



## Wicked Wives

*Anna-Lou Weatherley*

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A tale of intrigue, revenge and excess...

When the 'Blue Angel' yacht is found abandoned off the coast of Antigua and Playboy and Casino owner, Tom Black, who was on board is pronounced missing, foul-play is suspected. After all, the serial gambler and womaniser has made plenty of enemies.

As events come to light however, the finger of suspicion points to three women in particular – and the men they're married to.

Ellie Scott, the beautiful socialite with a dubious past; Loretta Fiorentino, the fame-seeking gold-digger and Victoria Mayfield, the glamorous successful author.

Full of intrigue, revenge and decadence, this is a tale you'll want to revisit again and again.

## **Wicked Wives Details**

Date : Published July 18th 2013 by Avon, HarperCollins (first published 2013)

ISBN : 9781847563323

Author : Anna-Lou Weatherley

Format : Paperback 466 pages

Genre : Fiction, Romance

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## From Reader Review Wicked Wives for online ebook

### Agi says

This is the second book of Anna - Lou Weatherley. Now I have read both of them and "Wicked Wives" is absolutely much more my kind of book as "The Chelsea Wives". This book have me gripped from the very beginning, it was an exciting, surprising and addictive read.

There are many characters in this book and all of them are more or less connected with each other and their plots intertwines. In my opinion the author has brilliantly introduced all of them to us and I didn't feel confused almost at all, I have known who is who and who are their friends. As we are talking about characters, let me tell you that they were wonderfully written, especially women. They are not simple or straightforward characters, all of them has secrets, all of them have many layers, all of them have feelings. They are all very likeable and they make a lot of mistakes, oh yes:) But they are also trying to correct them which is theoretically easier for them because they have all a lot of money which makes life much easier. All of the characters have their own life stories and we get their point of views.

The books starts with a kick and doesn't stop kicking at all. With every page there is more: action, tension, drama, scandal. It is full of turns and twists and it's like a long ride on a rollercoaster without a seat belt. It is also full of surprises and unexpected situation, also actually it has all that a girl (not only the one who is a wicked wife) need. It is clever and intelligent, and like all of the books this kind the action just rocks and rolls: faster, faster and faster.

The writing is totally gripping, interesting and just flowing. The writing style is really refreshing, there are some good lines, a lot of swearing but it is this kind of book. Anna - Lou has a way with words, I can just imagine that when she's writing there are sparks coming from her computer or pen or whatever she writes with. Her descriptions are just jumping out of the pages and we can almost see it all with our very own eyes. The best way to read this book is to have a lot of free time to finish it in one go (when I must have to put the book down I was feeling totally frustrated because I wanted to know what's going to happen), by the pool, with a glass of chilled champagne in a hand. OK, a coach and coffee will do as well. Brilliant read. Can really recommend.

I have received a copy of this book from publisher in exchange for a review.

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### Holly says

Not my normal type of book - but it was fun, entertaining and enjoyable!! One gets to get a quick view into the life of the rich and glamorous - where everyone is more concerned about their diamond-platinum Chanel bracelet watch or De Beers diamond encrusted platinum wedding bands versus the importance of an actual relationship. It certainly does showcase how the 'other' half of the world lives.

With that being said its an entangling of a weave where everyone seems to be extensively interested in this one guy - - yet nobody knows anybody else holds that position - - so the further along we go in the story, the tighter the weave of the web. If you have every enjoyed a Joan Collins book - this is written in the same style! With the tightening of that web I couldn't wait to see how this book ended! Short chapters allows for snippets of reading ability in between time periods. One major thing that does stand out is the saying interwoven throughout the writing "My grandmother always taught me - - The heart always knows what the heart wants....."

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## Ceri says

Wicked Wives deals with a group of people with overlapping lives: First we have Ellie - she started out as poor girl in London's East End, became a heartbroken Vegas stripper and ended up married to a billionaire who adores her. She is going through some business worries, being gazumped on a property that she hopes to turn into a dance studio, and is also worried about her headstrong 18 year old daughter Tess.

