



# What Lies in the Darkness

*Jessica Sorensen*

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## **What Lies in the Darkness** Jessica Sorensen

In the mostly wealthy town of Shadow Cove, nothing is what it seems...

When Makayla's older brother, Sawyer, is found dead, the police rule his death a suicide. But her father, a reporter for the local paper, believes Sawyer was murdered and begins his own investigation to prove it.

Eight months later, he vanishes without a trace, and Mak is left trying to live a normal life in a town that ridicules her family. And it doesn't help that every time she gets too stressed out, she starts seeing the ghost of her brother.

All Mak wants is a little bit of normalcy, so when an opportunity arises to participate in the local skateboarding charity event, Mak grabs onto the chance to do something she used to enjoy doing.

In order to pay the pricey entry fee, Mak decides to call a number on a reward poster for a lost laptop, figuring she'll be able to make use of the mystery-solving skills she picked up from her father. With the help of her three best friends, she begins searching for the missing laptop. But what starts out as a simple case, ends up turning into a mystery full of twists and turns that show a darker side of Shadow Cove.

Follow the four friends as they discover the secret societies and deadly games hidden in the glamorous side of Shadow Cove.

A YA Mystery series with a splash of paranormal.

## **What Lies in the Darkness Details**

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# **From Reader Review What Lies in the Darkness for online ebook**

## **Mary Tatar says**

I would describe What Lies In The Darkness as Pretty Little Liars meets Stranger both shows I love. Jessica Sorensen does what she does best and weaves a story that will keep you glued to the pages. This new series pulled me in, and the dynamic between the characters made me envious of the friendship between these teen girls. The world these girls live in is scary, confusing, and complicated, but having a great support system, and these close friends prove to have each other's back through good times and bad. This is mostly a mystery, and while you try to figure out what may happen next you fall in love with the characters. This book may be short, but it's highly entertaining.

We are introduced to Makayla who lives in the small town. She is grieving the death of her brother, and mysterious disappearance of her father. A string of deaths prompt her and her friends to investigate the reasons behind what really is going on in town. She quickly finds out. There is way more going on then she could have imagined.

The start of this series is solid. It gives you just enough answers to keep you wanting more. I caught myself sleuthing along with the characters. It was a fun book to say the least. It obviously ends on somewhat of a cliffhanger, and you can expect while reading. I am anticipating the next book just like an episode of my favorite show. Love what the author has introduced thus far. If you are like me and love a good YA mystery mixed with a little teen angst, then you should be reading this one, like yesterday.

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## **Sara Miller says**

This was a pretty solid read, the characters were well written the storyline had just enough intrigue to keep you interested but not too much to where the story got overly complicated. the last few chapters left me with a lot of questions and there is a cliffhanger so for those of you who hate them you might want to hold off reading until closer to the release of the next book.

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## **Verna Loves Books says**

What Lies in The Darkness by Jessica Sorensen is one of the best spine chilling stories you're going to read this year. It is a great beginning to one amazing series. I was instantly drawn into the story and couldn't put it down till I reached the end. I cannot wait for the second book in the series to come out.

The book is filled with lots of twists and turns, suspense, and it will have you on the edge of your seat trying to figure out what is going on in Shadow Cove. The ending left me hanging and even more curious than when I began. So be prepared to be blown away.

I give What Lies in The Darkness by Jessica Sorensen 4 out of 5 FEARLESS STARS!

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## **Courtney says**

So I have now started this review about 10 times and still have no idea how to start it. Jessica Sorensen is just awesome - that is all I can say. She whips out books like clockwork and they are so damn good.

What Lies in the Darkness is an amazing YA suspense and thrilling read. I actually thought of Veronica Mars while reading this - just this has a slight paranormal vibe going on along with a tad bit more intensity to it.

Mak and her four best friends are all so different yet the same. They come from different backgrounds but none of them want to fit into the crowd - they are ok with being the outcasts. And it's because of that, they all find themselves delving deeper into a mystery they never expected.

The girls want to get revenge on the school's biggest tormentor. But what they end up doing, is walking into a very deeply rooted mystery of their own. Mak is being threatened with her life but refuses to give up. Will she end up like her brother and father? Who's behind everything? Who's willing to stand by and help her?

Jessica has really packed a lot into this first book. There's a lot of mystery surrounding a few characters and that just adds to the suspense of this all. How do they all fit into the story? What part do they play? The book moves at a quick pace and Jessica keeps us on our toes with the ever twisting events.

I can't wait to see what she brings us in the next book.

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## **Nancy The book junkie says**

Review coming soon!

