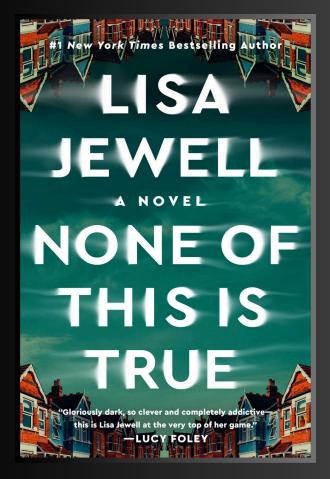
Bored to Death Book Club

BOOK SUMMARY



In None of This Is True by Lisa Jewell, podcaster Alix Summers meets Josie Fair on their shared 45th birthday. What starts as a compelling podcast idea turns into a chilling nightmare of obsession, lies, and manipulation, leaving readers questioning what's real until the shocking finale.



TIME TO READ

Prologue

Stumbling through the hotel's revolving doors, a disheveled man emerges into the harsh morning light. His eyes dart anxiously toward the curb where a sleek black sedan idles. As he approaches, his heart sinks – the familiar silhouette of his wife isn't behind the wheel. Instead, an unfamiliar woman leans across the passenger seat, her voice steady but insistent: "Your wife asked me to pick you up." She gestures to the back seat, a subtle command wrapped in courtesy.

Part I

Hi! I'm Your Birthday Twin

Introduction to the Show

A gripping new Netflix series is about to hit screens this May. Titled "Hi! I'm Your Birthday Twin!", it comes from the mind of celebrated podcaster Alix Summer. At its heart lies a chilling tale—what begins as an innocent connection between two women sharing a birthday spirals into a dark journey ending in two deaths. The story unfolds through Alix's own words, starting with her podcast episode from June 20, 2019, where she sets the stage for this haunting narrative.

Saturday, June 8, 2019

On her 45th birthday, Josie Fair reluctantly settles for dinner at The Lansdowne with her husband Walter Fair. Their unsettling relationship began when she was merely 13—Walter, now a weathered retiree, had been old enough to be her father. By 19, she wore a wedding ring, and soon after became mother to Roxy and Erin, now 23 and 21.

The quiet dinner transforms when Alix Summer sweeps in like a breath of fresh air—her icy blonde hair catching the light, a playful "Birthday Queen" balloon bobbing above her head. She's

surrounded by a vibrant crowd, including her husband Nathan, all celebrating her 45th with infectious laughter and champagne toasts.

Watching Alix command the room with effortless grace, surrounded by peers who radiate youth and success, Josie feels her carefully constructed world crack. A lifetime of choices—or perhaps the lack thereof—weighs heavy on her shoulders. When Alix heads to the bathroom, Josie follows, desperate for connection. Their shared birthday revelation leads to an even more startling coincidence—they were born in the same hospital. Alix offers a polite smile, clearly eager to return to her party, when her sister Zoe's arrival provides a welcome escape. Later that night, Alix casually mentions the strange encounter to Nathan, unaware of the darkness it would unleash.

Sunday, June 9, 2019

Obsessed with their chance encounter, Josie dives into Alix Summer's digital world with frightening intensity. She devours every episode of Alix's podcast, where women bare their souls about triumph over adversity. One particular story catches her attention - Mari le Jeune's chilling tale of escaping her controlling husband's grip, only to rise from his mysterious death to build a beauty empire. Hour after hour, Josie loses herself in Alix's carefully curated social media presence, hanging on every word of her interviews, fantasizing about living such a charmed life. Her fixation deepens when she uncovers an eerie coincidence - their children once walked the same school halls, a detail that feeds Josie's growing obsession.

That same morning, trouble brews in the Summer household. Alix wakes to cold sheets and an empty bed where Nathan should be. When he finally stumbles home in the late afternoon, reeking of last night's poor decisions, his casual admission of drinking in Soho and crashing at a hotel is met with Alix's cold fury and disgust.

