



Sinister Shorts

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The *New York Times* bestselling author of the acclaimed Nina Reilly thrillers brings her prodigious storytelling gifts to this first-ever collection of short crime fiction. From desperate housewives to hard-boiled PIs to an appearance by Nina Reilly herself, these chilling short mysteries—many appearing in print for the very first time—set the mood and ratchet up the suspense as only Perri O'Shaughnessy can.

Here are tales of love and betrayal, rage and revenge—nineteen sizzling stories that run the gamut from classic whodunits to winding thrillers to an unusual cozy that casts Gertrude Stein as an unlikely Miss Marple. And here Perri O'Shaughnessy has created some of her most sinister and compelling characters yet: a college student who devises an ingenious method for getting her sexy teacher's attention . . . a haunted ex—homicide cop who takes a long walk into his blood-shadowed past in a twisting tale of brutal murder and escalating violence . . . a model wife who surprises both herself and a bothersome furnace man when she is confronted with an unacceptable ultimatum . . . a lemon tree that plays a pivotal role in the tale of a woman who at long last asserts her independence. . . .

From a blood-soaked scheme that's born at a slot machine in Vegas to the violence that ensues when the fat lady stops singing, *Sinister Shorts* shows us life at its most menacing, murderous, and unbearably suspenseful. And it proves once again the unique and captivating genius of Perri O'Shaughnessy.

From the Hardcover edition.

Sinister Shorts Details

Date : Published December 26th 2006 by Delta (first published January 31st 2006)

ISBN : 9780385337984

Author : Perri O'Shaughnessy

Format : Paperback 320 pages

Genre : Mystery, Short Stories

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From Reader Review Sinister Shorts for online ebook

Alex Melnick says

This is a collection of tightly plotted short stories, many involving revenge. A welcome change of pace from the Nina Reilly novels (though Nina and Paul both make brief appearances).

Beth Chamberlain says

Even though I have all of Perri O'Shaunessey books to date, this one is not a Nina Reilly novel so I actually didn't like it as much...if you like short stories, read them anyway...they're still good...

Cathie says

Good collection of stories with some good twists and closure at the end. I like short stories that have a good ending and not leave me hanging. There were several I really liked and noticed a lot of disgruntled wife stories... I liked trying to guess which sister wrote which story and could definitely tell the story they wrote together, "Juggernaut" which was probably my favorite of the whole bunch.

Kelly says

I have trouble giving a short story collection more than 3 stars. This one came very close to 4. One Nina Reilly story, one involving a character from the Nina Reilly books and the rest were uncharted territory for me. Most of them quite good.

Kay says

It's not fair to use my ratings because I am not a fan of short stories. I picked this book up in the library because I've read all the other books she [they:] have written. Some of the stories were good and some weren't. I have books of short stories all over the house by some of my favorite authors [like Stephen King:] that have never been finished. Since this one has a due date, I can't leave it sitting to collect dust for the next 10 years.

Kyra says

A great going to sleep book, weird enough to keep your attention and short enough to last just long enough to fall asleep

Pamela Trawick says

Two sisters, Pamela & Mary, write under the name of Peri. These stories are written by both or by either one individually. They do not tell who wrote most of them. Interesting insight into their individual personalities (if we only knew who was whom). Their joint mysteries benefit from their shared writing technique.

Russeller says

I was expecting more mystery than this.

Kae Cheatham says

Book of Mystery short stories. Interesting, although the themes seemed a bit time-worn.

Angie says

This is an awesome collection of short stories! Even if you've never read any Perri O'Shaughnessy before, I highly recommend this book. Lots of variety, but all with an edge.

Nin says

I love, love story compilations/anthologies! I read this in November while visiting Dad's grave in the cemetery. It was rainy, the air cold, the sky a dull gray. And me, reading stories this sinister. I liked the plot of the nineteen short stories and enjoyed the twists. How the bad guys turn out to be good, how seemingly good guys have skeletons in their closets (or murderous tendencies). My faves in this collection are Dead Money, House Afire, The Furnace Man, Chocolate Milkshake, The Young Lady, The Couple Behind the Curtain, Sandstorm, To Still the Beating of Her Heart, and Lemons.

Tracy Robertson says

I really loved almost all of these stories, and even the ones that weren't my favorites were still good enough to keep me reading through to the end. In most short story collections I find myself skipping a story or two that just don't "grab me" after the first few pages. I found myself not wanting to miss anything in this collection! The stories had some great twists, but were not hard to follow, with the exception of one "Gertrude Stein Solves A Mystery". This story was full of a lot of odd references and half the time I didn't know what the author was talking about. But even with all of that considered, I still enjoyed the premise of

the story and the interesting twist of having a lesbian couple as the central characters. I loved Juggernaut, Sandstorm, Chocolate Milkshake, The Young Lady and The Couple Behind The Curtain. But after reading many of the stories in the collection, the endings became a teeny bit too predictable. Oh it was an intense and great ending for a story the first time or two I read it, but then it just didn't vary quite enough. This author(s) write such incredible, believable characters that I think they can be a little more clever and vary up their endings more. This was my first experience with a Perri O'Shaughnessy book, but I will be back for more.

Donna says

I guess I'm just not into short stories. Could not get through this one but gave it my best effort.