Ellie's friend, Victoria has the perfect life on paper - she is rich, a successful writer, has a husband who adores her, but they've had fertility problems. Victoria and her husband decided to give up the fertility treatment and hope for a miracle, and they finally conceived but had the heartbreak of losing their infant daughter to cot death. Victoria is obsessed with getting pregnant, and rather than revisit the fertility topic with her husband she decides to take the unbelievably selfish and risky step of taking a lover to get pregnant by instead.

The man who broke Ellie's heart years ago left her for Loretta, an Italian actress who is ageing disgracefully and hungry for fame. Loretta's plastic surgeon husband has done something awful and is facing a potentially disastrous lawsuit, but luckily he has a heart attack and dies before it comes to court, leaving Loretta with millions to play with.

Tom Black has links with all these women and an agenda of his own. He's also in deep trouble, and he's not the only one.

This book took a while for me to get into, a good 75 pages because there were so many people and situations to get your head around and at first it wasn't clear how everybody was connected. It reminded me a bit of a Jilly Cooper in that respect, large cast list of rich promiscuous people, but once it was all clear in my mind the story picked up and was entertaining, and once I got past around 150 pages I found myself thinking of the story when I wasn't reading it, so it was engaging too.

I had some niggles with this book; firstly I found the constant mentions of designers a bit annoying. Somebody can't just put their handbag down, it's a Miu Miu handbag, and if they are putting on body cream, it's Jo Malone tangerine body cream, etc It was almost like an advert. I get that the author was trying to set the stage, but it was like somebody name dropping, after a bit it grates on you. Perhaps it wouldn't have if I was more into designer clothes, I don't know. Also, this appears to be a world where STDs don't exist - nobody seems worried about them at all, but some of the stuff that happens in this book would make anybody worry about it, frankly, these people are probably riddled with disease.

My main issue with this book is that I know these books are supposed to be a bit of escapism, but for me, there were too many instances where I felt that the characters' behaviour weren't quite believable for the circumstances, e.g. Ellie is worried about her daughter, that something is the matter, but still allows her husband to get Tess her own place after a whole 30 second conversation - I just didn't buy it, the daughter is 18 so hardly too old enough to be still living with her parents and Ellie was not only worried that something specifically bad had happened, but also worried that Tess was too naive etc to be living on her own, yet she hardly put up a fight against this decision. In fact, the whole Tess storyline I didn't buy - I won't put details for fear of spoilers but there were many instances that I found hard to believe.

By the end of the book I still had some questions that weren't answered but things seemed mostly resolved by the final chapter. But then there was an epilogue raised another load of issues and more questions that weren't answered for me. Personally I think it would have been a better ending if the epilogue wasn't in the

book.

In summary I'd say this is an entertaining beach read but you need to be prepared to suspend your disbelief on quite a few occasions.

Disclaimer: I got this book via a Goodreads giveaway

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### **Jan says**

Bought this after reading Pleasure Island, that came as a recommendation. Growing up on a diet of the sensational Jackie Collins, Anna Lou Weatherly is a breath of fresh air putting her own stamp on this type of novel. Filled with intrigue, lust, revenge, glamour, deceit, jealousy all the ingredients to captivate and avid reader, Wicked Wives is a rollercoaster of a novel, never leaving a moment for the reader to become distracted. You get lost in the narrative that jets across the world. Tom Black is a lothario and he links Ellie, Victoria, Loretta and Ellie's daughter Tess together for an explosive novel. I had not expected to love this author quite so much, but I do and this novel is for anyone who loves the Collins type of novel, it did not disappoint. I needed a breath of fresh air after some excellent murder mysteries and this filled the void, loved it.

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### **Amy says**

I read the first 100 pages and was still waiting for Tom Black to disappear/die.

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### **Natalie TBGWP says**

To finish a book with a sly grin on your face and a shake of the head can only mean that the book in question is a bad girl's dream. Underneath our smiles and politeness, our loveliness as ladies and mothers, we are wicked Wives. We are mean seducers who use our sexuality to allow us achievement in anything we want, especially regarding the opposite sex. I'm saying this as a female, but I guarantee males do it too. We will all do whatever we want, when we want, and for what we want. That doesn't mean we are bad or dishonest people. Take me for example it's my husband who gets my charm and hmm how to put it... skills when I want my very own way. You all know you do this and if you don't agree then I'm afraid your lying to yourself. Take a read of wicked wives and let Anna-Lou Weatherley open that bit of your mind your hiding from.

