

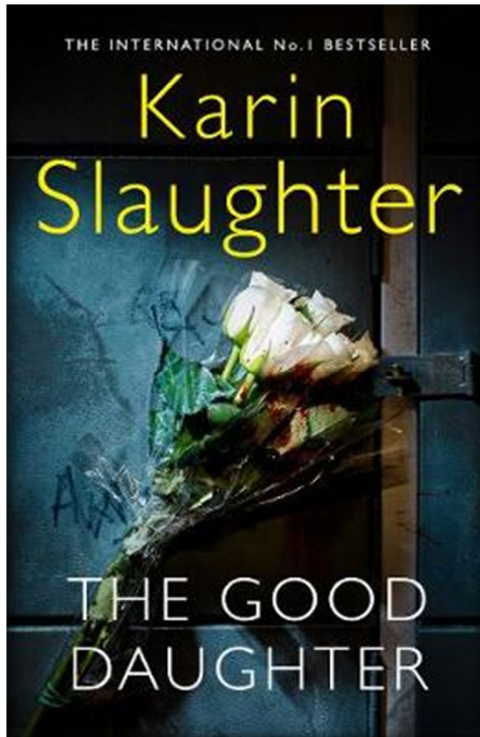


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LoveReading Reader reviews of **The Good Daughter** by Karin Slaughter

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.



Judith Waring

This is a brilliantly readable novel that grabs your attention immediately just from reading the cover blurb and then off you go at a gallop from the first page and you just have to keep on reading until you get to the last.

The first section is not an easy read as you discover just what happened to both girls 28 years ago, the resulting impact on the family and what anyone needs to do to put those horrible events behind them and survive.

The story moves on with the rapid pace of new events but then towards the end it sneakily swings you back to what ACTUALLY happened to the girls 28 years

ago which is so wrenching to read yet so vital to completing the storyline.

It is a very clever and very intelligently written novel with brilliantly rounded characters who 'live' so vibrantly inside your head, they are relatable, they are understandable, they are damaged because of the events of 28 years ago and yet they have all clawed and battled through the subsequent years in their own way in order to survive and move on as best they can.

This is not a small book by any means coming in at exactly 500 pages but one I read so really easily.

This is yet another author I hadn't heard of before but again, one that I will definitely look out for in the future as I loved her style of writing - thank you for the introduction!

Tanya Thurling

I love Karin Slaughter and I've read every single one of her books. This book differs slightly from her usual writing style. It's got a touch of the early Jodi Picoult about it, in the way that you're presented with a crime that usually you wouldn't think twice about. That you always think of in black and white, and you can say with absolute certainty that that person deserves a guilty sentence because what they did is in no way excusable or defensible, but by the end of the book you realise that things aren't always as straight cut as they seem and that the grey areas are actually really important and that actually you can sort of see where that person was coming from and why they did what they did.

But that's just a small part of this book. There's a few stories going on at once. You've got the crime that's committed, a school shooting in the local high school, but also from the first chapter your thrown back twenty eight years earlier, when two young girls Charlotte and Samantha Quinn go through a terrifying ordeal which leaves their mother dead and their family torn apart. You get some chapters from Sam's point of view and some from Charlie's point of view. But each time it goes back to 'that day' you learn a little bit more about what truly happened, to both sisters, and what the consequences of that day had on everyday normal life in the future.

For me those chapters were really powerful. I don't know if it's because they were just small children, so you naturally find it more horrifying and devastating, but to learn about what they went through, and to see the love, strength and courage those two girls had in a truly awful situation, the bond as sisters, and the natural instinct to protect each other was really quite moving.

So anyway, back to the present day and Charlie is thrown head first into the current crime, she's a witness and her father 'Rusty' is the local lawyer for bad guys (Charlie is also a lawyer and shares office space with her dad) so there really is no escaping it, but all its doing is bringing back terrible memories that she's spent so long trying to lock away. Is this going to be the thing that finally breaks her?

And that's pretty much all I can say without giving away any of the curveballs that this book certainly has.

As I've said I love Karin Slaughter and I've loved every book she's written. Whilst differing slightly, this book is certainly no exception. I would definitely recommend this (or any) of her books!

Michelle McKernan

*Brilliant book – very hard to put down once you start. The plot twists and turns with ease and although very intricate, it's easy to follow. I couldn't wait to get to the end and I was not disappointed. **This is a brilliant, compelling and well-written book.** From the start I struggled to put it down with each chapter leaving you wanting more. The characters are well-rounded and built up so well that it's easy to know who is being spoken about by their actions and characteristics. The Plot is excellent and nothing is quite as it seems. I never saw the twists coming which was a great surprise. **I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a fast, pacey thriller with plenty of twists and turns.***

Debbie Patrick

Well recommended. Good read. Wow what can I say never fails to please. What a good author. Didn't want to put the book down.
Another good book.