Monday, June 17, 2019 – Tuesday, June 18, 2019

On Monday morning, the peaceful school drop-off routine shatters when Alix spots a familiar face - Josie, lurking by the entrance. With her dog Fred at her heels, Josie corners Alix, practically begging for a conversation. Despite Alix's attempts to politely escape, Josie's persistence wins out, and Alix reluctantly agrees to meet the next day.

Later that day, a disturbing scene unfolds at the Fair household. After finishing her shift at Stitch, Josie methodically microwaves seven jars of baby food for her adult daughter Erin. She leaves them outside the door like offerings, wrestling with maternal guilt but unable to bring herself to enter the room. The whereabouts of her other daughter Roxy remain a mystery. That night, Walter slips away shortly after their 11 PM bedtime, leaving Josie alone with her thoughts.

The show cuts to a chilling interview with neighbor Amy Jackson, who recalls the Fair children moving next door at ages 12 and 9. Her testimony paints a haunting picture: years of chaos and screaming matches that suddenly ceased five or six years ago. The eerie silence that followed would only be explained later, when news of "all the killings" came to light.

Tuesday brings the promised meeting at Stitch. There, Josie cleverly plays to Alix's professional interests, noting how his podcast typically features women who've already transformed their lives. With an unsettling gleam in her eye, she dangles the possibility of documenting someone on the cusp of change - herself. Despite internal warning bells, Alix's journalistic instincts get the better of her, and she agrees to hear more.

Wednesday, June 19, 2019 – Thursday, June 20, 2019

In a pivotal meeting, Alix christens their collaboration "Hi! I'm Your Birthday Twin!" - a name that would later drip with dark irony.

The following day, Josie steps into Alix's home studio, her eyes drinking in every detail of the luxurious space - a 40th birthday gift that speaks volumes of the life she covets. But beneath the polished surface of their recording session, something sinister stirs as Josie unveils her past: at just 15, she became entangled with Walter, a 42-year-old contractor working on her family's home.

The story takes an even darker turn through the eyes of others. Helen Lloyd, Josie's former childhood friend, speaks with barely concealed disgust about watching their friendship crumble as Walter's influence grew. More devastating still is the account from Walter's own son, who recalls his father's cruel abandonment how he and his mother fled to Canada, leaving behind the wreckage of a family destroyed by Walter's predatory pursuit of teenage Josie.

As the session ends, Josie's obsession manifests in a small act of theft - a single Nespresso pod, stolen like a talisman of the glamorous life she desperately craves. Back home, she keeps her activities secret from Walter, avoiding Erin's room despite (or perhaps because of) the mysterious stench seeping from behind the door. Meanwhile, Alix, oblivious to the darkness lurking beneath the surface, revels in what she believes to be journalistic gold.

Friday, June 21, 2019 – Sunday, June 23, 2019

Nathan's absence haunted the house once again. His 6 AM text landed like a stone in Alix's stomach - another night at Giovanni's, another convenient memory lapse about how he got there. The pattern was becoming painfully familiar.

The morning brought a disturbing revelation during Alix's conversation with Mandy, the school's office manager. The discussion about the Fair sisters painted a troubling portrait: Roxy, the wild child with a storm brewing beneath the surface, and Erin, gentle but different, possibly autistic. A particularly chilling detail emerged about Erin's broken arm - blamed on Roxy in whispered conversations, though the truth remained buried in family secrets.

Sunday took an unsettling turn when Josie's "casual" walk led her to Alix's doorstep. Like a shadow at the edges of Alix's perfect life, she watched from afar as her obsession arrived home with two lookalike women, their laughter and stylish ease a stark contrast to her own existence. Before slinking away, Josie committed her first small act of possession - plucking a flower from Alix's garden, a trophy from the life she coveted.

Tuesday, June 25, 2019 – Wednesday, June 26, 2019

In a dimly lit community center, Alix watched the tense reunion unfold between Josie and her mother Pat. The air crackled with unspoken resentment as Pat, now managing the center, recounted how her own dreams of college had shattered with an unexpected pregnancy. Every bitter glance and passive-aggressive comment confirmed Alix's growing suspicion: Pat was a textbook narcissist who had never forgiven her daughter for existing. When Josie later confessed through tears that Pat had been "a terrible mother," it felt like stating the obvious.