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## **Andrea Heltsley says**

I enjoy the paranormal romance books this author writes. This book was a good start to a promising new series. The author depicted teens accurately and is in touch with the age group this YA book is geared toward. Some of the plot construction was a little shaky in the beginning but pulled through around 10% in. As I got to know the girls and the mystery unraveled, my interest held. I'm truly curious about the paranormal aspects. Is it really paranormal or just the characters' imagination? Looking forward to book 2. Four glittery stars!

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## **Ashley says**

The plot is extremely interesting, which originally drew me to this book. Unfortunately, the character's and their developments nearly bored me to death. This book has so much potential but unfortunately didn't meet it for me.

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**Christine (Shh Moms Reading) says**

great start to a new series - mysterious, compelling - I want more!

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**Kathryn Packingham says**

I read that this book was going to be Stranger Things meets Pretty Little Liars. I agree completely with this! Sorensen made up an incredible story with her imaginative world building and great character development! I loved each of the girls and the smaller sub stories! It made for a quick and fun read! I was on the edge of my seat the whole time!

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**Beth Knight says****Pretty good**

Interesting story. Left me with a lot of questions, it isn't quite as short but does end in a cliffhanger. Good thing the second book is out.

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**Melanie says**

I don't know how I feel about this book. I liked the characters and even the story. I found Mark a fun character and loved her inquisitive nature. I found her friend group worked well and liked the mystery of their town.

My issue though having read a few books by this author now is that it doesn't flow. It reads like a tv program almost. Like scenes and then no in between. I hope that makes sense? Slightly disjointed.

I've come to enjoy Jessica's writing style but this doesn't work for me as much. I've already purchased the next book. So of course her story has drew me in enough to keep me going. But I prefer her writing style she usually uses than this. 3.5 stars but it could have been a 4. Read over 2 sittings.

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**Jennifer Kyle says****3.5 Stars**

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**Stacey Mcphilomy says**

Fun who done it story. So many puzzle pieces still yet to overturn. Who is involved in the mysterious happenings around shadow cove? I can't wait to see what happens next.

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### **Jess says**

This book was trying way too hard to be Veronica Mars. It sounded like a fun read, but I was disappointed at how lacking in originality it was. That might have been fine if she had pulled it off, but this was a pale imitation of such a wonderful tv show. Makayla sees the ghost of her dead brother just like Duncan did in the show. Veronica's Mom went missing, Makayla's dad went missing. The town has no middle class, just the very rich and the very poor- Just like Neptune, CA. Makayla is despised by the rich kids because her dad was a reporter who dug up secrets about their families. Veronica was despised by the rich kids because her dad was a sheriff who accused the wrong rich person of killing Veronica's best friend. Makayla learned to investigate from her reporter dad and wants to be just like him. Veronica learned to investigate from her private eye dad and wants to follow in his footsteps. Do I need to go on? Watch Veronica Mars. This was a juvenile copy that felt like half of a book.

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### **Julie says**

Small towns aren't always what they are cracked up to be. For the residents of Shadow Cove, the wealthy dominate the locale. What most people don't realize is nothing in this town is at it appears. Mysterious happenings are plaguing those that reside within the borders of this town that is the model of perfection.

As someone who has felt the sorrow that is hidden by the mysteries that lie within this town, Mak knows that there are secrets that have yet to be discovered. Her brother was found dead of an overdose, and her father has mysteriously disappeared. Leaving questions that only Mak seems to desire to uncover.

There is so much more to the mysterious deaths and missing persons in Shadow Cover. Secrets that threaten to bring harm to Mak and her best friends upon their inquisition. What clues were left behind from Mak's father in his quest to uncover the truth? Can Mak uncover what is lurking behind closed doors? Only time will tell the magnitude of just how far these secrets are buried.

As a HUGE fan of Sorensen's, I couldn't wait to uncover the mysteries of Shadow Cove on my own. Once I started reading, I quickly discovered that What Lies in the Darkness was reminiscent of a medley of Veronica Mars crossed with a little Pretty Little Lies. So many secrets, and the level of deception is pretty twisted. Puzzle pieces that are part of a greater mystery. One that clearly brings with it danger and revelations.

While the secrets surrounding Mak are leading her towards danger, the friends that she has made stand beside her through thick and thin. The suspense is definitely one that keeps you guessing!! Readers will have their own thoughts about what happened to Sawyer and Mak's dad, but do we really know what's going on this early in the game? The anticipation and mystery has definitely baited me into discovering answers for myself. What will happen next....only diving into the next book will tell!!

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