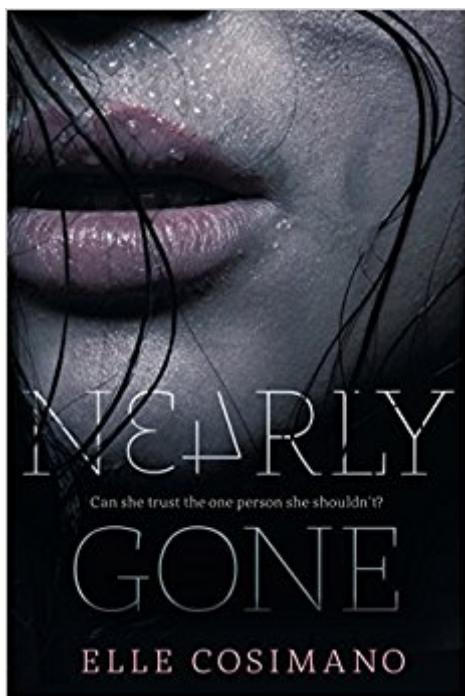


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Nearly Gone (Nearly Boswell Mysteries)



Synopsis

* *“Eloquently written and packed full of suspense, debut author Cosimano strikes gold with this page-turning thriller that will have teens chomping at the bit to get to the end.” •School Library Journal, starred review

Nearly Boswell knows how to keep secrets. Living in a DC trailer park, she knows better than to share anything that would make her a target with her classmates. Like her mother’s job as an exotic dancer, her obsession with the personal ads, and especially the emotions she can taste when she brushes against someone’s skin. But when a serial killer goes on a killing spree and starts attacking students, leaving cryptic ads in the newspaper that only Nearly can decipher, she confides in the one person she shouldn’t trust: the new guy at school—a reformed bad boy working undercover for the police, doing surveillance. . . on her. Nearly might be the one person who can put all the clues together, and if she doesn’t figure it all out soon—she’ll be next.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up •In this suspenseful and thrilling murder mystery, high school junior Nearly Boswell is struggling to get by in a Washington, DC trailer park with her single mother, who works the night shift at a local strip club. Any chance she has of escaping her miserable life is dependent on a highly competitive scholarship for which she and her best friend are vying against each other. Everything is going according to plan until Nearly spots an eerie personal ad in the local

newspaper-an ad that ends up being a clue in the attempted murder of one of her classmates. She soon finds another clue in the following week's paper leading to another murder. And then another. The police won't take her seriously, and when the hints start pointing in her direction, Nearly becomes their number one suspect. The only person she can trust is bad boy Reece, whom she suspects is working with the police to keep a close eye on her. The clock is ticking, and Nearly must hurry to solve the homicides, and prove her own innocence, before it is too late. There is a hint of the paranormal in this murder mystery, as Nearly has an unusual gift that allows her to "taste" the emotions of others when she touches their skin. Eloquently written and packed full of suspense, debut author Cosimano strikes gold with this page-turning thriller that will have teens chomping at the bit to get to the end. Give this to fans of Kimberly Derting's *The Body Finder* (HarperCollins, 2010) or anyone else who is looking for a captivating murder mystery. --Candyce Pruitt-Goddard, Hartford Public Library, CT

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Nearly Boswell has turned social invisibility into an art. A stripper mom, a vanished dad, a high IQ, and living in a trailer park: all of these things spell "walking target" until she can score a scholarship and get out of town. Her only indulgence is reading the personal ads on Fridays, hoping for a message from her long-gone father, and that's where she finds cryptic messages that, once she starts using her ample smarts to decipher them, turn out to be clues regarding vicious attacks on students at West River High. Cosimano's debut starts slow, freighted with silent conversations and minute observations of every gesture and capillary response. Nearly has the ability to "taste" the feelings of others through touch, recalling novels such as Lisa McMann's *Wake* (2008) and Maggie Stiefvater's *The Raven Boys* (2012), but her ability is strangely underutilized, and this, together with other inexplicables, gives the plot a somewhat forced feel. Once Cosimano begins building momentum, however, and the bodies start piling up, it's a race to the finish. Grades 9-12. --Paula Willey

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I'd say 3.9...I know. That's annoyingly specific. To me, 4 stars means I REALLY like and recommend the book, but it just wasn't one of my favorites of the year. I did enjoy this book, but it won't be for everyone. The mystery is intriguing, the characters are well-crafted, unique and relatable, and the side conflicts are also entertaining. The pacing is a touch, slow, however and I'd also call this a "smart teen mystery." You'd have to be nerdy and fairly intelligent to follow the trail of

this mystery, stick with it, and appreciate it. I did think the random mention of her empathic power and ability was unnecessary and misplaced...it had very, very little tie to the plot. Still, great tension in the mystery, great sexual tension between characters...and I was actually surprised by the ending.

