



The Sun Down Motel

Written by Simone St. James

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The Sun Down Motel

By Simone St. James

The Sun Down Motel

The secrets lurking in a rundown roadside motel ensnare a young woman, just as they did her aunt thirty-five years before, in this new atmospheric suspense novel from the national bestselling and award-winning author of *The Broken Girls*.

The Sun Down Motel Review

Upstate NY, 1982. Every small town like Fell, New York, has a place like the Sun Down Motel. Some customers are from out of town, passing through on their way to someplace better. Some are locals, trying to hide their secrets. Viv Delaney works as the night clerk to pay for her move to New York City. But something isn't right at the Sun Down, and before long she's determined to uncover all of the secrets hiddenâ€¦!

Twilight zones intro music blasting out in my mind: nananana!!!! Im in the middle ground between light and shadow, between science and superstition and Im at the dimension of imagination.Nanana!!!

I cannot sleep! I cannot move! I cannot breathe! When I was younger so much younger than today I never needed anybody's help in anyway but even all ghost members of Beatles cannot save me! Im numb, terrified! Im speechless! Im about to do something in my pants but I dont! I barely hold myself! Twilight zoneâ€™s intro music blasting out in my mind: nananana!!!! Iâ€™m in the middle ground between light and shadow, between science and superstition and Iâ€™m at the dimension of imaginationâ€¦|.Nanana!!!

I cannot sleep! I cannot move! I cannot breathe! When I was younger so much younger than today I never needed anybodyâ€™s help in anyway but even all ghost members of Beatles cannot save me! Iâ€™m numb, terrified! Iâ€™m speechless! Iâ€™m about to do something in my pants but I donâ€™t! I barely hold myself! Thankfully, I wore diapers before reading something sooooo scary! So Iâ€™m giving my 5 gaazzzzillion ssstaaarss (I cannot even speak or properly write, this book is so horrifying! I wish I hold my childhood Teddy bear to gather my wits but I already ripped its head when I was nine, reading Salemâ€™s Lot! Dammit!)

Itâ€™s midnight in LA, even my 24/7 partying neighbor is sleeping. My husband is still making entire Jurassic Worldâ€™s sound effects by snoring loudly. But Iâ€™m alert! Eyes shut open! Already all lights in the house are turned on! Iâ€™m at the verge of hysterical breakdown, waiting to see Sun Down Motelâ€™s ghosts banging on the door.

Is this smoke I smell right now? Is this a salesman walking toward me? Who keeps knock, knock my heavenly houseâ€™s doors? Eric Clapton! Daattt! Freddy Mercury! Nope! He will rock not knock! Okay, I canâ€™t stand anymore, dear lovely occupants of Sun Down Motel, Iâ€™m not night clerk, Iâ€™m just regular reader who loves your stories (Iâ€™m not talking about one of your friendly one named â€œCasperâ€•, I actually find it overrated!) and Simone St. James did an amazing job because I didnâ€™t eat for 8 hours, I didnâ€™t move an inch and now my legs turned into jellies that I couldnâ€™t move them, theyâ€™re useless right now. And of course I had limited booze service from my husband (you can imagine drinking and empty stomach could be definition of living dangerously!) I didnâ€™t blink and I think my face is also paralyzed! Iâ€™m just looking like a survivor after over botox injections. I didnâ€™t even visit to bathroom so my bladder already performing â€œUnder Pressureâ€• as a

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tribute to Bowie and Mercury.

As a summary: This book is mind blowing, horrifying and so much better than entire horror movies I've watched lately. It's better than Bad Times at the El Royale (I wish salesman Simon could dance like Chris Hemsworth but you cannot get what you want all the time!), entertaining as Bates Motel (this time night clerks are women and innocent, but we cannot say the same for the deceased occupants of the place whose souls stayed there for their unfinished businesses!) and they're as creepy, spooky, disturbing as Overlook occupants.

So we have an amazing gem is an impressive combination of Vacancy, Inkeepers and Poltergeist. In 1982 Viv Delaney, night clerk of Sun Down hotel, vanishes into thin air. They never find her corpse. Nobody knows her whereabouts. Till in the present time her niece Carly, arrives at the hotel, getting the same job her missing aunt had performed decades ago. After her mom's sudden death because of big C, Carly is so adamant to find out what has happened to her aunt. By getting rid of the burden of the past, she feels like she may designate her own path for her own future steps.