The following morning brought another recording session, where Josie revealed the disturbing origins of her relationship with Walter. Her voice trembled as she described how he had approached her after school, presenting her with a birthday bracelet—a calculated gift that still encircled her wrist like a chain to the past. While her friend Helen had tried to set her up with age-appropriate boys, Walter had swooped in, offering what seemed like maturity and understanding to a vulnerable fifteenyear-old. Their first kiss in a pub that evening marked the beginning of a carefully orchestrated manipulation.

That evening, as Nathan commented on their missing handwash, Alix dismissed it as a mundane oversight. Unknown to her, across town, Josie was arranging her growing collection of stolen treasures—the handwash joining a contraband Nespresso pod small pieces of Alix's life that she was quietly claiming as her own.

Saturday, June 29, 2019 – Monday, July 1, 2019

On Saturday, a haunting scene unfolded as Alix encountered Josie standing motionless in the downpour, her figure a stark silhouette

against the grey cityscape. Hours later, after her friend's party, Alix was chilled to find Josie hadn't moved – still there, drenched to the bone. When confronted, Josie's voice trembled as she confessed how the podcast had awakened dormant memories, leaving her feeling hollow and lost. Though Alix's offer of coffee and shelter seemed to break through, Josie vanished from the café without warning, leaving only her half-empty cup behind.

Later, safely within her own walls, Josie's mind raced with the real reason for her abrupt exit. She could have sworn she'd seen Roxy's face in the crowd outside – a ghost from her past that sent ice through her veins. Come Monday, she crafted a careful lie, texting Alix that a simple cold had been to blame for her strange behavior.

Tuesday, July 2, 2019 – Thursday, July 4, 2019

During their recording session, Josie revealed a dark secret that had haunted her for decades. With trembling hands, she recounted how Walter had torn apart his own family to be with her - his wife fleeing to Canada with their children, never to be seen again. After the emotional session, when Alix drove Josie home, she caught her first glimpse of Walter. The man who had once wielded such power now appeared frail and weathered, time having carved deep lines into his face. The weight of the past still clung to Josie like the threadbare denim jacket she refused to part with - her "lucky jacket" from that fateful day Walter first noticed her. Though she had dressed carefully for the recording, hoping to impress Alix, Walter's suspicious eyes followed her every move, his possessive nature unchanged by the decades. His accusations of another man made Josie laugh bitterly as she later confided in Alix about the night that had sealed her fate: her sixteenth birthday, when Walter's proposal and subsequent actions in his apartment had stripped away the last remnants of her childhood innocence.

Friday, July 5, 2019 – Saturday, July 6, 2019

Friday brought an unsettling revelation when Harry, their collegeaged neighbor, stopped by to collect the Summers' spare key. What began as a casual conversation turned dark as Alix probed him about the Fair sisters. Harry's face clouded as he described Erin's peculiar isolation and Roxy's explosive temper. His voice dropped to a whisper when mentioning the whispered allegations of abuse, and the oddly specific detail about Erin's restricted diet sent chills down Alix's spine.

The following day, Josie's obsession took a disturbing turn. After a fruitless vigil at the coffee shop where she believed she'd glimpsed Roxy, her feet carried her to Alix's house. Finding it empty, she pressed against the windows like a moth to flame, her reflection

ghostlike in the glass. Her compulsion drove her further - to the recycling bin, where she claimed another trophy: a discarded magazine, clutched to her chest like stolen treasure.

The surveillance footage told its own chilling tale. Nathan discovered it that evening - Josie's furtive movements captured in stark digital clarity. While Alix dismissed it as fascinating fodder for their story, sending Josie a carefully worded text about the footage, an undercurrent of unease remained. Later at Giovanni's, as Nathan descended into his usual spiral of drinks, Alix made her solitary exit, leaving him to his demons. The night air felt heavy with possibilities - none of them good.