Cathy Small

*How would you react if you saw your mother killed and then her killer came after you & your sister? Devastation took a turn in the sister's lives and each are trying to find their way through it. Charlotte & Samantha were always close as sisters when they were young but a life changing experience meant finding their own way to deal with their memories. The author takes us to the present where the girls have set up their own lives to ignore the past but when they are thrown back together the memories are revived and the truth will be shared. There is a twist in the story that you can feel but can't see until it suddenly arrives at the end of the book. **A gripping read that will keep you enthralled until the end.***

Nicola Lowes

***A complex plot with two major twists at the end which keeps you turning the pages.** It's billed as a psychological thriller but I think it is heavier on the crime side. The victims' lives are detailed but I didn't feel too emotionally involved with them as they were deliberately detached.*

I've never read this author before but I wouldn't mind reading more. An

intelligent plot that keeps you guessing.

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Rebecca Cockeram

This book was fast paced, the characters were interesting, likeable, heart-breaking and human. I really couldn't put this book down. I loved this book. It really was a page turner. I enjoyed the two stories that combined to create the book.

I found the stories from each daughters perspective interesting, each time you'd get a bit more of the tragedy they went through as young girls which helped you understand why they were like they were.

The new tragedy that pulls them back together was intriguing enough that I would have been happy with a story just revolving around that, however the interwoven back story meant that I genuinely cared about all the main characters.

I wanted to get to the end and I didn't want it to end, that's when I know I've got a good book to read. *I'd love to have found out more about what happens next.*

Sarah Musk

A dark, powerful thriller about two sisters who experienced terrible events when young teenagers. Now in the present day they are still haunted by their traumatic pasts. 'The Good Daughter' is a book about the aftermath of terrible events which happened to two sisters when they were in their early teens. The story is mainly set in the present but quite often returns to the day when they were attacked.

Karin Slaughter tells a gripping tale about guilt and revenge but also about resilience and courage. *Both sisters in the present are in their forties but haunted about what happened. They have a complicated relationship with their clever unconventional lawyer who was the reason behind the violent attack on them. A shooting occurs in a local school and it becomes apparent that it is subtly linked to the sisters past.*

I found the book horribly violent in parts but it was not gratuitous violence it was a necessary part of the plot - otherwise I would have dismissed the book as a 'slasher' tale. However, Karin Slaughter writes very

convincingly and powerfully and grips the reader right to the very end. I enjoyed the book - despite the dark subject - and since I love a good thriller will read more books by her.

Emily Wright

*Karin Slaughter's writing combines **a suspenseful background with enough insight to enable the reader to truly appreciate all that is to follow; my perseverance was rewarded with a plot that is as intricate as a spider's web and just as deadly.***

Charlie and Sam Quinn are sisters whose lives in the small town of Pikeville are shattered one horrendous evening in 1989. I loved that this novel is as much an exploration of the dynamics within the Quinn family as it is a thriller; how their symbiotic relationships are forever altered and how the ramifications unfurl as the years progress.

When I started reading I was intrigued straight away. The events immediately grabbed my attention with a shock of adrenaline compelling me to read on. After this atmospheric opening the book joins Charlie twenty eight years later, when she is drawn into the storm of another tragedy in Pikeville.

At first these events didn't have the same impact on me. As I continued through the novel I realised why. Charlie's first part of the novel is both full of emotion and eerily dispassionate, and it is a credit to the author that I was drawn into the characters' psyche so much that I keenly felt this powerful contradiction. As I continued reading, I felt the novel gained momentum, with potent emotions building to an ending which was every bit as dramatic as the opening.

Dana Captainino

This is the story of two sisters and the tragedy faced by them and their family in small town Pikeville, Georgia. Focusing on a brutal attack 28 years ago sisters Charlotte and Samantha Quinn lives are changed forever.

With their mother dead and their father damaged and immersing himself in his work as a lawyer the daughters plough on through their shattered lives trying to build a life for themselves. Charlotte follows in her father's footsteps and becomes a lawyer herself.

But when Charlotte gets caught up in a school shooting the aftershock cascades far further than any of the family could imagine bringing back the past and is

characters to the stark reality of the present. The pressures on the family caught up in the trauma changes their lives again bringing about some resolution with what has gone before.

I felt that the story was drawn out a tad too much and was quite frustratingly slow at times. But still a good read though not one of her best.

Edel Waugh

*The story throws us into the action right at the beginning with a present day crime at a school then the story goes back and forth in time showing us some of the main characters past . It took me a little while to get the hang of that but I loved it. I am a big fan of this author and she writes amazing crime scenes , it really has you on the edge of your seat rooting for the good guys , this book does that SO well! I loved the fierce strong Charlie and the history of her notorious family ... **it was hauntingly good ! This is a must read for all Karin Slaughter fans.***

Alison Bisping

This is the first Karin Slaughter novel I have read and won't be the last.

It starts with the events of 28 years ago, what happened to the family. It quickly moves on with new events (and very cleverly they are linked to the past) and at the end, we get to find out what really happened 28 years ago, and how that has shaped the two sisters.

The characters feel real, there are plenty of twists and turns and you just want to keep turning the pages. You'll probably end up reading later than you want to if you read at night because you want to know the next part of the story.

Compelling, believable, fast paced and I would definitely recommend.