Wicked Wives is full of Witty one liners and a newer, harsher writing style that may be crass to some, but in this day and age is as refreshing as an ice cold glass of rosé on a summer day! Anna-Lou Weatherley has a way with words like the m&s food adverts. You know the ones, sexy, tantalising and exotic. Her descriptions are so thorough and faultless it makes the pages erupt and come alive. This book has a slap in your face opening prologue that continues slapping throughout every chapter. It's not even funny how much eye opening drama there is. It's like, Slap-murder. Slap-secrets. Slap-botched up cosmetic surgery. Slap-scandal. Slap- baby-loss. Slap-drugged orgies. And we're still taking about the beginning chapters here. It gives us a catalogue of completely versatile characters to sink our teeth into. All have been cleverly linked together which results in so much excitement you think you might burst. You know when you skip a few pages or

skim read very fast to try get to find out the gossip? That's this book. Don't though, you can't, you will miss far too much by doing that. I'm seriously the most impatient person in the world so if I can do it you can too.

I loved the clever way the author writes from one character to the next, making you think it all ties into the before persons chapter. When sometimes it doesn't It brings a new type of excitement into reading which I really, truly appreciated. Kudos to Anna-Lou Weatherley for that.

Underneath the lies, secrets, death and debauchery lies a sad tale of love and heartbreak though. It's a tale that will have your nerves shot to see what's happening next, but your heart aching for the pain and hurt some of the characters face. It's a continuous battle of love and affection and it will have you needing and wanting more. You really won't be disappointed.

Revenge, infidelity, incest, orgies, drugs, guns, blackmail, murder and wicked wives. A book that is a must for you and your eyes!

This is going into my book of the year 2013 category it is simply divine.

Seriously go get yourself a copy ASAP!

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## **Abbey says**

*Title: Wicked Wives*

*Author: Anna-Lou Weatherley*

*Publisher: HarperCollins*

*Publication Date: 18th July 2013*

*A tale of intrigue, revenge and excess...*

*When the 'Blue Angel' yacht is found abandoned off the coast of Antigua and Playboy and Casino owner, Tom Black, who was on board is pronounced missing, foul-play is suspected. After all, the serial gambler and womaniser has made plenty of enemies.*

*As events come to light however, the finger of suspicion points to three women in particular – and the men they're married to.*

*Ellie Scott, the beautiful socialite with a dubious past; Loretta Fiorentino, the fame-seeking gold-digger and Victoria Mayfield, the glamorous successful author.*

*Full of intrigue, revenge and decadence, this is a tale you'll want to revisit again and again.*

I adored Anna-Lou's first book 'The Chelsea Wives' so when I was so overjoyed when I heard Anna was bringing another book out 'Wicked Wives', I couldn't wait to start!

The cover doesn't give much away but just has a glamourous lady so in a way you know the book is going to be very glamour & glitz.

'Wicked Wives' is certainly a book to remember this year. So we meet Tom Black Playboy, Casino Owner

and a serial gambler he disappears after being on a yacht found abandoned off the coast of Antigua. Nobody knows where he's gone just that shots were heard.. What ever happened to Tom Black?  
Three women under the lime light for killing Tom Black, Ellie Scott; beautiful socialite with a dubious past, Loretta Fiorentino; Glamourous fame-seeking gold-digger and Victoria Mayfield; glamourous successful author. Who has the motive to kill Tom Black and why?

This is one power hungry book that will have you staying up late at night like I certainly was most nights. Each Chapter is a different character but you so easily warm to the characters and you soon get hooked with the story line. I really did enjoy this so much.

Anna-Lou certainly knows how to get her readers hooked and enjoy her books so much. 'Wicked Wives' is written superb and I couldn't fault it one bit.

I don't want to give the plot away because I feel you may want to enjoy reading it yourself.

It is certainly not one to miss this year for sure.

Totally hook worthy book! A fabulous holiday read for 2013 which will have you turning the page so quick!!

