



Say You're Sorry

Melinda Leigh

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In a new series from *Wall Street Journal* bestselling author Melinda Leigh, former prosecutor Morgan Dane faces the most personal—and deadly—case of her lifetime.

After the devastating loss of her husband in Iraq, Morgan Dane returns to Scarlet Falls, seeking the comfort of her hometown. Now, surrounded by family, she's finally found peace and a promising career opportunity—until her babysitter is killed and her neighbor asks her to defend his son, Nick, who stands accused of the murder.

Tessa was the ultimate girl next door, and the community is outraged by her death. But Morgan has known Nick for years and can't believe he's guilty, despite the damning evidence stacked against him. She asks her friend Lance Kruger, an ex-cop turned private eye, for help. Taking on the town, the police, and a zealous DA, Morgan and Lance plunge into the investigation, determined to find the real killer. But as they uncover secrets that rock the community, they become targets for the madman hiding in plain sight.

Say You're Sorry Details

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From Reader Review Say You're Sorry for online ebook

Tracy *To the point Reviews* says

As I read this book, many things occurred to me.

1. I remembered that i am due for a cleaning at the dentist.
2. I wanted to try a strawberry shortcake recipe I saw on Create TV.
3. I also need an oil change... I think.
4. Baking soda. My fridge needs a new box of baking soda!

Oops, I'm reading this murder mystery! Or I am supposed to be. And its just not holding my interest. It's just not interesting enough. It's like chicken with no seasoning. Or tequila without lemon. Sex without an orgasm. You catch my drift yet? Something was just missing! I was re reading the same paragraph over and over again because I would just drift. (like in high school) If that's not a sign that a book had a capital B for Boring (For me anyhow) I don't know what is.

The writing is average and lacking life and originality. The main characters needs so many more layers. And the hero has ZERO appeal. The mystery in itself is mediocre and the conclusion ties itself too nicely. The romance... a fart in the wind. It could have gone so much deeper.

All in all... reading this book made me realize I got shit to do.

This just didn't float my boat.

Linda Strong says

Former Prosecutor Morgan Dane and her three young daughters have returned to her hometown of Scarlet Falls, following the death of her husband while serving our country in Iraq.

Now that she's near family and old friends, and with the promise of working with the District Attorney, she feels she's finally ready to put her grief aside and start her life again.

All goes well until her teenage babysitter is found murdered. The accused is her neighbor's son, Nick, who is just a few years older than the sitter. Nick was a frequent visitor in Morgan's home, entertaining her daughters, playing chess or checkers with her father. Nick's father begs for help for him and Morgan agrees. Deep down, Morgan just cannot accept that Nick could murder anyone.

Her decision turns her neighbors and friends against her and she loses the lucrative job before she even begins putting together a defense for Nick. Needing an investigator, she turns to her friend Lane Kruger, an ex-cop turned private eye. Morgan and Lance are going to have to battle the community, the cops, the DA.

As they systematically interview and question the girl's friends and family, they learn that just about every teenager in town knows something they aren't sharing. Meanwhile more evidence is stacking up against

Nick.

Never a dull moment in this book! I really enjoyed how law enforcement worked with a private eye... just a touch of distrust on both sides, especially as the police looked in one direction only and never considered anyone else a suspect. There's an attraction between Morgan and Lance, she's a bit hesitant, he's determined not to scare her away.

There's a little bit of everything here a sadistic killer, a young murder victim who argued with her grandparents the very last time they saw her, a young man accused of a brutal crime, who only wants to continue helping his father with a landscaping business, a friend of the victim who seems to be in hiding... but from what?

Many thanks to the author / Montlake Romance / Netgalley for the digital copy of this romantic suspense. Opinions expressed here are unbiased and entirely my own.

MariLou Schuman says

I had the extreme privilege of reading an Advanced Release copy of this wonderful new series by one of my favorite authors - Melinda Leigh!

Morgan Dane is a widowed single mom with three young children, who abandons her new job, before it starts, with the Scarlet Falls District Attorney's office, to defend a young neighbor accused of the brutal murder of his girlfriend.

Joining her in her investigation is her friend, ex-cop turned private investigator Lance Kruger.

It was great reconnecting with characters from the Scarlet Falls series (I always secretly wonder what's happening with them when their story ends).

I loved this book, and cannot wait for the 2nd in the series - Her Last Goodbye.

Under the Covers Book Blog says

I am still relatively new to the thriller genre, I like to dip my toe in every now and then, however, in this book Melinda Leigh has tempted me to belly flop right in. Say You're Sorry captivated me from page one as you witness the murder first hand, after that, it wasn't a want, it was a need; I needed to keep reading and find out the full story.