As soon as Carly arrives to Fell and starts her new gig, she's going to find out, she's living ten times worse experience of Paranormal Activity movie sequels and she knows who she is gonna call (of course Ghostbusters!) but there is bad reception at the hotel.

The story is narrated by two people and two timelines. We move back and forth between 1982 and today. We have Viv and her niece Carly as narrators. They're so interestingly similar each other, only their zones are different but both of them brave, smart, risk taker, loner, introverted, happy with their own terms and small things kind of ladies. (I thought too many times, Carly could be daughter of Viv. Their instincts and approaches to the events, their actions are so similar.)

Carly is too determined to find the secrets about the hotel and what happened to her aunt which puts her life in danger because she literally has to deal with the supernatural entities who could help her show the truth!!!!

There are so many amazing characters such as Helen (I visualized as Billie Lourd, only Carrie Fisher's talented daughter could handle this creepy, weird but also loveable character.) And of course nobody knows what is like to be the sad man behind blue eyes Nick is also memorable character, hiding from his traumatic past, a great partner of crime to help Carly to solve the puzzle.

I had great, terrifying time and I truly enjoyed every second of it by reading this book.

Special thanks to NetGalley and Berkley Publishing Group to share this best ARC COPY and give me early Christmas gift in exchange my honest review. And honestly guys, PLEASE READ IT, READ IT, READ IT!

The Sun Down Motel

And special thanks to Simone St. James for creating this amazing, memorable, stunning, mind blowing masterpiece!

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The Sun Down Motel Epub

â€ find this review & others on my blog â€

There is a video I came across on Twitter a couple months ago, of a woman giving other women tips on how to protect themselves and stay safe if they have to venture outside at night (complete with where to best hide a pepper spray, how to wield your keys like you would a knife, and how many clothes to layer on your body). There was urgency and fear in the woman's voice, and a haunted, fatalistic quality in her eyes that struck such a fundamental chord â€ find this review & others on my blog â€

There is a video I came across on Twitter a couple months ago, of a woman giving other women tips on how to protect themselves and stay safe if they have to venture outside at night (complete with where to best hide a pepper spray, how to wield your keys like you would a knife, and how many clothes to layer on your body). There was urgency and fear in the woman's voice, and a haunted, fatalistic quality in her eyes that struck such a fundamental chord with me. The women in the replies were empathetic, understanding, grateful. The men who, by all appearances, had never been acquainted with true fear in all their days were skeptical at best, deriding at worst. Isn't she exaggerating? They scoffed. It can't really be that bad, they decided.

But this is the lesson of every woman's life: that there are no safe places. You will be defenseless. You will be as soft sands before the waves of a man who decided you were to die.

20-year-old Carly Kirk, the protagonist of Simone St. James's horrifying but beguiling novel, is well-versed in the language of fear, native to every woman.

Carly's aunt Viv Delaney vanished into thin air from the seedy upstate New York motel she worked the night shifts at, and her disappearance remained deeply seared on Carly's mind, a permanent mental hangnail.

Though all Carly has to remember her aunt by was a newspaper clipping from 1982 and the grief in her heart, she sets out from her Illinois hometown to Fell, N.Y., searching on only the thinnest, most unlikely thread of hope, the need to find answers to her questions burning through her as though she were a candlewick. In Fell, Carly tries to piece together an aunt who is gone from a few clues, scattered across a small town where secrets collected inside like black soot. Carly's quest gives her meek, unwelcome fear time to fuse into something cold, and when she blows the closet open, the skeletons spill out like blood at her feet.

What follows is a twisty flashback/flashforward narrative that balances two central and interlinked mysteries, shifting in ways that no decent reviewer should disclose. Although they don't exist simultaneously, Carly and Viv's stories run in eerie parallels. This illuminates the terrible gulf of

The Sun Down Motel

years between twenty and fifty, but it also reminds us that this story has happened for generations, is happening right now, and will most certainly happen again. New grievances seem to always have a way of following old fault lines.

The Sun Down Motel is the kind of novel that begs to be read at one in the morning, under the covers, with a flashlight in your hand. Sleep is a thing I couldn't remember while reading this book—the face and smell and texture of it all forgotten. The novel's breakneck pacing is backed up by a sensation of constant dread which creates a keep-you-guessing air that's simply magnetic. I watched, the way a fisherman watches a darkening cloud on the horizon, as the pieces of a pattern drifted closer together, until every part of the puzzle yielded its secrets. The motel not only plays a character in The Sun Down Motel, as many settings in good novels do, but it acts as part of the plot itself. The unsettling energy that buzzes throughout the motel is magnified by the rapid dissolving of the boundaries between the real and the supernatural, and soon, every shadow grows ripe with meaning, every detail crying out for the reader's attention.