Monday, July 8, 2019

The conversation took an unexpected turn when Alix questioned Josie's devotion to denim. With a haunting vulnerability in her voice, Josie revealed it was her armor—a reminder of the day Walter first noticed her. As she spread old photographs across the table, Alix found herself studying Walter's face: the magnetic smile, the confident pose, the predatory charm that had ensnared a teenage girl. Looking at these snapshots of the past, Josie's voice cracked as she confessed how she had molded her entire existence around Walter's preferences, and now, decades later, the weight of what-ifs threatened to suffocate her. In a moment of unexpected intimacy, Alix confided her own struggles with Nathan's spiraling alcoholism—a secret she'd kept even from her sisters, Zoe and Maxine. Perhaps sensing an opportunity, Josie revealed her nest egg: £6,000 in savings and a £3,000 inheritance. Her eyes sparkled with possibility as she suggested a shopping trip, eager to shed her denim shell like a butterfly emerging from its chrysalis.

The boutique became their sanctuary that afternoon, a place of transformation and secrets. Josie's hands trembled as she handed over £398.87—more than she'd ever spent on clothes—for six carefully chosen pieces. But her true victory came later, alone in her bedroom, as she caressed the diamond bracelet she'd stolen from Alix, pressing it to her lips with the satisfaction of a collector adding another precious item to her shrine.

Tuesday, July 9, 2019 – Wednesday, July 10, 2019

The morning brings a chilling discovery - Alix's birthday bracelet from Nathan has vanished without a trace. The mystery deepens when Josie appears at her doorstep, transformed in one of her new dresses. The conversation takes a dark turn as Josie probes about Nathan's drinking habits, making Alix's skin crawl. With an unsettling gleam in her eye, Josie poses a macabre question: would Nathan's death bring sadness or liberation? Alix's assertion of grief seems to disappoint Josie visibly.

During their recording session, raw emotion fills the studio as Josie recounts the fateful day she and Walter confronted her mother about their relationship. At eighteen, she walked away from her childhood home forever, believing she was stepping into freedom. Now, years later, bitter realization dawns - she had merely traded one cage for another.

A heartbreaking interlude emerges in the podcast when Tim and Angel Hiddingfold-Clarke share their encounter with a desperate Josie, pleading with them to take her beloved dog Fred. The true identity of this broken woman only became clear to them much later.

Post-session, Josie haunts the café where Roxy's ghost still lingers in her mind. In a disturbing ritual, she presses her stolen trophy -Alix's teaspoon - to her lips, contemptuous of Alix's loyalty to Nathan. Her mounting tensions explode at home in a venomous confrontation with Walter, spitting out her hatred. Meanwhile, a chance encounter between Alix and Pat reveals deep-seated animosity, with Pat dismissing Josie and Walter as "a toxic combination."

The tension ratchets higher when Alix requests to meet Walter. Josie's careful facade cracks as she reveals Walter's ignorance about the project, deflecting with a suggestion for a couples' dinner. Both men agree reluctantly, setting the stage for an evening that promises to be anything but casual.

Thursday, July 11, 2019 – Friday, July 12, 2019

In a chilling podcast segment, Josie reveals the depths of her isolation - imprisoned in her own home without even a key to the apartment, spending endless hours waiting for Walter's return like a bird in a gilded cage. Even after her daughters' births, Walter's frequent "work trips" left her alone with the girls, her world shrinking smaller by the day.

The photos Josie shares with Alix tell a haunting story of transformation. What begins as snapshots of innocent, smiling children evolves into darker images - Roxy's defiant piercings a silent rebellion, while Erin's gaunt frame speaks of deeper troubles. Later that night, the truth threatens to surface as Josie confronts Walter about telling Alix everything. His panic is palpable, his threats of prison time hanging heavy in the air. The argument reaches its explosive climax with Josie's devastating accusation: "pedophile."

The dinner party that follows crackles with tension. Nathan's drunken phone call sets Josie on edge, her quiet fury simmering beneath forced pleasantries. As the evening unfolds, Walter's ignorance about the podcast becomes apparent, and his casual mention of his ex-wife - ten years his junior when they met - adds another disturbing layer to his history. His dismissive comment about Erin's gaming habits rings hollow against the earlier photos of her deterioration.

In a private moment, Walter reveals another side to Alix, painting Josie as manipulative and untrustworthy. His warning about Josie's controlling nature proves prophetic when Leon later reports seeing her watching their private conversation, her face twisted with rage.

