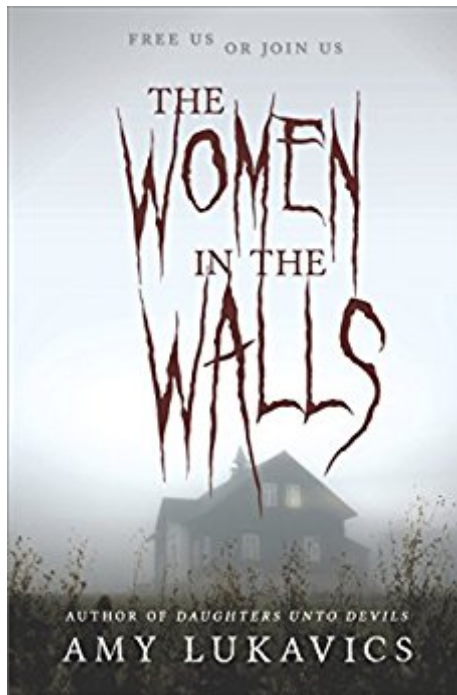




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The Women In The Walls: A Dark And Dangerous Tale



Synopsis

Lucy Acosta's mother died when she was three. Growing up in a Victorian mansion in the middle of the woods with her cold, distant father, she explored the dark hallways of the estate with her cousin, Margaret. They're inseparable; a family. When her aunt Penelope, the only mother she's ever known, tragically disappears while walking in the woods surrounding their estate, Lucy finds herself devastated and alone. Margaret has been spending a lot of time in the attic. She claims she can hear her dead mother's voice whispering from the walls. Emotionally shut out by her father, Lucy watches helplessly as her cousin's sanity slowly unravels. But when she begins hearing voices herself, Lucy finds herself confronting an ancient and deadly legacy that has marked the women in her family for generations.

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Customer Reviews

This was my first book by Amy Lukavics. I wasn't sure what to expect as I believe it is marketed as a Young Adult title but found this wonderfully creepy and surprisingly addicting. Unlike other authors I've read, the author moves the story along with excellent surprises and revelations along the way.

I'm not sure if this is meant to be part of a series of books but I do hope so as the book is complete but could also continue on with more background on the story and characters which I would love. I don't want to give any spoilers but will give a brief explanation of the premise of the book. Our protagonist lives with her father, her aunt and cousin at a family inherited country club. The estate is lusted over by family members but currently belongs to the protagonist's father. He was left the estate by her mother whose sister and others wish it was left in their family instead of given up by her mother to her father. Suddenly we discover that her cousin is starting to hear voices in the walls of their home. Is she really hearing them or possibly losing her mind? All processed through the mind of our protagonist, she takes us on her journey to discovering the truth while unveiling family dynamics which makes for a fun ride. Highly recommended for fans of psychological horror.

...even more than the first, and that's saying something. The very, very end felt a little weak to me. I can't really explain it. There are also things in the book that I can imagine some would find disturbing--namely the cutting. But I thought the author did a great job with it. She didn't dwell on it or go into minute, skin-separating details in any scene that I remember. I appreciated that, because self-inflicted suffering of any kind generally gets to me (God, I hate it). I thought some of the scenes were genuinely scary, too, but this is word coming from a self-proclaimed coward. Horror movies give me too much anxiety to enjoy them. I read horror instead, and this book--to me--was the good stuff. Anyway, I'm trying to say that overall I enjoyed the book immensely. More than words. I highly recommend this book.

At first I was reluctant, but I just fell in love from the first page. I loved this book so much. Kept me on the edge of my seat for the entire adventure. And it doesn't end like most would think! I recommend this to anyone who loves horror.

This was an easy lazy Sunday read!

The first third of the book was interesting, but then it fell apart. The characters were weak and had no idea what direction to go. If you make it to the ending chapters, there will be many of you like me, who just roll your eyes, and say "You have got to be kidding!" This is the big reveal? And I have a feeling that the author is planning a sequel, based on how it ended. I certainly won't be the one who buys it.

Nothing gets me to a book faster than the promise of a ghostly gothic with feminist lit overtones. Unfortunately, in the case of Amy Lukavics second novel *The Women in the Walls*, that promise turned out to be empty. Motherless Lucy Acosta lives in a creepastic Victorian mansion isolated in the woods with only her distant father, her aunt, and her cousin/bestie Margaret for company. Well, there was a cook, I suppose, but he offs himself on the first page in a spectacularly promising fashion. Soon after, Lucy's aunt disappears into the forest, and her cousin starts hearing voices in the walls. As Margaret becomes increasingly unhinged, Lucy must try to protect her own secrets while unearthing those of her family. Turns out, however, that Lucy's secrets aren't terribly interesting - if you had "another teen novel that uses cutting to up the emotional ante for no good reason" please collect your prize - and Lukavics takes so long getting to the reveal about the family that you'll very likely have lost interest. Which is a shame, because there really is a slam-bang finish. It just feels like it belongs in an entirely different novel. I picked this up thinking the author was doing a shout-out to Charlotte Perkins Gilman, but despite Lucy's repeated mentions about the gold-patterned wall paper oppressing or freaking her out, I'm honestly not sure at this point that the reference was intentional. Whether or not it's dealing in shades of *The Yellow Wallpaper*, *The Women in the Walls* certainly has something of the Victorian about it - only that "something" is a flat female lead who floats like a ghost through her own narrative, leaving both the book's promise (and this reader) unfulfilled.

I read Amy Lukavics's first novel, *"Daughters Unto Devils"* and positively creeped out by the ending, so I was looking forward to reading her second novel. Lucy lives in a mansion in the middle of nowhere with her father, aunt, and cousin. Things go bad right from the beginning of the novel when Lucy's aunt disappears into the woods one day. Things are strange when her father doesn't contact the police and instead relies on members of the country club to find her aunt and the search is called off rather quickly. Lucy's cousin, Margaret, starts to lose control of her mind as she claims she can hear her mother in the walls. Things go from bad to worse rather quickly and it's hard to say much more without spoiling the story. Overall, I enjoyed the story and read it in less than a day. The atmosphere of the book is quite creepy from the cover to the last page of the novel. I didn't really see the ending coming as I thought what was going to happen turned out to be something else. It doesn't happen very often where I'm surprised by a thriller book's ending. If you love spooky novels, this is a great book for you. Perfect reading for a cold October night or a stormy night's reading.

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