Both Carly and Delaney are engaging characters. Brave and confident that their course would throw up no obstacles so large that they could not be plowed over with sheer force of momentum, Carly and Delaney fly headlong into danger, like a loosed hound, seeking vengeance. Their stifled awe in the face of encroaching strangeness speaks, however, profoundly to our own numbness in a world where real wonders and horrors crop up every day. Still, it's hard not to feel, in the baser part of yourself, a savage snarl of rage, while reading this novel. That sudden swoop of the stomach, the all-too-familiar coursing anger at the men, monsters, who grew weary of desire and developed a taste for causing pain and the gratuitous, unavenged deaths of so many young women. I stepped out of this book feeling sick with that feeling, poisoned, turned inside out. I still do, to be honest.

If I have to point out a flaw in this novel, it would be the ending. On the one hand, The Sun Down Motel closes with a jarring reveal that fully justifies the obscuring of truth and arrangement of clues that leads up to it, but on the other hand, the conclusion feels lean and abrupt to the point of coming across rushed. The predictability of it has a flattening effect too, making singularly boring what should have been a defining moment, and I felt somewhat cheated of a more dramatic showdown that would resonate more deeply.

That said, don't let that discourage you from picking up this book. Solid and smartly told, The Sun Down Motel is quite the remarkable achievement.

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Another Booktube video - this time all about the Top 10 Books of 2020 (so far) .

Now that you know this fabulous book made the list, check out the video to see the rest!

"Sun Down Motel, can I help you?"

The Sun Down Motel

Nothing. Just the faint sound of breathing. There's a terrible secret hidden within the walls of the run down motel just outside of Fell, New York.

Thirty-five years ago, Viv Delaney began experiencing...disturbances during the night shift at the Sun Down Motel.

Ones that had her [Another Booktube video - this time all about the](#) [Top 10 Books of 2020 \(so far\)](#)

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"Sun Down Motel, can I help you?"

Nothing. Just the faint sound of breathing. There's a terrible secret hidden within the walls of the run down motel just outside of Fell, New York.

Thirty-five years ago, Viv Delaney began experiencing...disturbances during the night shift at the Sun Down Motel.

Ones that had her questioning everything she's ever known and reality itself. What if everything I've seen, everything I think, is true? And just like that...she disappeared. She felt like crying. She felt like screaming. She felt sick. In modern-day, Carly spent her life watching how that disappearance affected her mother. And when Carly's mother dies, Carly is drawn to Fell - the last known location of her Aunt Viv.

At first Carly tells herself that she wants to do just a little bit of exploration - perhaps even find out what happened to her aunt.

But...what started out as an innocent curiosity quickly became something much more. "Some of us like the dark. It's what we know." And almost without realizing it, Carly finds herself drawn to the location of Viv's disappearance... only realizing too late that there was something else drawing her there. ...all she could hear was her own breath sawing in and out of her lungs. Oh man.

Ohhhh man.

This was a wild one.

First and foremost - the Sun Down Motel provided just the perfect backdrop for a truly spine-chilling tale. It had so many creepy little things and really set up the entire book.

I loved the alternating view points (and this is something I don't say too often!). They were so well balanced and really gave the story that extra pop.

The Sun Down Motel

Viv's perspective had so much mystery and played out beautifully. And I truly had no idea where Carly's view point was going - which just made me absolutely addicted to this story.

The way Simone St. James interwove ghost stories and the other terrifying elements definitely brought everything together.

All in all - this was a FABULOUS buddy read with Tucker the Reader!

With thanks to the author and Berkley Publishing for a free copy in exchange for an honest review

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The Sun Down Motel Vk

The night it all ended, Vivian was alone... She felt like crying. She felt like screaming. She felt sick. "I don't want to go in there. But I will. Because I always do."

Obviously flashy psychological thrillers are still trendy, but have you ever picked up a mystery that is simply well-written, to the point where you can just bask in that book's quiet glory and subtle power? That's precisely how I felt regarding *The Sun Down Motel*. It's receiving copious amounts of hype, and rightly so, due to *The night it all ended, Vivian was alone... She felt like crying. She felt like screaming. She felt sick.*

"I don't want to go in there. But I will. Because I always do."