Grab now Ladies, You do not want to miss out!!

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### **Nur Aqilah says**

A bit draggy, but it was a fun read

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### **Megan Readinginthesunshine says**

I first discovered Anna-Lou Weatherley when I read her novel, *Chelsea Wives*, which I absolutely loved. And when I heard that she was releasing a new novel, I couldn't wait to read it!

Tom Black is a casino owner, serial gambler and has women falling at his feet. But when he disappears, it is unclear what has happened to him. Under suspicion are three women who have connections with his past: Socialite Eleanor, Loretta the power-hungry gold-digger, and the glamorous author Victoria who is still heartbroken. But beware...there are three determined women who will stop at nothing to get what they want...

The title of the book was brilliant...Wicked Wives...what a title! I can say it's one of my favourite book titles this year and it had me interested immediately. I was so excited about this book, and it was definitely worth the wait! As with Anna-Lou's last book, I was gripped straight away from the first page and I loved the story! I even took to staying up late at night in bed in a frenzy to get to the next part...quite frequently I could be heard saying "Oh just one more chapter!", but this is a book you won't want to put down!

I was drawn in straight away by the characters....wow they have been so well written! They are all quite complex but in a very intriguing way that makes you want to know more about them, their actions and decisions, and what makes them how they are. Anna-Lou Weatherley has done such a fantastic job with these characters, especially the women. She has created characters who have so many layers and depth to them, and there is always something happening, and they have their own little stories which makes it so much more fascinating to read!

I don't want to give away anything about the plot because I worry that I'll spoil it, but it is a book that I really enjoyed and I'd definitely recommend it! Wicked Wife is perfect for a beach read or a holiday read, or even just sitting in your garden with a drink! This novel is packed with scandal and secrets, I honestly didn't know where the story would take me and I was hooked! Wicked wives is glamorous, addictive and dramatic – this is a wicked tale that is not to be missed!

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## **Tripfiction says**

"There are no good girls gone wrong - just bad girls found out" (Mae West). This novel is a homage to the Wicked Women in this world... think Madonna, Joan Rivers, Lady Gaga, Alexis Colby and the polyglot character in this novel, Loretta Fiorentino.

Setting the scene: Wicked Wives by Anna-Lou Weatherley opens just off St John's Bay in Antigua, and rolls around the world, Las Vegas, London, Los Angeles, Ibiza are some of the locations that form a luxurious backdrop.

In this truly global romp, there are mavericks, gamblers, ex-stripers, imposters, property tycoons (possibly even bigger than Donald Trump), wicked wives, and more money spattered between the characters than is imaginable. The chapters all drip, drip with mentions of luxury brands, like the regular plop from exotic rustling palm trees after a tropical storm; it is therefore a must read for those who love plots peppered with top luxury labels - Chloe Marie totes, Ray-Ban Aviators, Missoni, a de Beers Marie-Antoinette necklace, Bulgari, Graff, Jimmy Choos.....

And if you need reminders that most of the characters are very, very seriously rich (or indeed, wannabe rich), then the innumerable descriptions of Beluga caviar consumption will serve to keep you on track - world stocks of this caviar must now be seriously depleted.

The plot swirls along nicely, it is truly very readable, with the characters crossing paths, sex scenes at regular intervals, and lots and lots of luxury labels (have I mentioned these already?).

Ultimately, however, the enjoyment of this novel was marred by poor proofreading. If foreign words aren't your thing then it is easy to check the spelling on the internet - Dom Pérignon rightly keeps its accent aigu, but "chérie" loses its little accent somewhere en route. Italian for Do you understand comes out at one point as capisce...(it should be capisce); and we doubt you would find an Italian saying Bueno (which is Spanish, but, hey, Italy and Spain are both in Europe now, so let's not be picky....).

In Las Vegas, hapless Candy falls into a hotel bed with Tom Black (who is a 'beacon for discord, a magnet for upset and mayhem', yet blessed with features as though 'hand-carved by God himself'), but things get a bit turbulent after Tom disappears from the hotel, and a bit of confusion in the writing ensues between the word brevity and the (I guess) intended word gravity: "the brevity of the situation was only just beginning to dawn upon her, panic swelling up inside her guts like yeast."... Hmmm.

