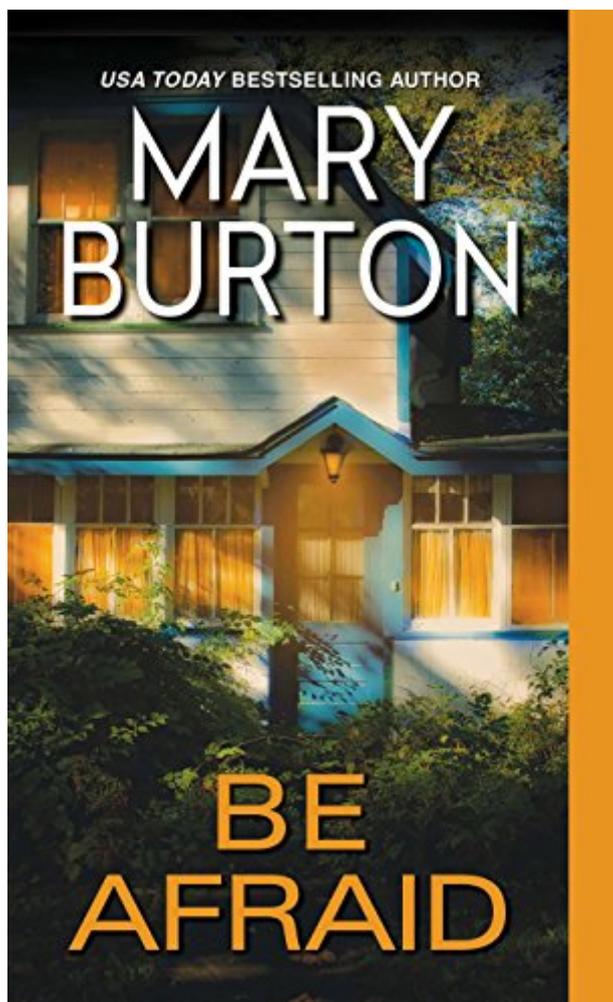


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Be Afraid (Morgans Of Nashville)



Synopsis

The Fear Is Terrifying When police rescue five-year-old Jenna Thompson from the dark closet where she's been held captive for days, they tell her she's a lucky girl. Compared to the rest of her family, it's true. But even with their killer dead of an overdose, Jenna is still trying to find peace twenty-five years later. But The Truth On leave from her forensic artist job, Jenna returns to Nashville, the city where she lost so much. Instead of closure, she finds a new horror. Detective Rick Morgan needs Jenna's expertise in identifying the skeletal remains of a young child. The case jogs hazy half-buried memories--and a nagging dread that Jenna's ordeal hasn't ended. Is Even Worse Now other women are dying. And as the links between these brutal killings and Jenna's past becomes clear, she knows this time, a madman will leave no survivors. . .

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Customer Reviews

I received a complimentary book from Net Galley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review. I am a regular reader of Mary Burton's books. Her books are a combination of mystery and thriller with a little romance thrown in. However, I find they are always exciting, keep me on the edge of my seat and most importantly of all, always keep me guessing until the end. Be Afraid is a sequel

to her last book but only in that the main character is the brother of the hero in the last book. You do not have to read the last book in order to understand this book although it does add a little bit of enjoyment to read what is going on with his character. Jenna Thompson's family was killed when she was five, and she had been held for nine days in a closet before she was found. The murderer had died from an overdose while she was in the closet. Her aunt moved her from Nashville to Baltimore where Jenna grew up to be a police officer and a forensic artist. Twenty-five years later Jenna has returned to Nashville to see if she can find the peace she has never been able to recover since that time. While she is in Nashville, a series of murders occur which seem to have some distant relationship to what happened in her family. Rick Morgan is one of the homicide detectives working on the Nashville cases. He and his police dog had been shot on their last case. Rick had just returned but now walks with a limp. His dog is unable to run but Rick takes him with him to help whenever possible. The story starts out a little slow but the author allows all of the events to quickly snowball until, before I knew it, I was so caught up in the story that I couldn't put it down.

Following *Cover Your Eyes and You're Not Safe*, bestselling author Mary Burton introduces Jenna Thompson, a Baltimore cop on leave after investigating the crime of a young girl locked in a closet. The same thing happened to Jenna, when she lived in Nashville 25 years ago. "She'd been rescued from the closet but a dark fear had remained." Back then, her parents and older sister were killed and the murderer failed in his attempt to burn the house. Jenna is drawn to Nashville approaching the anniversary of her family's demise. Aging TV reporter Susan Martinez is being pushed out of the klieg lights. "Only a great story would buy her more time. And she'd walk over hot coals to get one." Susan happens to view the hot coals she's willing to walk over while at a suspicious fire scene. She arrives before police and questions Nashville homicide detective Rick Morgan, brother of Deke Morgan from *Cover Your Eyes*, about the similarities of this fire and the one that launched her career 25 years ago. Coincidence? More bodies are discovered in burned-out buildings. Some arsonists "set their blazes because they liked to watch the flames dance and destroy." In this case, someone unleashes hell to destroy evidence--after killing young women.

Jenna Thompson has taken a leave of absence from her job as a forensic artist in Baltimore. She has returned to Nashville, where she lived as a child until the age of five. She has returned looking for answers in the brutal murder of her parents and sister. The last case that she worked on in Baltimore, when she found a young child being held captive in a closet, has brought back repressed memories of what happened to her the night her family was murdered. She too was held captive in

a closet and she was rescued after being held for nine days. Although the murderer and kidnapper was caught in her case, she feels like there is more to the story. She wants to know why her family was targeted and she keeps seeing â œeyesâ • that she believes hold an important piece of the puzzle. Rick Morgan is a detective for the Nashville Police Department. When a small childâ™s bones are discovered, wrapped in a pink blanket, he has a difficult cold case to solve. When his sister suggests asking Jenna, who she has met, if she would reconstruct the face of the child, he knows he has nothing to lose by trying it. Jenna is one of the best forensic artists in the country, and she once again proves her ability by providing them with a reconstructed face that they can go to the media with. The child cold case is not the only one that Rick must work on. He also has to try to solve a arson that involves a dead woman. He has very little clues to work with but he needs to find out who the arsonist is before more women are murdered and more fires are set. The writing style flows smoothly and the book is an easy read. The author does suspense really well and I just had to keep swiping pages to see what would happen next.

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