Obviously flashy psychological thrillers are still trendy, but have you ever picked up a mystery that is simply well-written, to the point where you can just bask in that book's quiet glory and subtle power? That's precisely how I felt regarding *The Sun Down Motel*. It's receiving copious amounts of hype, and rightly so, due to its gorgeous cover art being splashed across social media, its feature as a January 2020 pick for Book of the Month, and the many lists that it has been featured on prior to publication. Did I mention it's a BOTM pick for January? The tricky part is convincing those readers who typically steer clear of any mention of the supernatural to pick up this book, and I truly believe some of you will love it regardless of this inclusion, because the paranormal aspect plays a rather small role in the overarching story.

In my humble opinion, the feature that makes *The Sun Down Motel* a stand out novel is the incredibly eerie atmosphere. The upstate New York setting was a character of its own, and the ability to fully immerse myself in this oppressive motel that was off the beaten path is what kept my mind constantly circling around the story, even when I wasn't reading it. The intentionally claustrophobic writing was key to keeping both the past and the present storylines married to one another, and I'll be a monkey's uncle if it wasn't one of the most brilliant tactics I've seen recently. While this could be considered a slow burning mystery, due to the heavy emphasis on the amateur detective work playing a large part of the narrative, I couldn't turn the pages fast enough to find out what happened next.

There were two reasons why this book wasn't a 5 star read for me: the repetitive nature of the past and present chapters, and the underwhelming, rushed climax of the book. While I wholly appreciate and understand the need for establishing plot progression in both tenses, many passages read almost word for word as the same conversations, which slowed the pacing down. I feel like maybe some fade to black moments, or implied info dumps off page would have kept the accuracy in tact while saving the reader from experiencing the same dialogue twice, and perhaps exchanging information reveals in an

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alternating style between tenses would have been helpful. Once the ending came, the last 50 pages felt so rushed as such a slow and steady build up, and while I was pleased with the way all the stories tied up, I could have used a bit more extension in that portion. Overall, a fabulous read and one that makes me look forward to future books from the author.

*Many thanks to the publisher for providing my review copy. ...more

4.5 Creepy Spooky Stars

Upstate NY, 1982. Every small town like Fell, New York, has a place like the Sun Down Motel. Some customers are from out of town, passing through on their way to someplace better. Some are locals, trying to hide their secrets. Viv Delaney works as the night clerk to pay for her move to New York City. But something isn't right at the Sun Down, and before long she's determined to uncover all of the secrets hidden

I loved this book. I did love The Broken Girls by this author 4.5 Creepy Spooky Stars

Upstate NY, 1982. Every small town like Fell, New York, has a place like the Sun Down Motel. Some customers are from out of town, passing through on their way to someplace better. Some are locals, trying to hide their secrets. Viv Delaney works as the night clerk to pay for her move to New York City. But something isn't right at the Sun Down, and before long she's determined to uncover all of the secrets hidden

I loved this book. I did love The Broken Girls by this author and this one is just as good. I loved the atmosphere and the spooky creepy vibe. The motel really had the creep factor going on. The Sun Down Motel is haunted and it has very creepy customers. The whole town of Fell is so spooky. This is the perfect Halloween book.

It hooked me straight from the beginning and didn't let go until the end. I loved the ghost story and how it then turned into a thriller and mystery. The suspense kept me turning the pages and kept me reading into the early hours of the morning. There are several twists and turns that have me surprises. I loved the plot. I was intrigued and couldn't wait to find out what was going to happen next. I loved the two timelines and loved Viv's the best.

The characters were so well developed and it was very well written. I felt so sorry for Viv. I loved Carly, she made a great investigator. Also loved Alma the cop too. The Traveling Salesman freaked me out as much as the ghosts did and then when Callum came into the story, he was scary too. I loved the ending and I highly recommend this book to those that love a spooky thriller.

This was a Traveling Sister Read.

The Sun Down Motel

I want to thank Berkley, Edelweiss and the author for the copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. ...more

The Sun Down Motel Summary

OMG I am speechless! Well not really..but can I give this book 10 stars??!!! Adding this to my list of all time favorite thrillers. Yes, it was that good. So many good things about this book, where do I even start?