Morgan Dane is our main character, she's been widowed for two years and has 3 adorable small children, who she parents with the help of her father. Now, she has decided it's time for her to go back to work as a prosecutor. But, just as she's about to start her baby sitter is horrifically murdered and her neighbour is accused of the slaying. Morgan doesn't buy it. So with the help of her private investigator and former high school boyfriend, she decides to take up his defence.

This book is so easy to get into, Morgan is such an identifiable figure, a single mother trying to do the best for her children and now juggling a stressful job. A stressful job where she isn't sure she's doing the right thing. And then there's Lance the PI assisting her with the case and a guy with some pressures of his own. The murder case itself, although interesting to follow, as soon as the murderer popped up I figured it out

correctly but that didn't stop me from enjoying the ride to get there.

It was Morgan and her relationship with people, her blossoming romance with Lance, her devotion to her family, her dedication to helping Nick - the young man accused of murder - that kept me glued to the book. I can't wait to read more in this series and I will definitely be looking up some more Melinda Leigh.

*ARC provided by publisher

Reviewed by Suzanne♥ ? Don't want to miss any of our posts? Subscribe to our blog by email! ? ♥

Theresa Alan says

This novel eventually has some decent twists – clues uncovered by prosecutor Morgan and private eye Lance.

When Morgan returns home to a small town after the death of her husband, she's about to take a promising job when a beloved neighborhood girl turns up brutally murdered and the seemingly nice boy Morgan has known for years is accused of her death. Morgan volunteers to defend him because she can't believe Nick did it. In doing so, she is potentially destroying her career and she is definitely incurring the wrath of her community.

Morgan and Lance uncover clues that the police, who are already convinced Nick did it because they found his DNA inside her, do not. There is a slight romantic spark between the two, but not enough to call this romantic suspense.

This novel was OK, but not compelling enough that I'll be reading anymore books in the series.

Tulay says

Suspenseful story.

One girl murdered and one missing. Good supporting family and some with lots of troubles. Also renewed relationship starting. Action, suspense, thrills of lawyer and two private investigators. More like 2.5 stars for me.

Book Lover says

This is my first book by this author and I loved it! Great start to a series!

Morgan Dane is a widowed mother of three girls. Her husband was killed in the line of duty and she is still mourning 2 years later. She moved back to Scarlet Falls to live with her grandfather. She hasn't worked outside the home since her husband was killed. She finally decides it's time to re-enter the work force. She is an attorney and has agreed to go to work for the District Attorney's office.

She receives a phone call late at night from the grandparents of a young girl who baby sits occasionally for

her stating she is missing. Morgan calls Lance Kruger, an old high school boyfriend, whom she has become good friends with since her return to Scarlet Falls. Lance is currently working as a PI while on medical leave from the police department due to a gunshot wound to his thigh. They discover the girl's brutally murdered body.

When Nick, her 20 year old neighbor, and friend of the family, is accused of killing his girlfriend, Morgan agrees to represent him pro bono. This ends her job with the DA's office before it even began. She goes to the PI office Lance works for to ask for their help.

Morgan and Lance work well together. Morgan is still dealing with her past while trying to move forward. Lance is dealing with the loss of a job that defined him and trying to figure out his future. He's been interested in Morgan for a while, but knows she's not ready for a relationship, so has resolved himself to the friend zone. Plus, he's dealing with a mom who has mental health issues. Lance comes across as a stand up guy with unquestionable integrity, honesty and a big heart. Morgan shares those qualities. I loved that there was no histrionics, immature meltdowns, or ridiculous outbursts between Morgan and Lance.

I never saw the killer coming! This rarely happens for me, so I was impressed! This book is a real page turner.

There is also a great cast of supporting characters as well. Grandpa is a real sweetheart and very encouraging to Morgan. Morgan's girls are good kids. Her youngest is a bit of a spitfire! Lincoln Sharp is a retired detective and owner of the PI firm where Lance works. He is a father figure for Lance and another stand up guy.

There isn't much romance to this romantic suspense. However, the ending has me hoping there's more to come in the following books! I'm very happy to have discovered this author. I will be watching for the next book in this series!

I voluntarily reviewed an ARC provided by NetGalley.

Mo says

3.5 stars

I have read a few other books by this author and quite enjoyed them. This one wasn't bad. Seemed to drag a bit. Romance is not high on the agenda here and it could have been. But maybe in the next in the series.

Ok, it's an old picture, but you get my drift ...