Friday, July 12, 2019

Josie storms home, her heels striking the pavement like thunder. The evening's disappointments simmer in her mind - Nathan's conspicuous absence and Alix's simple pasta dinner, which felt like an insult to her expectations of grandeur. The facade of civility crumbles as she bursts through their apartment door. She rounds on Walter, her voice dripping with venom as she accuses him of humiliating her in front of Alix. Walter's response cuts deep, his words sharp and calculated: Alix isn't her friend - merely a curious observer picking through the wreckage of her life. The truth of his words ignites something primal within her, and certainty rips through her like a cyclone, wild and devastating.

Part II

Saturday, July 13, 2019 – Sunday, July 14, 2019

Dawn breaks on a chilling scene: Nathan's absence weighs heavy in the house when Josie appears at Alix's door, trembling and bruised, her faithful dog pressed against her legs. Her story spills out between sobs - Walter's rage after the dinner, his violent outburst, and Erin's brave but futile attempt to intervene. When Alix reaches for her phone to call the police, Josie's hand shoots out to stop her, panic flashing in her eyes. "Please, no police," she begs. Despite Walter's earlier warnings echoing in her mind, Alix offers Josie the spare bedroom, unaware of the apartment key Josie secretly tucks beneath the mattress like a talisman.

When Nathan finally stumbles home, the confrontation Alix had planned dissolves in the face of this new crisis. Josie, however, wastes no time in delivering a calculated rebuke about his dinner absence, suggesting that Walter's violence stemmed from disappointment at lacking male company.

By morning, Nathan's displeasure at their houseguest is palpable, but Josie plays her cards masterfully. With nowhere else to turn, she says, her voice small and vulnerable. Alix reluctantly extends the invitation to a week, mentioning her sister Zoe's upcoming visit as a gentle deadline. Josie's eyes light up as she dangles the promise of podcast material - more stories about her children. Alix, caught between sympathy and professional curiosity, takes the bait.

The story takes an even darker turn in a recorded segment where Mandy, a school administrator, shares a disturbing memory. Her voice tight with old tension, she describes how Roxy once broke another child's finger - but it was Josie and Walter's chilling lack of response that truly haunted her. The segment closes with Josie's own confession, her voice hollow as she speaks of Walter's legendary temper and her own complicity in the fear that ruled their home.

Monday, July 15, 2019

Left alone in the house that Monday morning, Josie's true nature emerges. Like a ghost, she drifts from room to room, her fingers trailing over Alix's possessions. Her eyes light up when she discovers a child's drawing - "Teeny" sketched in crayon, a little girl and her dog frozen in innocent happiness. Without hesitation, she slips it into her pocket, a trophy for her growing collection. The study reveals another prize: a fold-out bed, perfect for extending her stay. A calculating smile plays across her lips.

Meanwhile, a chilling story unfolds through the voices of online gamers Ari, Juno, and Dan. They speak of a mysterious player called

"Erased" on the Glitch app, whose final gaming session ended in blood-curdling screams and deafening silence. Their frantic attempts to trace the player through police and the gaming company led them to North London, but they were too late. The news would tell the rest of the story.

Back in the recording studio, something isn't quite right. Josie radiates an unsettling cheerfulness - strange for someone supposedly fleeing an abusive situation. Her story about Brooke Ripley spills out like poison: a bright, fearless teenager who befriended Roxy and became close to the family. Too close. The friendship shattered after Roxy's violent outburst, but the truth was far darker - Walter had groomed Brooke, claiming her on her sixteenth birthday. The revelation broke something in Roxy; she vanished shortly after, never to return.

The session ends with Josie's probing questions about Nathan, her eyes gleaming with barely concealed interest in his potential for violence. Alix's denial seems to disappoint her - as if she's hoping to find a reflection of Walter's darkness in Nathan's soul.

Tuesday, July 16, 2019 – Wednesday, July 17, 2019

During a chance encounter with her neighbor's son Henry, Alix probes about Brooke Ripley. His response sends a chill down her spine - not only does he remember Brooke, but he reveals the cruel whispers that had followed her: accusations of promiscuity that now take on a more sinister meaning.

