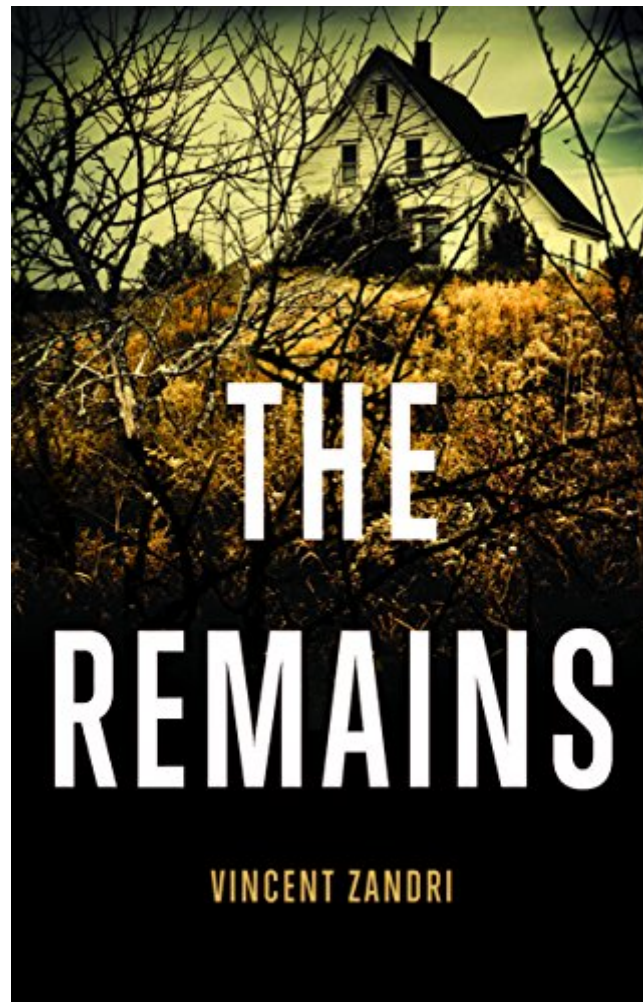


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The Remains



Synopsis

Itâ™s been thirty years since the terrifying abduction of twin sisters Rebecca and Molly Underhill by a deranged man who lived in a cabin behind their house in upstate New York. Fearful of retribution against their family, the girls kept the incident secret. Rebecca, now a painter and art teacher, and alone since Molly died of cancer, suddenly begins getting strange and anonymous text messagesâ”the first with just her name. Is Molly trying to communicate with her? Not possible, thinks Rebecca, whoâ™s never believed in God or an afterlife. And it couldnâ™t be their attacker from so many years ago; he was imprisoned for a similar crime at about that same time. Surely heâ™d still be in jail or dead by nowâ”wouldnâ™t he? But things get stranger. Rebeccaâ™s art student Francis, an autistic savant, gives her a series of paintings heâ™s done. Rebecca, with increasing dread, realizes the sequence of scenes depicted in the paintings match the nightmares sheâ™s had every night since the horrific ordeal three decades earlier. How could Franny know? Is it a ghostly warning of some kind? Unnerved, Rebecca spills the whole frightening account of the abduction to her ex-husband and friend, Michael, who, dismayed by the story, vows to help sort out the mysterious texts and disturbing series of paintings. What happens next is a frightening rollercoaster ride that builds up to a soul-shattering climax that will leave the reader checking the locks on their doors and windowsâ |

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Customer Reviews

This is one of those books that once you pick it up, you won't put it down. From the very beginning of the story, *The Remains* has a hold of you and won't let go. This is an amazing suspenseful thriller about a young woman being haunted by her past and the man who abducted her and her twin sister 30 years ago. The twins never told anyone about what happened to them for fear that the man would harm their parents, and now he's back in the surviving twins' life. If this had been a movie I would have been watching it with my hand around my mouth ready to be pushed above my eyes to hide. I loved it! It was like a roller coaster. I don't read a lot of thrillers, but I do love reading suspense and mysteries, and this was the best of both. The characters were easy to understand and like. The storyline wasn't the same old suspense and it kept me guessing. This is definitely a good read. I would recommend this book to anyone who likes suspense, thrillers and mysteries. Not inappropriate for older teenagers, but mature readers only. I think my oldest son, who is 16, would like to read this book, but it might be a little too much for my younger son, who is 14. Not really a book that is specific for girls even though the main character is a woman. However it would be good for women to read because she handles herself and her situation really well. Disclaimer: I received this book from Pump Up Your Book Promotion for review purposes only. All opinions are 100% my own.

The book started with a good enough premise and then just fizzled. I enjoyed the first half and then it got very boring very quickly. Near the end when the main character is in the woods being hunted by her former abductor, the descriptions are so over dramatic in attempts at creating drama that just isn't there. And in the hospital, (SPOILER ALERT) when the husband wakes up for a split second, apparently hanging on out of love (yeah right) then he flat lines, the machine sounds and the nurse walks in, turns off the machine and "gives them a moment"???? Really?? Not a single attempt at lifesaving procedures? No code blue...nothing.. just oh, gee. Let me turn off this annoying alarm for you so you can have some time with the dead guy that we won't bother to try and save? Yeah...this is not what they mean when they talk about suspension of disbelief...Such a disappointment.

A captive story that is an easy read, but it is littered with typos (incessant misspelling 'naseas' made me want to vomit) and other errors. There is the element of suspense, but the straightforward story

is quite predictable throughout. Descriptions are simple (everybody is running hands through 'thick hair') but the story fights through the writing and mistakes to be somewhat captivating at times. This is an easy read that makes it a decent thriller for younger readers, but Christie and King it is not.

This book will capture your attention from the first page. The writing style for the story is very easy and it is just pure entertainment. The characters are fleshed out in such a way that you get to know them well and you will find yourself getting personally involved with them. My only negative with this book is with the editing. The biggest problem with the editing was incorrect use of pronouns, such as "Dan taught Molly and I to fish". The sentence should read "Dan taught Molly and me to fish". The only reason I am pointing this out is that it happens many times in the book. Editing and proofing are very important tools to use for any book. Overall, I really enjoyed the story and would recommend this book.

Where to begin? 1. The main character is the most annoying, whining, weak, hysterical, protagonist - EVER! 2. The author describes the most inane, in the longest, pointless descriptions. 3. The plot is incredibly disjointed. The connection between the autistic artist and his visions of "the terrible past," makes no sense. Do yourself a favor... save your \$1.99 for a homeless man on the side of the road.

The only small positive in this reading experience for me is that I got the book for free. The characters weren't very well drawn, dialogue was ridiculous (they all had the same voice and didn't speak very realistically), it didn't feel well edited and a lot of the word choices were not well chosen. And all that wasn't enough to entirely distract me from the story, which would have gone better with a popular tv drama where favorite actors could have covered for how far-fetched and tiresome the plot was. I really hate to leave books unfinished, otherwise I would have thrown it across the room before I even got to chapter three.

Like other reviewers noted, the book started off ok. It got steadily worse and unbelievable. I don't think the author did any research with regard to actual law enforcement or medical practices. In what world can a woman find out she's 3 days pregnant?! Little things like that added up. I also thought the chase scenes in the woods were overdone and insanely boring. I too skipped the majority of those pages. Don't bother. This book is a waste of time and money.

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