This book was swoon and all the feels worthy of 5 stars. It is a murder mystery, thriller, with a slight paranormal twist that was done very well. I do hope that in book two we find out more about her power. Alright so the story in this one was great. I thought that since the murder mystery section was all math etc based that I was going to be so lost. Since well math is so not my friend!! But even though I didn't understand anything about the math/physic sections I wasn't lost at all. It really reminded me of that tv show Numbers and some movie that was out ages ago with Sandra Bullock (at least I think it was her) So don't let that scare you away from this awesome read. The romance in the book was also great. There was one part that I had to share with my group because It was just so drool worthy mmmmmmmmmmmmm!!!! The ending of the romance/book felt a little off. I don't know it felt a little disconnected. But the epilogue (yes we get one!!!) was a great edition to really end the book. The characters were awesome! I do think that Nearly needed to try the cops again but, by the time that the thought came around she was pretty much in deep S**** so that wouldn't have really helped her much. I would really love some back story novella's on some side characters as well as Nearly's mom and dad. I think those would really enrich the story going forward. The MC's Nearly (love the name btw) was great. She was a little naive but again she's a teen so that's fine. Reece was MMMM I don't have anything else to describe him. I'm not so much for all the piercings but that's ok. So in short this one is for lovers of the slight paranormal as well as fans of shows and books like Criminal Minds, Numbers, etc. Plot/Story and the Characters are well formed and amazing! Go Into This One Knowing Romance, Murder, Drugs (talked about) , Child Abuse (talked about)

Nearly Gone started off really slow for me, but it picked up rather fast. I really liked this book because I love mysteries and the concept behind this book was really cool with the clues being in the personal ads. The main character, Nearly (love her name) was relatable, but kept making dumb decisions that made me shake my head but she's a teen so it's understandable. The book moved at a fast pace and the clues were well placed. Her love, Reece is one of those jerks with a heart of gold types. He's very mean to the character at first, but inside he has feelings for her but can't show them. He's kind of shallow when Nearly has to dress *revealing* and then he starts to show interest,

but overall he grew on me. The bad guy felt random to me like like if the what? I feel that this book was one of those books that you have to read more than once to get, but each time is still enjoyable. Overall, *Nearly Gone* is a great read and I highly recommend if you like science and mysteries!

Nearly Gone by Elle Cosimano follows Nearly Boswell on her search for the murderer who's haunting her. Leaving cryptic notes and numbers that only Nearly has connected, the murderer seems to be leading her on a scavenger hunt. When Nearly tries to report it to the police, they distrust her suppositions and task high school semi-reformed criminal and narc Reece Whelan to befriend her. Now, with only the guy she shouldn't trust on her side, Nearly is in a race for the finish line in order to save her own life. For me, *Nearly Gone* was a face paced thriller full of logic puzzles and mysteries almost but not quite solved. Like one giant rubix cube in book form, I tried to reposition all the pieces to find the finished product while Nearly did the same. Although I didn't have an overprotective motorcycle riding side kick like Reece as my foundation, I did manage to keep up with Nearly's almost scholarship worthy mental processes as she raced to save lives. Growing up in a low-income housing district and competing for scholarships just to get herself out of the area, Nearly and her mother are just trying to power through. Nearly finds out some scary pieces about her absent father and the cons he ran before he abandoned her and her mother, Nearly may have to deal with some of that fall out. The whole book is one giant suspense masterpiece. A true thriller in the sense of heart-pounding, must-read-more, stay-up-all-night, *Nearly Gone* brings a troubled, dramatic teenage girl with a crush on the bad boy to life in the middle of a life-threatening situation.

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