The story grows darker through a haunting podcast interview with Brooke's aunt. Her voice trembles as she recounts that fateful prom night - how Brooke had sparkled with excitement, promising to meet a friend afterward. That was the last time anyone saw her.

Another voice emerges from the past: Katelyn Rand, who knew Josie in childhood and later crossed paths with her at Stitch. As a struggling actress, Katelyn remembers Josie's oddly insistent job offer, though something about the interaction had felt... off.

The mounting tension in Alix's home reaches a breaking point on Tuesday. While cleaning up after Josie's dog's accident, Alix makes a chilling discovery hidden beneath the mattress: a bloodstained key fob marked "#6". Her hands trembling, she returns it without a word. But the next day brings more unsettling revelations - Josie wearing Alix's clothes despite her own clean wardrobe, and a bottle of Alix's foundation mysteriously relocated to the spare bedroom.

Then comes the request that makes Alix's blood run cold: Josie wants to extend her stay, suggesting the study's fold-out bed as her new nest. Though every instinct screams danger, Alix finds herself trapped between fear and obligation to the podcast. She deflects with a promise to consult Nathan, all while dreading the thought of Josie's continued presence in their home.

In the empty house, Josie's kleptomania surfaces with disturbing intensity. Her fingers dance over small treasures - a loose bread tag, a candid photo of Leon, Nathan's pristine business card - each disappearing into her pockets like secrets. A satisfied smile plays on her lips as she imagines adding them to her collection at home, a magpie's nest of stolen memories from countless other victims.

During an impulsive reconnaissance mission, Alix finds herself drawn to Josie's neighborhood. The discovery she makes sends chills down her spine - the infamous bus stop where Brooke was last seen stands just two minutes from Josie's doorstep. When confronted about reaching out to Brooke, Josie's reaction is visceral and immediate, her voice sharp with barely contained panic: "I don't trust her."

The recording session that follows reveals horrors beyond imagination. Josie's voice trembles as she describes the aftermath of Roxy's departure - how her ultimatum to Walter only redirected his predatory attention to Erin. The transformation was insidious: empty beds at night, Erin's regression to consuming only baby food, a child slowly disappearing before her mother's eyes. Five years of systematic abuse culminated in Erin's vanishing act just days ago, leaving behind nothing but questions and the crushing weight of maternal guilt. Alix listens, frozen, as the true depths of this family's darkness begin to surface.

Friday, July 19, 2019

In a tense confrontation, Josie corners Nathan about extending her stay, eyeing the fold-out bed in the study. His excuse about Alix's sisters visiting rings hollow in her ears, and she can sense the lie beneath his polite refusal.

Taking advantage of an empty house, Josie's true colors emerge. Like a shadow, she slips into the master bedroom, methodically searching through Nathan's possessions until her fingers close around two damning pieces of evidence: a plastic bag dusted with white powder and a mysterious hotel key card.

The day's recording session unveils an even darker narrative. Josie's voice trembles as she describes the confrontation with Walter, painting a horrific scene of accusations and violence. She claims to have confronted him about his predatory behavior towards her, Brooke, and Erin, leading to a brutal assault with a TV remote when she tried to escape with her daughter.

But as Alix begins to probe deeper, cracks appear in Josie's carefully constructed story. The timeline shifts like quicksand dinner becomes bedtime, pajamas transform into a bloodstained dress. Each question from Alix chips away at the facade, and Josie's responses grow increasingly erratic.

The breaking point comes when Alix mentions tracking down Erin. Josie's composure shatters instantly, her insistence that "Erin is fine" ringing with an unsettling hollowness. Before Alix can press further, Josie flees the session, leaving behind more questions than answers.

Saturday, July 20, 2019

On her final morning, Josie lingers in Alix's house like a ghost unwilling to fade, her fingers trailing across the marble countertops one last time. When she announces her plans to stay with her mother, her voice carries a hollow note that sets Alix's nerves on edge. Their farewell is a dance of forced smiles and empty promises - Alix's mechanical encouragement to "get help" met with Josie's distant nod.

