

PLEASE ENJOY YOUR STAY



BOOK CLUB KIT

*Do you believe everything that you see?
Can you really trust your memories?*

When she was a teenager, Mia's beloved cousin was murdered during their stay at an infamous castle in the Austrian Alps. As the only witness, Mia gave testimony that put the killer behind bars, but it tore her life apart: The media accused her aunt, a controversial true crime author, of being involved. Now, ten years later, the murderer is appealing his conviction. What's worse, a popular true crime podcast starts covering the case, determined to exonerate him, and resurfacing lies about Mia's family in the process.

Desperate to protect her aunt—and what she *knows* to be the truth—Mia returns to Austria. The castle is being revamped as a luxury hotel, and Mia gets a job as a nanny for the new owner, hiding in plain sight as she investigates, needing to set the story straight once and for all. But after someone mysteriously disappears on the property and sinister new evidence emerges regarding her cousin's death, she realizes she might have accused the wrong man...and put her own life in danger.

**"Come for the intrigue, stay for the pitch-perfect
pacing and unrelenting tension."**

—**HEATHER GUDENKAUF**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Overnight Guest* and *The Perfect Hosts*

"A multilayered mystery that haunts long after checkout. I loved it!"

—**TIFFANY CRUM**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *This Story Might Save Your Life*

**"True crime, risky journalism, and deep dark secrets.
Not to mention a glamorous European castle. Irresistible!"**

—**HANK PHILLIPPI RYAN**, *USA Today* bestselling author of *Mother, Daughter, Sister, Stranger*

**"Readers who enjoy true-crime and gothic themes in their
thrillers will tear through Goedjen's fast-paced adult debut."**

—**BOOKLIST**

KEY THEMES: secrets, memories, guilt, devotion

TRIGGER WARNINGS: death of a parent, death of a teen



MEET THE AUTHOR



Tara Goedjen has lived all over the world, forever in search of the perfect setting. A former academic, she holds a Master of Fine Arts and a PhD, and she also worked as an editor for a Sydney-based publishing house for several years. Tara now splits her time between sunny Atlanta and the moody Pacific Northwest. *Please Enjoy Your Stay* is her adult debut.

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1. **What did you like most about *Please Enjoy Your Stay*?** Was it the hotel setting, the intertwining mysteries, or the podcast?
2. **Did you like seeing the journal entries from Iris DeLaney?** Did her sections add more depth to the 2015 storyline? What did you think about her private life versus what the public thought about her?

"Up until Tristan's murder, Iris had enjoyed turning heads for publicity, saying things like: I'd spill blood to keep writing true crime, or her infamous, Sometimes I identify more with the killer, don't you? After his death, her comments were seen as proof. The darkness in her books came from the darkness inside her; she was obviously guilty."

3. **Who was your favorite character, and why?** There's quite an age range in this novel. What did you think about seeing Mia as a teenager versus Mia as an adult? Did you like watching six-year-old Evie interact with the castle?
4. **Do you listen to true crime podcasts or watch true crime documentaries?** In the novel, there's a point when Iris talks about only writing historical true crime:

"That's another reason I chose the Benders," Iris says. "Their murder spree was over a century ago. I didn't have to worry about harassing the victim's families or naming the wrong killer."

What do you think about the ethics of modern true crime podcasts, like *One True Crime*?

5. **Do you like novels set in "real" places?** In *Please Enjoy Your Stay*, the town in Austria is fictional. Would you have made the same choice if you were the author, given that it's a thriller? Was the novel immersive enough that you felt like you really traveled to the hotel in Grünhain, Austria?
6. **What was your favorite scene?** Did you enjoy the eerie moments in the castle, or did you prefer the interactions between Mia and the hotel staff? What twist shocked you the most?
7. **Do you believe in ghosts?** Iris DeLaney was known for writing true crime that intersects with the paranormal. Have you ever had any experiences in life that you can't explain?
8. **Were you interested in the layers of history embedded within the novel?** Was it more fun to read about the real-life Benders and their murder spree in the 1800s, versus the fictional murder of heiress Gitta Aiglar in 1969?
9. **Did you find the end of the novel satisfying?** What feeling were you left with? What do you think will happen to Mia?
10. **If you had the chance to ask the author one question, what would it be?**



1. What were the topics of Iris's true crime novels?
2. Who did Mia want to be like as a teenager?
3. What game did the hotel staff play together?
4. What magazine calls Iris "the Queen of Murder"?
5. What beverages were mentioned in the novel?
6. What car does Anya let her P.A. borrow?
7. Who did Evie "dress up" Mia as?
8. What television show did Iris DeLaney appear on?

1. The Bloody Benders, The Tower of London, The Manhattan Well Murder
 2. Sabine (and Tristan too) 3. Just for a Minute 4. *Vanity Fair* 5. Limoncello, Blaufränkisch, Spritzers
 6. Porsche 911 7. Gitta Aiglar, the dead heiress 8. *The Tonight Show*



DRINK: a classic Spritzer

- Approx. ½ cup dry white wine, chilled
- ¼ cup soda water, chilled
- Garnish, optional (lemon slice)
- Fill a wine glass with chilled soda water, then add wine—typically a Grüner Veltliner or Welschriesling. Add a garnish if you like, and you're ready for the prost!

**PLAYLIST:** The heiress's favorite songs from her 1960s record collection

- *Crimson and Clover* - Tommy James and the Shondells
- *Paint it Black* - The Rolling Stones
- *At Last* - Etta Jones
- *People are Strange* - The Doors
- *White Rabbit* - Jefferson Airplane
- *Hey Joe* - Jimi Hendrix
- *Happy Together* - The Turtles
- *I Put a Spell on You* - Nina Simone
- *House of the Rising Sun* - The Animals
- *Crazy* - Patsy Cline
- *Crimson and Clover* - Joan Jett remix

**SIGNED BOOKPLATES**

If your book club picks *Please Enjoy Your Stay*, Tara will send signed bookplates for each member! Email taragoedjenbooks@gmail.com with the quantity needed. (U.S. addresses only, please.)

**INVITE THE AUTHOR**

Interested in a virtual book club Q&A with the author?

Email: taragoedjenbooks@gmail.com