A central feature in the novel is a disused warehouse in Soho, London, which a couple of the characters vie to purchase. The building starts out as being located at no.12 Starling Street, W1, but low! The address morphs into Swift Street later on. Now, I am not a birdie twitcher, but I am sure these are not technically interchangeable (having no doubt taken their original inspiration from the real Swallow Street in London...).

And what did we learn? Interestingly, there are vast ranges of thread counts for bed sheets (which was indeed interesting, going right up to 1000 counts), and that the capital city of Brazil is Rio (er, not).

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## **Bookevin says**

Originally from: [www.iheart-chicklit.blogspot.com](http://www.iheart-chicklit.blogspot.com)

Why you would love this:

It's been a while since I've read such a delicious novel, that I can assure, is true. I guess you can classify Wicked Wives under "bonkbusters" but some parts of the book aren't really all about the sex and scandal. I really loved this book, and I couldn't put it down - it was that good!

Wicked Wives follows the story of three women who are linked to the same man, Tom Black. Ellie, wife to a billionaire was romantically involved with Tom before she met her husband, Loretta, a has-been who is only after fame and fortune and Victoria, best-selling author who has lived through a tragic past. All three women mingle in the same circles in society, but they aren't aware of their involvement with Tom, surely it's purely coincidental?

I would like to praise Anna-Lou Weatherley for creating such a wonderful array of characters, you get the bitchiest bitch of all bitches to the drop dead gorgeous Adonis to the psychopathic deceiver. I thought the characters were very well-written and in fact, reading Wicked Wives reminds me of the reality TV shows I watch, all the drama, conflict and bitchy remarks. The book explores a different side to women, powerful, ruthless and relentless. Talk about girl power!

The book was delicious. If you can describe it as delicious, that is. It was paced very well and the plot twists were really shocking. I must commend on the plot though, clearly I've been so caught up with the drama, I was caught off guard by the surprises that were in store for us. The setting of the book was undoubtedly the piece-de-resistance. I loved how the glamorous, exotic life of the rich and famous were cleverly exploited to allow the readers to lust for the much coveted life on the fast lane. From beluga caviar to Dom Perignon champagne to the stunning haute couture, it was clearly a thrill to read about!

Verdict:

If you're a die-hard fan of Jackie Collins and Rebecca Chance, then Anna-Lou Weatherley's books will be up on your street. I loved it so much, I wish it would be made into a film.

Wicked Wives was an explosive read which will leave you wanting more. I found it highly addictive and I couldn't get enough of reading about the amazing lifestyle of the rich. Oh, the book fills my head with thoughts of an exotic paradise with a delicious cocktail in hand! A perfect beach companion for your summer holidays!

Rating: 5/5

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## **Vickie Taylor says**

I think the premise of this book was really good but it failed to deliver. Clunky dialogue & writing style 'like a gold disc behind a sideboard'?! Plus way too much mention of designer outfits etc. Too neatly tied up at the end.

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## **Kvgal says**

This story is nothing but a piece of drama. Its more like reading a movie script. And i absolutely hate the ending!!

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## **Beckie says**

Originally posted at [http://beckiesbookmix.blogspot.co.uk/...](http://beckiesbookmix.blogspot.co.uk/)

After absolutely adoring Anna-Lou Weatherley's first book *Chelsea Wives* I knew I had to get my hands on this one! Anna has a talent for creating complex intriguing tales that have you hooked from the first page. Her stories are full of powerful women and shady men who live in an elite world we couldn't even dream of...

When serial gambler and Playboy Tom Black disappears off the 'Blue Angel' yacht there are several suspects to contend with. Tom Black has a bad habit of making enemies out of people. His womanising ways have never left him - you know what they say about a woman scorned. Has one of these women finally caught up with him?

Ellie Scott is the ultimate story of rags to riches and has spent her whole life trying to bury her past. Loretta Fiorentino is a cold-hearted gold-digger who will claw her way to the top not caring who she hurts in the process. Victoria Mayfield is a successful author who has made her own fortune but has a secret which is threatening to throw her over the edge. All three women and their husbands have their own axe to grind with Tom Black but could any of them have actually done the dirty deed?