I think what made this book so special was the feelings it gave me. The creepy, chills down my spine-feelings I had the entire book! I am not sure how an author can manage to spin such an atmospheric feel with words that you are entirely caught up in the whole vibe. How is this really OMG I am speechless! Well not really..but can I give this book 10 stars??!!! Adding this to my list of all time favorite thrillers. Yes, it was that good. So many good things about this book, where do I even start?

I think what made this book so special was the feelings it gave me. The creepy, chills down my spine-feelings I had the entire book! I am not sure how an author can manage to spin such an atmospheric feel with words that you are entirely caught up in the whole vibe. How is this really possible? It is though...trust me. I was at the Sun Down Motel..yep I was. I could hear the ice maker rattling down the hallway, I could smell the musty smell of years of neglect. I could feel myself gearing up for fight or flight as I knew something really bad was going to happen. I could visualize the dirty carpet and thin, stained bedspreads....Eww....

That is just one of the many factors that made this book absolutely fantastic. The story line was so interesting that I was captivated the whole time. With a dual time line of an aunt that had gone missing in 1982 and her niece who wanted answers to questions in 2017, it constantly kept you on your toes. Especially when Carly decides to work at the Sun Down Motel doing the exact same job as her aunt Viv did twenty years prior. Did I mention Viv went to work one night and never came home? Not much has changed at The Sun Down Motel. No flipping way would I last one single night there.....hells to the NO!

As you guessed it, I loved this book. Perhaps going to be my favorite book of the year? Okay I hear you, it is only January 15th but I guarantee we will be having this same conversation at the end of the year. This book is that good. ...more

Dark, Ghostly, & So Good!

Something strange is going on at The Sun Down Motel.

In 1982, 20-year-old Vivian Delaney stumbles upon a job opening as the night shift clerk at The Sun Down Motel, located in eerie Fell, New York. During her shifts, Vivian begins to notice some inexplicable occurrences at the rundown motel: doors randomly opening and closing, strange phone calls, the smell of cigarette smoke when no one is present. It seems that the Sun Down is haunted. Making things even more Dark, Ghostly, & So Good!

The Sun Down Motel

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In 1982, 20-year-old Vivian Delaney stumbles upon a job opening as the night shift clerk at The Sun Down Motel, located in eerie Fell, New York. During her shifts, Vivian begins to notice some inexplicable occurrences at the rundown motel: doors randomly opening and closing, strange phone calls, the smell of cigarette smoke when no one is present. It seems that the Sun Down is haunted. Making things even more dramatic are the creepy customers who come to stay. At the same time, young women in Fell are being murdered. Vivian plays investigator and when she comes up with a lead, she vanishes without a trace.

Fast forward to 2017, Vivian's 20-year-old niece, Carly, arrives in Fell seeking answers about her aunt Vivian's disappearance. Carly finds herself doing Vivian's old job at the Sun Down and also begins to notice the strange happenings at the motel. As she investigates her aunt's disappearance, she finds herself in extreme danger.

There are so many things I loved about this book. Simone St. James transported me to Fell, NY. The atmosphere is rife with eeriness. The whole time I was reading this, I kept thinking that it would make for the perfect Halloween read. The supernatural plays a large role--I am not the most tolerant when it comes to the supernatural, but it works in this book. The ghosts serve a purpose--not to scare, but to remind of events from the past. Vivian and Carly share some of the same characteristics, but their voices are distinct. The mystery is intriguing and while the plot is not the most complex, I was riveted and could not put this book down.

It was a little rocky in the beginning and felt like a cheesy tv movie, but the more the better it got. I was wholly entertained by The Sun Down Motel and I highly recommend to those who enjoy creepy, atmospheric mysteries.

I received an ARC of this book from Edelweiss and the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

...more

The Sun Down Motel Amazon

"I ain't afraid of no Ghost"

I don't know why upon finishing this book, I could not get Ray Parker Jr.'s theme song for Ghostbusters out of my head. "If there is something weird and it don't look good..." Thank you Simon St. James for that earworm and of course, for writing such an engrossing, creepy, haunting and riveting book.

The Sun Down Motel - an old Motel with secrets, ghosts and a dark tale to tell. Some get a room to sell drugs, some to drink themselves into oblivion, some to have a "I ain't afraid of no Ghost"

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The Sun Down Motel - an old Motel with secrets, ghosts and a dark tale to tell. Some get a room to sell drugs, some to drink themselves into oblivion, some to have a torrid affair, some to sleep for the night after a long day of driving, some for prostitution. But the Motel has a history, a history those in the town of Fell know about but aren't always so willing to talk about. A Motel where things really do go bump in the night.

