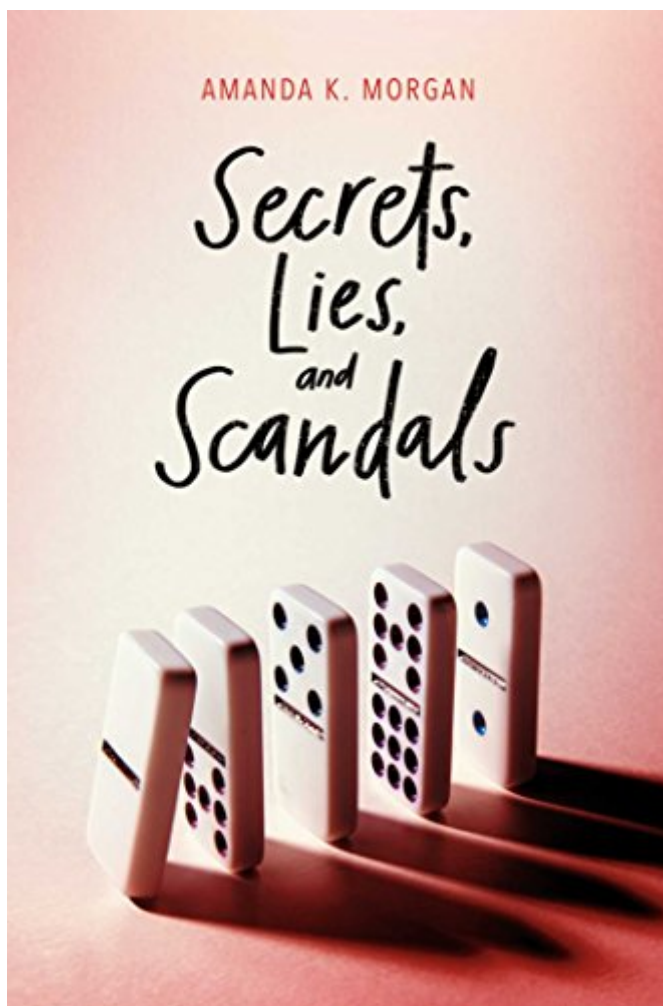


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# Secrets, Lies, And Scandals



## Synopsis

In the tradition of *I Know What You Did Last Summer* and *How to Get Away with Murder*, five teens must overcome their paranoia in order to keep their teacher's death a secret in this fast-paced suspense thriller. Nothing ruins summer vacation like a secret—especially when it involves a dead teacher. Ivy used to be on top of the social ladder, until her ex made that all go away. She has a chance to be Queen Bee again, but only if the rest of the group can keep quiet. Tyler has always been a bad boy, but lately he's been running low on second chances. There's no way he's going to lose everything because someone couldn't keep their mouth shut. Kinley wouldn't describe herself as perfect, though everyone else would. But perfection comes at a price, and there is nothing she wouldn't do to keep her perfect record—one that doesn't include murder charges. Mattie is only in town for the summer. He wasn't looking to make friends, and he definitely wasn't looking to be involved in a murder. He's also not looking to be riddled with guilt for the rest of his life—but to prevent that he'll have to turn them all in. Cade couldn't care less about the body, or about the pact to keep the secret. The only way to be innocent is for someone else to be found guilty. Now he just has to decide who that someone will be. With the police hot on the case, they don't have much time to figure out how to trust each other. But in order to take the lead, you have to be first in line—and that's the quickest way to get stabbed in the back.

## Book Information

File Size: 1382 KB

Print Length: 353 pages

Publisher: Simon Pulse; Reprint edition (July 5, 2016)

Publication Date: July 5, 2016

Sold by: Simon and Schuster Digital Sales Inc

Language: English

ASIN: B01675ABPU

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #442,304 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #71

inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Peer Pressure #152 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Peer Pressure #415 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Mysteries & Thrillers > Thrillers & Suspense

## Customer Reviews

GRADE: B-3.5 stars  
Five students in a summer psychology class accidentally kill their horrible professor. Chaos ensues. *SECRETS, LIES AND SCANDALS*, while not a comedy, has a campy feel to the writing, which was my favorite part of reading this novel. Amanda K. Morgan drew me in with her delightful descriptions of the five main characters. Broken into short chapters from the 3rd person points of view from each character, we learn the secrets they harbor beneath their carefully orchestrated veneers. None of the characters was particularly likable, but they all had sympathetic aspects to their stories. Plot wise, *SECRETS, LIES AND SCANDALS* was somewhat flimsy. The method of the killing seemed weak for the lengths the teens went to cover up their involvement. They could have just as easily concocted a plausible explanation for an accident trip and fall. Even the ending felt like a letdown, although the last chapter caused me intrigue. I wanted to know more about the five students' disposition. Don't read *SECRETS, LIES AND SCANDALS* if you're expecting a taut mystery, read it because it is a fun, fun book.

This book has many pros and cons. I will start with the pros. The story alternates to give the view of five characters. Which is nice because you know exactly how all feel without the possible deception of a faulty narrator. I enjoyed Ivy and Mattie. They are undoubtedly the most likeable characters. Moreover, the speed of the book is just right. It neither dragged out nor too short. Things I didn't like so much: I hated Cade. He is one of those characters that you want to kill yourself. Also, the teacher died too quickly. That scene was hurried. I would like to know more about him. Another character who was not lovely: Kinley. She is downright annoying. Read for yourself. Overall, the book is worth reading. It has enough suspense to keep you hooked.

Very well-written and beautifully crafted from multiple POV's, Ms. Morgan builds suspense and ramps up the tension of this mystery/thriller at the same time she makes us care about each of her characters. Highly recommended!

Seriously nail biting to the end!! I love how she puts her books together, you just can't stop reading!  
Can't wait to read another!

I sat and read this from cover to cover today. The character development was amazing and complex. I can't wait to read the next one!

I usually don't go for thriller type books but I thoroughly enjoyed this. It was easy to follow and entertaining.

Amanda Morgan your writing is "top shelf".

Well, the book has two of the title things, but I'm not sure where the scandals are and I'm wondering if they'd have made the book more interesting or just more gossipy. Regardless, if you're looking for a book with diverse characters that are ticking all the appropriate diversity boxes without making them well-rounded and interesting, this is your book. The teacher's death and aftermath should be a lot more interesting, but with an ending that doesn't deliver and the tokenism present throughout much of the characterization, Morgan's book falls short on all accounts. You have the black girl who has the veneer of perfect but is hiding something. Then there's the kid from the wrong side of the tracks who is getting messed up in things for all the wrong reasons. There's the gay but maybe bi guy who is confused, the fallen queen of the school whose brother just happens to be a cop, and the Asian kid feeling all the pressures of an overly demanding father and something else besides. All said and done, the premise had some interest, especially if *How to Get Away with Murder* is your thing. The execution just made everything surrounding the dead teacher unimportant and secondary to the stress of the characters being paranoid they will be found out about whatever or something, most of it uninteresting and forced in for, I assume, creating diversity that didn't click. Lots of secrets, some lies, no scandals present here.

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