Carrie says

Morgan Dane has returned home to Scarlet Falls with her three young girls after the devastating loss of her husband in the military. She's agreed to take a job as a prosecutor following in her family's footsteps of putting away the bad guys until her neighbors son is arrested for murder.

When Tessa was found raped and murdered the whole town wants justice but Morgan just has a gut feeling that there is no way Nick could have committed this crime having known both of them. Morgan decides to help defend Nick and do her own investigating with the help of Lance Kruger, an ex-cop turned private eye, to get her client off and find the real killer.

Say You're Sorry is the first book of the Morgan Dane series by Melinda Leigh. The series is apparently a spin off from another series but I never found myself lost from not having read other books by this author and felt the story was built rather well without having read other background from other series but after this one I may just go back and pick up her other books.

The story is a romantic suspense read that changes the point of view all throughout including some chapters from the perspective of the killer. Morgan however is the main character in the story, a former attorney who became a stay at home mom that is just returning back to work. Along with her former high school boyfriend turned P.I. they tackle the case to find a killer. The romance isn't overly pushed in the story letting a reader get invested more into the thriller side of the book as the investigation goes on.

Overall, I really enjoyed this one from the explosive opening pages until the very end. I did decide to give this 4.5 stars just on one little detail from the end that I won't mention due to spoilers but otherwise a great read.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.wordpress....>

Joey R. says

4.5 Stars —I decided to read “Say You’re Sorry” by Melinda Leigh after noticing she had most of the top ranked books in the Kindle Unlimited store. After reading Leigh for the first time, I now understand why she is so popular. The book is written through the eyes of several different characters and Leigh does an excellent job of making you care for the two main characters (the Lawyer—private detective duo, Morgan and Lance). They have a very flirtatious relationship and banter a lot — reminding me of the old television series “Moonlighting”. The mystery itself is pretty good as Morgan and Lance are retained as Lawyer and investigator for Jacob who is Morgan’s neighbor and chief suspect in a girlfriend’s murder. There are a lot of unexpected twists and turns that make the book hard to put down. The ending was a little too neat and clean for my taste and made me think back to the large number of red herrings that turned out not to have any connection with the murder or murderer that is eventually revealed. But, all in all very entertaining, and I will definitely be reading book #2 in this series to see what happens to these two likable characters

Nazanin says

3 Slow Stars

After two years grieving for her husband's death, Morgan decided it's time to get back to being her old self. She is a thirty-three-year-old assistant district attorney. Her first case after two years is the murder of her occasional baby sitter (Tessa, eighteen-year-old). For this case she uses Lance's help. Lance was a former police officer but after a bullet on his leg, he joined to a PI firm. Morgan and Lance knew each other since high school. And They have some feelings toward each other from that time. He works on a case too, a missing girl. They think maybe these two case are connected to each other somehow.

Okay, this story was really, really, really slow. The author didn't give anything to occupy my mind. I even didn't bother to think about the cases. I read first 70% and the things that I knew till then was from the first chapters, nothing more! Therefor I started to skim and skip. It didn't intrigued me, at all. The slowness of it was killing me. So many details that wasn't necessary to be said.

The story is told in multiple POV, 3rd person. It's the first installment in "Morgan Dane" series but it can be read as a stand-alone. And I definitely do NOT reading the next book! I really didn't enjoy it. It fell flat for me but I hope you enjoy it more than me!

Anita says

Advanced Reader Copy (ARC) provided by the Author and Publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an fair and honest review.

Solid mystery and the great start to a new series. The relationship between Morgan and Lance is sweet and Lance may be my new favorite Hero. I mean what woman can possibly resist a man who loves his mother with all her problems, loves her kids and plays the piano and sings to her? I'll add in blond, buff and hot, but, really isn't that just overkill?

Morgan Dane lost her warrior husband to an IED in Iraq two years ago. She is a widow with three little girls to raise, a grandfather to help care for them and a young woman living with them who has serious medical issues. She has a full plate and now feels the need to return to work as an assistant district attorney to help battle the malaise that seems to have settled over her life like a cloud. Her occasional babysitter, Tessa, goes missing and Morgan calls her old high school flame and former Scarlet Lake Police Officer, Lance Kruger, to help her find Tessa. They find her dead at a high school hangout spot at the lake. At first the evidence points to Morgan's neighbor, Nick. How can a young man who reads stories to her little girls and plays chess with her grandfather possibly have done this?

Morgan's answer is: He didn't. As Morgan begins to peel away the layers of the case against Nick, she uncovers a rush to judgment with serious political overtones that has put a lot of people in danger. She also discovers that she and Lance have the potential to become something other than friends and work associates.