Viv Delaney worked as the night clerk at the Sun Down Motel and soon begins to notice things - that that aren't quite right. Things that are creepy, scary and strange. Intrigued, she begins to investigate the Motel's history, because that is what you do right, when doors open and close on their own (I'd be so out of there...just sayin'). But then one day, Viv isn't there anymore....

Carly arrives in the town of Fell, with questions. Her aunt Viv (Vivian) went missing after working as the Night Clerk at the Sun Down Motel. Her mother died never knowing what happened to her sister. Carly wants to know as well and as luck would have it, the Sun Down Motel needs a night clerk, so Carly accepts the position. As she begins to ask questions and look up the Motel's history, she too begins to hear, smell and see that things which go bump in the night.

Oh, how I love a good haunting! Simone St. James who knocked my socks off with The Haunting of Maddy Clare has done it again. This book played out like a movie in my mind. I could imagine everything happening. This book is eerie, atmospheric and chilling. She has created intriguing characters who can't quite help but to put themselves in intense situations because of their curiosity. Apparently, no one warned them about what curiosity did to the cat!

Initially, I did struggle keeping track of which young woman's storyline/timeline was being told, but I found my stride and had no problems after that. I found this to be an engaging, delightfully creepy haunting which delivered. I loved how everything came together in the end! This is the perfect book to

The Sun Down Motel

read on a chilly October night as Halloween approaches.

Plus, how about that cover!

...more

NOW AVAILABLE

My first introduction to Simone St. James was reading her previous novel *The Broken Girls*, it was one of my top 10 books last year. I went into this with a crazy amount of anticipation and hoping been another 5* read.

The novel revolves around a young woman, Carly, searching for the answer for why her long dead aunt Vivian disappeared. The family never felt any kind of closure because her body was never found. She just vanished one night during her late night shift working at *****NOW AVAILABLE*****

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The novel revolves around a young woman, Carly, searching for the answer for why her long dead aunt Vivian disappeared. The family never felt any kind of closure because her body was never found. She just vanished one night during her late night shift working at reception in The Sun Down Motel. In order to understand Carly's point of view we must be taken back in time to when her aunt disappeared. Meanwhile Carly will get a job at the Sun Down herself in order to try and find an answer.

Here begin some of my problems with this book. Lots of situations happened around the same time in the women's timelines. I also found situations were just too repetitive having to weave the two stories together. At first I was just a little confused about whose story I was reading. As I got into the story I did enjoy the ride but it wasn't a page turner for me.

Ms. St. James's writing here is top notch and the story is a good one. I found the characters to be well described but I did have trouble with believability. I asked myself so many times, why didn't she just quit? Why would they intentionally put themselves in such danger? Who can anyone trust? In each storyline there is a good friend and a boyfriend.

This novel has Ms. St. James's signature creation of a ghostly vibe and it's a good mystery. There were lots of lights going on and off, doors opening and shutting on their own, a smoke scent in the air and apparitions. Both Vivian and her niece Carly are looking for answers as to what is going on

The Sun Down Motel

and putting themselves in grave danger.

The ending moved my rating up to a solid 4 and I can definitely recommend it. Ms. St. James's followers won't be disappointed.

I would recommend this as a "long sit" read in order to keep the timelines straight and to ratchet up the tension and vibe. This is a great Fall and Halloween read.

Publication is set for February 18, 2020.

I received a ARC of this novel from the publisher through NetGalley.

This was a Traveling Sisters read :) ...more

The Sundowner

4.5 stars!

A dark, engrossing, chilling, gothic, suspenseful, atmospheric, mysterious thriller! Loved it!!!

After her mother's death, Carly moves to the small town of Fell, to investigate the disappearance of her mother's sister, Vivian. Decades earlier, Carly's aunt Vivian took a job as the night clerk at the remote Sun Down Motel. Unexplained strange things happen at this motel including the disappearance of Vivian from her shift one night. Police investigation provides no answers as to what 4.5 stars!

A dark, engrossing, chilling, gothic, suspenseful, atmospheric, mysterious thriller! Loved it!!!

After her mother's death, Carly moves to the small town of Fell, to investigate the disappearance of her mother's sister, Vivian. Decades earlier, Carly's aunt Vivian took a job as the night clerk at the remote Sun Down Motel. Unexplained strange things happen at this motel including the disappearance of Vivian from her shift one night. Police investigation provides no answers as to what happened to Vivian. Haunted by the tragedy that happened before she was born, Carly begins her search at the Sun Down Motel, only to be offered a job as the night clerk. Carly finds herself in the same role that her aunt Vivian had before she vanished. Will Carly be able to uncover the long buried secrets and get the answers she hopes for?