As Josie's figure disappears down the street, Alix stands in the doorway, struck by an overwhelming sense of unease. The woman who just left seems more enigma than victim, her week-long stay having raised more questions than it answered. In the quiet of her restored home, Alix can't shake the feeling that this isn't really the end - merely the calm before an even greater storm.

Part III

Saturday, July 20, 2019 – Sunday, July 21, 2019

Freedom floods through the house as Josie finally departs, but an unsettling discovery dampens the relief - while cleaning the spare bedroom, Alix finds the bloodstained keyfob Josie mysteriously left behind. Despite her unease, she tucks it away, determined to focus on her sisters' arrival. The house soon buzzes with the cheerful chaos of family, a welcome change from the previous week's tension. When Nathan announces his plans for a night out with friends, Alix's plea for an early return betrays her growing anxiety about his behavior.

Meanwhile, a shadow trails Nathan to the pub. Josie lurks in the adjacent restaurant, her ears pricked to catch every word as Nathan drunkenly vents about their "houseguest from hell." The evening takes an orchestrated turn when a striking woman -Katelyn - manufactures a chance encounter, smoothly integrating herself into the group's revelry.

Back home, Alix's world tilts on its axis. Hidden in her shoe rack, she uncovers a damning collection: a powder-dusted plastic bag, a hotel key card, and most puzzling - a napkin bearing the name "Daisy" and a phone number. The first two items she recognizes as Nathan's, but the napkin sends a chill down her spine. As midnight approaches with no word from Nathan, dread begins to take root.

Sleep proves elusive as suspicions of infidelity poison Alix's thoughts. A desperate call to Giovanni yields little comfort, prompting her to confront him in person. Though he swears Nathan has never strayed before, his next words freeze her blood when the group dispersed, Nathan was last seen with Katelyn, who promised to ensure his safe return home. The promise, like so much else that night, was a carefully crafted lie.

Monday, July 22, 2019

Monday brings a chilling development in Nathan's disappearance. The phone rings - it's a hotel reporting damage to a room where Nathan stayed over the weekend. The story unfolds like a nightmare: Nathan checked in Saturday night with an unknown woman, the room prepaid in her name. He vanished without checking out, leaving behind a scene of destruction. Heart racing, Alix demands to see both the room and security footage.

The CCTV footage makes her blood run cold. There's Nathan, stumbling through the lobby in a state beyond mere drunkenness. What catches her eye next sends a shiver down her spine - he's getting into the passenger seat, something he never does. The blonde woman beside him sports a fresh scratch across her face, a detail that will haunt Alix later. But it's the name on the room payment that delivers the final shock: "Erin Jade Fair."

A confession from Katelyn adds another twisted layer. With an almost clinical detachment, she reveals being paid £1,000 for her part in the scheme - get Nathan drunk, lead him to the hotel room, then disappear. "I wasn't supposed to sleep with him," she insists, as if that somehow lessens the betrayal.

Desperate for answers, Alix's search leads her first to Pat, who denies Josie's presence, then to Josie's house. The empty dwelling greets her with an ominous, putrid smell. Running out of options, she reaches out to an old contact from her journalism days -Joanna Dafoe, Deputy Met Commissioner. The car's registration reveals another connection to "Erin Jade Fair," pushing Alix to finally report Nathan's kidnapping.

Detective Constable Sabrina Albright initially dismisses the kidnapping report - until a disturbing anonymous tip arrives. The caller's words send chills through the station: neither Erin nor Walter Fair has been seen or heard from in over a week.

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Breaking news sends shockwaves through the community as police make a grisly discovery during a welfare check at Josie Fair's residence. Inside the eerily quiet house, investigators stumbled upon a scene straight out of a nightmare: Walter Fair's decomposing body lay in the bathtub, while his daughter Erin was found clinging to life - bound to a chair, severely beaten and comatose. Adding another layer to this horrific tableau, Josie Fair has vanished without a trace and is now the prime suspect in the mysterious disappearance of Nathan Summer.