Melanie says

4.5 Stars!

Say You're Sorry was a fantastic start to the *Morgan Dane* series, with wonderful characters and a compelling mystery that kept me guessing right until the very end.

After losing her husband in Iraq, Morgan Dane has returned to her hometown of Scarlet Falls to raise her three girls with the help of her family. *Say You're Sorry* picks up two years after Morgan returned home as she plans to get back to work by starting a job at the DA's office. However, Morgan's life is thrown into chaos when her babysitter is murdered and her neighbor's son is accused of the crime. Believing Nick to be innocent, Morgan agrees to take on the case at the request of her neighbor. With the help of an old friend turned private eye, Morgan begins her investigation and aims to prove her neighbor is innocent and the real killer is still at large.

Morgan is an incredibly strong character and really brave despite the difficulties she's facing while defending Nick's case. She also has a great sense of loyalty for those she cares about. I love how much she cares about her family and that even when she's busy with the case, she finds time to be with her daughters. Lance has had a difficult few months recovering from being shot while he was still on the police force. As a private detective, he has more freedom when it comes to his work, but he misses being on the force. Through his work as a P.I. he gets to work with Morgan, whom he has known since high school. I really enjoyed their working relationship, as well as the introduction of something more in their private life. I feel the two fit together very well and I'm excited to see where things go between them in future books.

The mystery surrounding Tessa's death was intriguing. There were several suspects over the course of the book which led to constant twists and turns. I suspected several people, but never actually the person who was the killer. Getting chapters inside the killer's head gave great insight into how twisted the killer really was. I also enjoyed how the author wove several other small scandals/mysteries into the story.

I read this book without reading the connecting series, *Scarlet Falls*, but had no issues understanding who everyone was and how they were all connected to each other. The author does a great job at making this its own series while including little Easter eggs for those familiar with the prior series. For being a romantic suspense book, *Say You're Sorry* is more on the thriller/mystery end, but there are enough elements of romance that seem to imply that may take more of a center role in future books.

Overall, *Say You're Sorry* was a fun read with a ton of action and a compelling mystery. I'm excited for more books to come out in this series as I really enjoyed these characters and the setting. I will definitely be checking out the connecting series, *Scarlet Falls*, soon.

I received an advanced copy from Netgalley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Terri ♥ (aka Mrs. Christian Grey) says

4.5

This was a tough listen in some parts. But the fact that I cared about the injustices happening to fictional characters says a lot of good things about this author.

The story was fluid and kept me on my toes. It's more mystery/suspense than romance. But that's fine with me.

I didn't figure out who done it with absolute conviction. He (not a spoiler) was among my list of suspects, but I hadn't settled on him. This is a good thing.

I look forward to more in this series. Hell, there is a relationship to grow and more bad things that are happening in this small town. I look forward to it.

CD {Boulder Blvd} says

Morgan Dane is a widow with young kids living with her father and a troubled young woman she has pulled into her home. Her husband was killed in Iraq two years ago and she hasn't really been able to pull herself out of her grief and move on with her life. She has just accepted a job with District Attorney's office and is trying to move forward. But before her job can start, she is pulled into looking for a girl, Tessa, who had babysat her young children. The grandparents can't find her and are getting nervous. Asking her friend Lance Kruger to help look for her, they discover her body in a teen hangout area.

The police identify her neighbor Nick as the killer. She knows Nick. He plays chess with her father, her kids adore him and she doesn't want to believe he's guilty. Nick's dad doesn't have a lot of money, is working to mortgage his house for Nick's defense and asks Morgan for help.

Putting her new job on the line, she teams up with Lance to prove Nick's innocence and find the real killer. Lance is a great guy. Previously injured with the police department, he is now working as a PI. Morgan and Lance also dated in high school, so there is a lot of friendship and history between them. Lance is not an OTT alpha hero (thank goodness)! He sacrifices for those he cares about. And he cares about Morgan. The romance is a very believable and a slow burn.

The plot is really well paced as Morgan and Lance search for the killer of Tessa and try to prove the innocence of Nick. I don't want to give anything away, but it really pulled me in. You get a little bit of the killer's perspective (definitely a very sick individual) which adds to the overall suspense of the book.

Say You're Sorry by Melinda Leigh is an excellent start to the new Morgan Dane series and now my favorite book written by her. For me it was a true 5 star read and once I started reading it, I couldn't put it down. The second book in the series comes out in September and it's definitely on my wish list.

Thanks to NetGalley and Montlake Romance for an ARC of this book.