I loved this book! The atmosphere was thick! I felt every spine-tingling scare that Carly felt. I was with her there in that run down motel, holding my breath in anticipation of what would happen next. The author, Simone St. James, created a storyline that completely engrossed me within the suspense and mystery. I felt like I truly knew the characters, the small town and the motel. The story is brilliantly narrated in two timelines/perspectives - through Carly in 2017 and her aunt Vivian in 1982. Loved the pace and flow - it kept me curious and hungry to read "just one more chapter." My one tiny critique is that I felt a couple things near the end were a stretch for me to accept.

I will warn you that this novel is quite ghost-y. I am not one who generally attracts to ghost-y type novels, however, this story simply felt so real and kept me fully immersed and invested that I never doubted the supernatural element.

I read and loved Simone St. James' previous novel, *The Broken Girls*. This book was just as good! I'm a huge fan and look forward to what this author comes out with next! I must make note of how much I LOVE THIS COVER!!

Thank you to Berkley for sending me a physical copy to read and review with The Traveling Sisters!

Expected Publication Date: February 18, 2020. ...more

The Sun Down Motel

You know those rundown , L-shaped motels that you pass on road trips, despite the fact that you are so bone tired, that you are not sure that you could drive another mile...

The ones with the buzzing signs, that blink, Vacancy! Cable TV!

The REALLY CREEPY ones?

Welcome to the Sun Down Motel!

Located in Fell, a small town in upstate, NY- A town too small to have this many DEAD GIRLS.

Viv Delaney was just passing through in 1982. Running out of money before she could reach New York City, with dreams of becoming an actress, she takes a job as the night clerk at The Sun Down. You know those rundown , L-shaped motels that you pass on road trips, despite the fact that you are so bone tired, that you are not sure that you could drive another mile...

The ones with the buzzing signs, that blink, Vacancy! Cable TV!

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Cigarette smoke...

The doors to locked rooms swinging open one by one..

a whiff of perfume..

And, a woman in a floral dress warning her to RUN!

Compelled to investigate, till she too disappears..

2017: Viv's niece Carly is drawn to Fell, NY after her mother's death.

She wants to find out what happened to Vivian and ends up following in her Aunt's footsteps.

The Sun Down Motel

She too takes a job at The Sun Down as a night clerk-

SOME things never change..

I wanted an atmospheric, ghost story for Halloween, and I got one!

I grew up reading Trixie Belden and Nancy Drew books, so Viv and Carly playing amateur detective, was right up my alley!

Some readers may feel that some of the chapters seem repetitive as first one sleuth, and than the other, makes her discoveries, 35 years apart, but it did not bother me, as Viv's chapters in the 80's felt so nostalgic that their voices were distinct to me.

Reading this book in my dark backyard last night, my IPAD screen glowing, and the hairs on my arms standing up, I couldn't go to sleep till I found out if Carly would get justice for Vivian..

Thank You to Edelweiss, Berkley Publishing and Simone St. James for the digital ARC I received in exchange for a candid review.

If you enjoyed 'The Broken Girls" this one will not disappoint you!

I LOVED this one!! â• ¤• ¤•

Available now! (Feb 18, 2020) ...more

The Sun Down Motel Pdf

Thing that go bump in the night!

First things first - this was one of the most frightening books I've read in a very long time. I know, I can hear everyone's snickers out there! But I just can't handle horror. Paranormal scares the bejeebeezes out of me! And this book provided that in spades. Yet, I couldn't put it down!

Told in two timelines.

1982: Viv left home at a young age to become the next shining star in New York. The problem was she never made it as far as the Big Apple. Instead, she found Thing that go bump in the night!

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Told in two timelines.

1982: Viv left home at a young age to become the next shining star in New York. The problem was she never made it as far as the Big Apple. Instead, she found herself in Fell, New York. Just a minuscule dot on the map. With nearly no money, Viv takes the first and only job she finds. Tending the desk at the Sun Down Motel. Not exactly her Broadway dream.

Soon enough she discovers it's not just her and the odd customers that frequent the place. There are occupants that awaken in the dark hours of the night! Is Viv safe tending the front desk of this spooky joint?