I enjoyed having three main characters to devour in this book. At first the women seem unconnected but as the story develops we get to see how their paths cross. Anna-Lou Weatherley created characters that were so complex and dimensional that I did not see the plot twists coming at all! Ellie, Victoria and Loretta have so many layers that made this book such a mysterious and captivating read.

Ellie is the sweet girl with the humble beginnings who has married into this high-class world. She has worked very hard to keep her past a secret but there are no secrets in a world full of gossiping women with no end to the amount of money they can spend.

Victoria has made her own fortune but is fighting her demons the whole way. She may have a successful career and a loving husband but she is finding it more and more difficult to keep up her façade and her mask is starting to slip.

Loretta is just your average money-grabbing, social climbing bitch who will stop at nothing to get what she

wants. She has played her way to the top and is under no circumstances going to let anyone bring her back down. Loretta was a character I loved to read about. It was interesting to see what motivates her in her scheming ways.

Anna-Lou Weatherley has given us a mysterious and exciting insight into the secret world of the rich and famous. She has presented us with an array of characters to give us just the right amount of excitement, revenge, sex, money, gorgeous men and enough gossip to keep you going for years! This is one of my favourite books of 2013 so far and I cannot wait for further books from Anna-Lou Weatherley.

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### **Leah says**

Anna Lou Weatherley burst onto the scene last year with her debut adult novel *Chelsea Wives*. I haven't actually read it, though as with most books I haven't yet read, it is on my shelf to be read. When I heard of her new novel, I was interested. I'm not a massive fan of the cover, it just seems rather blah compared to say a Tasmina Perry cover which are always glamorous and beautiful and I expected a bit more for *Wicked Wives*' cover, but I dived in eagerly, especially as Anna Lou's novels are similar to Tamsina Perry's and I love me some Tasmina Perry. I was massively impressed with *Wicked Wives*, and it very much is a novel Tasmina Perry fans will enjoy, as I did.

*Wicked Wives* focuses on the lives of quite a few players, so many characters in fact that I felt it needed a glossary of characters! Mostly it follows two families, the Scott's and the Mayfield's, along with a man named Tom Black, who is linked to everyone, and Loretta Fiorentino. They're all connected in many different ways, and it all begins with a night in Vegas, and ends on a boat. It all boils down to what happened to Tom Black and how in the world he ended up missing in action. I thought the plot was excellent and although I wanted to get really annoyed with certain characters at certain times, I found it so intriguing that I just had to keep reading.

Because there are a lot of characters in the novel, it can be a bit difficult to keep up, but once you sort out the family trees and who knows whom and how they're all connected, it all becomes a lot clearer and it's a lot easier to keep up. Much like a Tasmina Perry novel, there's a lot of glamour, a lot of intrigue, a lot of fashion (there's something about this type of novel that means fashion must also be involved, perhaps because everyone is so rich? Who knows. Fashion doesn't bother me...), and a lot of incest, for lack of a better word. Everyone is involved with everyone, in more ways than one and it's a very tight-knit community. My favourite character was probably Tess Scott, Ellie's daughter, she has quite the plot line and I was rooting for her to come through all her typical-rich-girl issues. Loretta Fiorentino drove me nuts, as she did everyone else in the novel.

I thoroughly enjoyed *Wicked Wives*. It was really well written, I so enjoyed diving into the novel and there was many a time I stayed up way too late reading in a bid to learn more and more. Anna Lou Weatherley seems to manage so easily to keep all the balls up in the air and I always wonder how authors like Anna and like Tasmina Perry manage to juggle so many plots and characters. There wasn't much wrong with *Wicked Wives*. Sure, I wished Ellie wasn't as much as a drip where Tom Black was concerned; yes, he had his moments and I could see why she was so into him, but then he went and did something so horrific it just changed it all for me. In the end, I felt he was a pretty reprehensible character. He wasn't accountable for any of his actions, and I felt he should have been. I definitely recommend *Wicked Wives* though it was a brilliant read, and it's perfect for these hot summer days.

