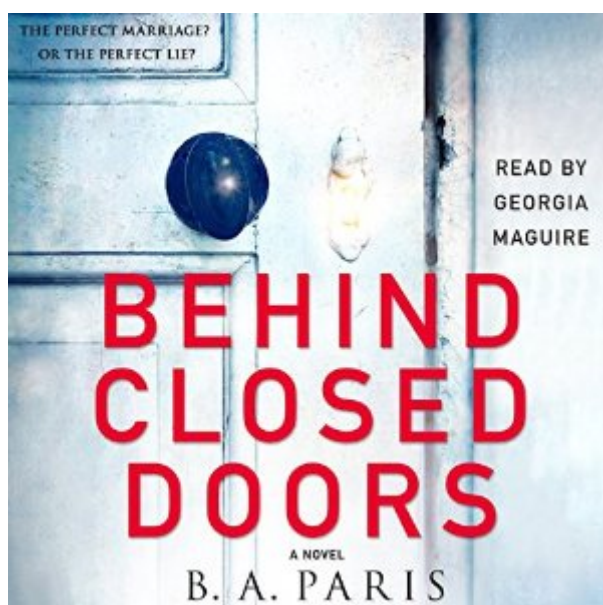


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# Behind Closed Doors



## Synopsis

The instant New York Times and USA Today bestselling debut psychological thriller you can't miss! The perfect marriage? Or the perfect lie? "A hair-raising debut, both unsettling and addictive...A chilling thriller that will keep you reading long into the night." -Mary Kubica, New York Times and USA Today bestselling author of *The Good Girl* "This debut is guaranteed to haunt you...Warning: brace yourself." -Bustle (10 New Thrillers to Read This Summer) "The sense of believably and terror that engulfs *Behind Closed Doors* doesn't waver." -The Associated Press, picked up by The Washington Post Everyone knows a couple like Jack and Grace. He has looks and wealth; she has charm and elegance. He's a dedicated attorney who has never lost a case; she is a flawless homemaker, a masterful gardener and cook, and dotes on her disabled younger sister. Though they are still newlyweds, they seem to have it all. You might not want to like them, but you do. You're hopelessly charmed by the ease and comfort of their home, by the graciousness of the dinner parties they throw. You'd like to get to know Grace better. But it's difficult, because you realize Jack and Grace are inseparable. Some might call this true love. Others might wonder why Grace never answers the phone. Or why she can never meet for coffee, even though she doesn't work. How she can cook such elaborate meals but remain so slim. Or why she never seems to take anything with her when she leaves the house, not even a pen. Or why there are such high-security metal shutters on all the downstairs windows. Some might wonder what's really going on once the dinner party is over, and the front door has closed. From bestselling author B. A. Paris comes the gripping thriller and international phenomenon *Behind Closed Doors*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There will be those who love this book but I am not one of them. It is a well written psychological novel about the "perfect" couple, Jack and Grace. Jack is a lawyer who represents battered women. Grace stays home and paints in their perfect home and throws complex perfect dinner parties. They are the guardians of Grace's sister, Millie, who has Downs Syndrome. Almost done with her school, Millie is anxiously waiting to move in with the couple. The story flips between the past and the present. The past describes how the couple met and how their relationship evolved. The present deals with how Grace is trying to cope with the structure of their marriage and preparing for Millie to move in. I don't want to give too much away but the abuse is horrific. It's not really physical but the mental and behavior treatment made me sick to my stomach. I have enjoyed books with violence but this, without any real gore, was beyond my ability to cope. I could not believe the evilness of it and I couldn't shake it. It is awful that it is rattling in my head. I wish there was a new [book: The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency] but there's not. I will settle for a Hamish Macbeth. I gave it two stars because it is well written and does keep you on the edge of your seat. There was a lot of improbabilities in it but it kept you reading. For me it was awful. If I was not reading it to review I would not have finished it. I would not recommend it to anyone.

Like many other books, *Behind Closed Doors* is being marketed as the next *Gone Girl* or *Girl on a Train*. However, *Behind Closed Door* definitely is not the next *Gone Girl*, and you will be disappointed if that is what you expect. *Behind Closed Doors* is a thriller about a couple with a perfect marriage. The husband and wife are attractive, successful, and have a beautiful home. The only apparent negative is that Grace, the wife, is very reserved and is never seen without Jack, her husband. Of course, no one except the husband and wife really knows what a marriage is like -- hence the title of the book. For Jack and Grace, their marriage is a manipulative sham of psychological and physical abuse. *Behind Closed Doors* focuses on a single theme, with one dimensional characters and difficult to believe events. I found it difficult to empathize with the characters, and this is one of the few books where I skipped around to get to the finish. It seems we were to cheer at the ending, and that right trounces might, but I found it sad and distasteful to see any victory for these two clearly mentally ill people. *Behind Closed Doors* may appeal to readers that like domestic thrillers and psychological suspense novels. The book has received some very positive reviews, so there are people who have enjoyed it. Perhaps if it wasn't for the unfortunate comparison to a great book, *Behind Closed Doors* would not have been so disappointing.

It's a frightening state of affairs when a book THIS BAD gets over 500 five star reviews. WHAT THE

HELL PEOPLE?? The writing is atrocious-I've read stories by middle schoolers with more depth. The characters are ONE DIMENSIONAL and there is NO SUSPENSE because you know Jack's a psycho from day one. Oh, a psycho who gets kicks torturing women but doesn't lay a finger on the narrator...?? The entire premise is absurd. Don't waste your time!!!!

What a stretch to say this book is the equivalent of The Girl on the Train. Only a thriller in the same macabre, gothic way that American Horror Story is scary. Just disturbing. Themes of the most vulnerable groups as targets of cruelty - disabled sister with Down's Syndrome, and a puppy???? I am angry this book didn't come with a warning!!!! Thank goodness for 's return policy!

Implausible. On so many levels! There is nothing thrilling about this book. Just brutal psychological abuse. Weak characters. Poorly, poorly written. Quit before the dog is killed. Where oh where are the 5 star ratings coming from???

When I began this book, it grabbed me. But then it was just constant sadism and I was feeling sick reading it...and the sadism didn't really advance the plot so it was gratuitous. I couldn't go on reading it but I did feel a need to find out how it ended, so I skipped to the final chapters. The ending was good

This book was so unbelievable. Don't waste your time reading it. I love a good thriller or mystery, but this was a joke. This wife was being held hostage by her husband but had numerous opportunities when she was out in public with him to tell what he was doing to her. Don't need to go into further detail, just trust someone who is an advent reader that this book was ridiculous to believe unless your 10 years old or younger.

Wow. Finishing this book actually made me angry because it was so poorly written. With the exception of small details, the plot (such as it is) is ridiculously predictable, while also being super implausible. The characters are flat and cartoonish at the same time-caricatures with no depth at all. I kept looking for references to the mustache that the villain must surely be twirling as he talks through his evil genius plans, in which he is able to shockingly anticipate every outcome. A chapter or so in, my suspension of disbelief had already hit its limit. This book feels like a first year creative writing student read Gone Girl and tried to replicate it. While I typically like non-chronological storytelling, it doesn't work here for me because there really isn't much revealed about the past that

is very interesting or surprising. Instead of using surprise and suspense to create tension, the author appeals to the reader's sense of outrage and pity, which feels cheap. Honestly I only kept on until the end because I wanted to find out HOW the end happened, because it was painfully clear what was going to happen. Even the (very welcome) end was a disappointment, because it was clearly meant to leave the reader swimming in a pool of question marks about the future, but it just felt like the author got bored, or hit the minimum word threshold, or just got up to make some tea and said "Good enough!"

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