Present day: Carly has just walked away from College, as well as her only brother. She's now in search of her long-lost Aunt Viv, who disappeared from the Sun Down Motel thirty five years ago. Oddly enough, Carly finds herself manning the same front desk her Aunt Viv did all those many years ago. And hello! It looks like those same haunting spirits have not gone anywhere!

Simone St. James writes a terrifying paranormal thriller that I'll have you reading with every possible light on in your house! At one point I had to stop for the night and wait to continue the next morning! (But that's just this ole faint-hearted reader).

A super spooky buddy read with Susanne!

Thank you to Elisha at Berkley Publishing for an ARC to read and review. ...more

HOT DAMN! This was SO GOOD!

Creepy, chilling, atmospheric, brilliant. Bravo Simone St. James! This book will make you believe in

The Sun Down Motel Audiobook

Can well all just take a moment and appreciate the perfection that is this cover???

So, so stunning. ðŸ˜•

Now let me tell you why you all need to go out and grab a copy of this! Not only is Simone St. James an incredibly talented writer but she likes to get her spooky on and I'm a spooky kind of gal. My only regret is that I should have waited until closer to Halloween to sink my teeth into this one but patience is not a virtue of mine and I'm not ashamed to admit it.

Like in her previous book (the Can well all just take a moment and appreciate the perfection that is this cover???)

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Like in her previous book (the only one I have read - Now THIS I am ashamed of!), The Broken Girls, we have back and forth chapters, one in the present and one in the past.

1982:

Viv Delaney takes a job working the night shift at the Sun Down Motel. It appears not all is still and silent in the night and Viv sets out to discover the mysteries of the Sun Down.

Until the night she vanishes into thin air never to be found again.

Present:

Carly, having recently lost her mom to cancer, decides to investigate the mystery of her long lost Aunt Viv. Her mother mourned her sister until the day she died but never wanted to speak of her. Carly decides to go to Fell, NY and the Sun Down Motel in search of answers. Imagine her surprise to find out that the Sun Down Motel is looking for a night clerk and so she applies. Maybe working the same position at the same hotel in which her aunt disappeared will reveal some answers. She is about to get much more than she ever bargained for because the Sun Down Motel is restless at night.....

"Come on in the building seemed to say with it's jagged up-and-down lights, its blue and yellow neon

The Sun Down Motel

cheeriness. Get some sleep. Take it easy until the sun comes up again. And if you see someone sitting at the end of your bed, pay them no mind. That's just one of my secrets. And I'm not going to tell."

4 *perfect for Halloween* stars!

Thank you to Edelweiss and Berkley Publishing Group for providing me with a digital ARC in exchange for my honest review. ...more

Spooky, spine-tingling suspense, and creepy!

THE SUN DOWN MOTEL by SIMONE ST. JAMES is an engrossing, dark, gripping, chilling, and fabulous gothic mystery/thriller that I was immediately drawn into. I was totally immersed in this tale and completely devoured the supernatural aspects in this story. The story was so darn entertaining with that creepy and eerie haunted motel setting that I found this to be absolutely irresistible and un-put-down-able!!!!

SIMONE ST. JAMES delivers quite the Spooky, spine-tingling suspense, and creepy!

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SIMONE ST. JAMES delivers quite the atmospheric, captivating, engaging, mysterious, suspenseful and well-written story here told in dual timelines and perspectives between the past and the present. I sometimes enjoy one timeline and perspective over another but this one I am happy to say that they both equally intrigued and fascinated me.

Expected On Sale Date: February 18, 2020.

Norma's Stats:

Cover: That cover is absolutely perfect for a creepy and haunting story!! I think it is such a striking & welcoming design that immediately caught my eye and definitely enticed me into needing to read this book.

Title: A simply perfect, chilling, impactful and fabulous representation to storyline.

Writing/Prose: Well-written, fluid, suspenseful, and engaging.

Plot: Engrossing, creepy, captivating, haunting, interesting, riveting, fast-paced, and entertaining.

Ending: Whoa! Absolutely loved it!

Overall: 4.5 Stars! This was an all around fabulous book for me and the perfect ghost story! Would highly recommend!

The Sun Down Motel

Thank you so much to Elisha at Berkley Publishing for gifting me a physical copy of this highly absorbing book! It was an absolute pleasure being spooked out by this one.

This review can also be found at Two Sisters Lost in a Coulee Reading book blog:
<https://twosisterslostinacoulee.com/> ...more