stnanec. Co te? jak se má zachovat , bránit ? ... zvládne ten stres co se na ni valí?

Hra?i?ka - inteligentní chameleon (i když jenu se toto p?irovnání nelíbí), dokáže být úchvatný lstivý a rozhodn? se nebojí. Umí plno v?ci a své ob?ti i lidi v okolí sv?domit? sleduje, kontroluje. Vše si pe?liv? plánuje, p?íprava je pro n?j velice d?ležitý faktor. A Má za sebou minulost, která ho pronásleduje a nedá mu spát... ?erný spína? zlých úmysl?....

Telen- postava o které se zmíním jen okrajov? je to sv?dná žena a zážitek kdy je schopna tém?? pohlavního aktu b?hem smute?ního ob?adu ... mno jsem divná ale je to zvláštní pobu?ující. Lákavé.....

Postav se v d?ji pohybuje víc a všechny jsou svým zp?sobem provázány.

D?j je sám o sob? p?kný nikde nic nevázne. Základní myšlenka je, že šílenec unáší krásné ženy, které ponižuje a poté je uvede do kómatu. Okolí šili protože je nezabijí ani neznásil?uje a ostatní nev?dí, jestli ho dohnat k n?jakému hrdelnímu zlo?inu nebo k p?iznání ke svým ?in?m...

Knihu doporu?uji. Ti kdo mají rádi thrillery ur?it? neprohloupí pokud si ji otev?ou.

Lioba says

One of the scariest books I have ever read. Because it could be so true, you never know. Very thrilling.

Susan says

I've never read a book I disliked as much as this one!!! And yet, I finished it! Go figger?!

Kamila says

I didn't manage to read it completely, as the sentences were strangely constructed - short, often unrelated to each other. It was difficult to become engaged in the story, I fell asleep few times. The overall idea of the story was really interesting, but the style made it impossible to focus on it.

"Jeff" Hall says

LOVED this book. Very clever plot. Characters alternately tell the story in a chilling and compelling way. Mystery fans should seek out "Toyer."

I was intrigued by the fact that Gardner McKay was the author. I and most of my female friends were madly in love with him when he was in the tv series Adventures in Paradise. Curious, I read about McKay and found he was an educated, literate, creative man. He hated the tv series and quit acting afterwards. Wish he had written more books.

David Ward says

Toyer by Gardner McKay (Little Brown & Co. 1998)(Fiction - Mystery) was a book I really wanted to like. Gardner McKay (the author) is apparently the guy cited by name in a Jimmy Buffett song (e.g. "Hey hey Gardner McKay - take me on the Leaky Tiki with you..."), because Jimmy Buffett is one of the named authors on the recommendations page. Unfortunately, this mystery whodunit is simply not compelling. I kept going...and kept going...and kept going but just finally gave up on page 393 of 437. It was that bad. I simply didn't care what happened to the villain or the protagonist. My rating: 2/10, finished 2/21/12.
