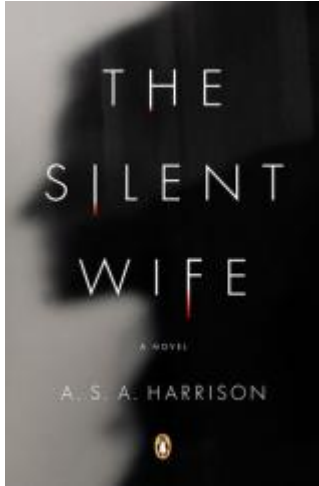


The Silent Wife

by A. S. A. Harrison



About the Book

A chilling psychological thriller about a marriage, a way of life, and how far one woman will go to keep what is rightfully hers

Jodi and Todd are at a bad place in their marriage. Much is at stake, including the affluent life they lead in their beautiful waterfront condo in Chicago, as she, the killer, and he, the victim, rush haplessly toward the main event. He is a committed cheater. She lives and breathes denial. He exists in dual worlds. She likes to settle scores. He decides to play for keeps. She has nothing left to lose. Told in alternating voices, *THE SILENT WIFE* is about a marriage in the throes of dissolution, a couple headed for catastrophe, concessions that can't be made, and promises that won't be kept. Expertly plotted and reminiscent of *GONE GIRL* and *THESE THINGS HIDDEN*, *THE SILENT WIFE* ensnares the reader from page one and does not let go.

Discussion Guide

n/a

Author Bio

ASA Harrison's previous books include *ORGASMS* (Coach House Press, 1974), *REVELATIONS*, with Margaret Dragu (Nightwood Editions, 1987), and *ZODIAC SPEAKS* (Viking Penguin, 1996). *THE SILENT WIFE* is her debut novel, and she was at work on a new psychological thriller when she died in 2013. Harrison was married to the visual artist John Massey and lived in Toronto.

Critical Praise

"That final revelation from Harrison, who, regrettably, died before she could see her debut novel published, inflicts the stealth damage of an ice pick to the carotid artery."

— Sarah Weinman, *New Republic*

"If you're suffering from *GONE GIRL* withdrawal, here's your fix."

— *Real Simple*

"The secret of this novel's spell lies not in ingenious twists but in its meticulous plausibility. You probably know — and may even be — someone very much like Todd or Jodi, which makes their relentless tick-tock toward doom all the more riveting."

— Laura Miller, *Salon*

"A.S.A. Harrison knocks it out of the park with her first novel *THE SILENT WIFE*. With a spare, elegant, and deft hand, she paints two dueling psychological portraits of longtime live-in lovers who become putative killer and hapless victim in a tale that no one is likely to forget any time soon. I couldn't put this book down."

— Elizabeth George, *New YorkTimes* bestselling author of *BELIEVING THE LIE*

"What a deliciously wicked pleasure *THE SILENT WIFE* was to read. I love books where I can't guess the outcome although I was rooting for Jodi all the way. A very clever, very funny comedy of manners spliced with a domestic thriller."

— Kate Atkinson, *New YorkTimes* bestselling author of *LIFE AFTER LIFE* and *CASE HISTORIES*

"Beautifully written and deeply unsettling, this darkly funny examination of what happens when you've got nothing left to lose is also brilliantly addictive. It left me almost breathless as I raced towards the devastating finale."

— S. J. Watson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *BEFORE I GO TO SLEEP*

"SUPERB... As a novel about the dark side of marriage and relationships, it's better than Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*. A must read for anyone who is occasionally ruthless, reckless or psychologically weird - and anyone who loves clever books with depth and heart."

— Sophie Hannah, author of *THE OTHER WOMAN'S HOUSE*

"Like a tiny crack in the windshield of destiny, *THE SILENT WIFE* examines the ultimate shattering of a perfectly civilized marriage. Intense, hypnotic, and thoroughly absorbing, Harrison challenges her characters to venture beyond their comfort zones, into a world where anything is possible, even murder."

— Elizabeth Brundage, author of *A STRANGER LIKE YOU* and *THE DOCTOR'S WIFE*

"A smart, nuanced portrait of a dying marriage...Harrison breathes life into Adlerian psychology, and weaves theory into a heart-pounding thriller that will keep you up at night."

— *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"This is an utterly compelling story, gorgeously written and with so many shocks and surprises that I raced through it to find out what happens next. My highest recommendation."

— Tess Gerritsen, *New YorkTimes* bestselling author of *GRAVITY*

"Reminiscent of Gillian Flynn's *GONE GIRL*, Harrison's fiction debut is at once coolly detached and heartbreakingly accurate. Sure to be a hit with psychological-thriller fans."

— *Library Journal*

"A chilling portrait of a relationship gone terribly awry. Harrison takes the reader down a wickedly twisted path that has us at once rooting for and wary of the protagonists. A breathtaking story that will keep you reading well into the night and wide awake long after the final page."

— Heather Gudenkauf, *New YorkTimes* bestselling author of *THE WEIGHT OF SILENCE*

"A gripping story of deception, denial and double-edged revenge. *THE SILENT WIFE* combines taut pacing and psychological nuance to haunting and memorable effect."

— Nancy Richler, author of *THE IMPOSTER BRIDE*

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