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Four agonizing days into Nathan's disappearance, DCs Sabrina Albright and Bryant summon Alix to the station. There, laid out before her like a macabre museum exhibit, is a collection of trinkets recovered from Josie's home. As Alix's trembling fingers sort through the items, she recognizes several pieces stolen from her own house. But one object stops her cold - Brooke's prom corsage, its dried petals perfectly matching a photo that's been haunting her thoughts.

Her heart pounding, Alix produces the bloodstained keyfob Josie had left behind like a twisted calling card. "What about a golden bumblebee pendant?" she asks, her voice barely steady. The officers exchange glances before confirming they haven't found it. Then comes the most chilling revelation of all - in a recorded confession, Katelyn details her role in the trap. She'd lured Nathan to the hotel with false promises of meeting Alix there. When he grew suspicious and agitated, a quick text to Josie set the final phase in motion: send him outside, where someone claiming to be sent by Alix would be waiting.

Thursday, July 25, 2019

A dramatic turn of events unfolds as Roxy Fair unexpectedly appears at the police station, requesting to speak with Alix. The tension in the interview room is palpable as she takes her seat, her presence promising long-awaited answers.

The first bombshell drops when police reveal a disturbing financial trail - Erin, a successful streamer, had earned £40,000 on Glitch, only to have her mother Josie secretly drain the account. When questioned about her mother's possible whereabouts, Roxy's eyes flicker with recognition. "The Lake District," she says softly. "She always found peace there."

The interview takes an unexpected turn when Josie's accusations about Walter surface. Roxy's bitter laugh cuts through the air as she unveils the truth - far from being an abuser, Walter was actually Erin's gaming partner, beloved by her streaming audience for his witty commentary during late-night sessions.

In a surprising act of cooperation, Roxy agrees to record a podcast interview with Alix. The revelations continue as she opens up about Brooke, confessing their romantic relationship. "Mom couldn't stand it," Roxy explains, her voice tight with old pain. "She was jealous that Brooke had become more important to me than her." While admitting to a physical altercation with Brooke, Roxy insists her departure was voluntary - a stark contradiction to Josie's version of events. When presented with the mysterious key, Roxy's eyes narrow. "Check the garage," she suggests cryptically.

The investigation takes another turn when Clare and Georgie Small, guests at Ambleside Manor Lodge Park, report a peculiar sight - a lone woman spending several days drinking wine at the lodges before vanishing without warning, leaving only questions in her wake.

Sunday, July 28, 2019

The tension rises when Pat unexpectedly reaches out to Alix, requesting a podcast interview. Her revelations about Josie's past are chilling - she paints a portrait of a deeply troubled child who systematically isolated herself, consumed by jealousy whenever Pat found companionship. But the most disturbing disclosure comes when Pat admits to beginning an affair with Walter during Josie's teenage years, despite his marriage. By the time Josie turned 18, she and Walter had formed their own relationship - one that Pat controversially insists was initiated by Josie, not a result of grooming. Meanwhile, a breakthrough emerges when Fred's new owners contact the police after recognizing Josie in the news. This vital tip provides DC Sabrina Albright's team with a crucial lead in their investigation.

As darkness falls, Alix finds herself lost in memories of Nathan. She remembers sharing their meet-cute story with Josie - a chance encounter at the dry cleaners that led to marriage two years later. But Josie's response now haunts her: a passionate insistence that true female empowerment meant breaking free from men entirely. She'd even cited Mari le Jeune, a previous podcast guest who "found herself" only after her husband's death. Looking back, Alix realizes with horror how Josie's twisted ideology had been hiding in plain sight.

The night takes an ominous turn when Alix's phone rings - it's the police, urgently summoning her to the Lake District. Her heart pounds as she realizes they must have found something significant.

Monday, July 29, 2019

The grim discovery came in the pre-dawn hours of July 29 -Nathan's lifeless body floating in the shallow waters of Lake Windermere. Police combed through his abandoned belongings at a nearby lodge, while Josie Fair remained at large, a shadow slipping through their fingers.

Hours before the discovery, Josie's final message to Alix crackled through voicemail - a chilling mixture of apology and justification. Her words dripped with twisted logic as she explained her mission to "liberate" Alix from the constraints of marriage, painting a disturbing portrait of her warped worldview.

Meanwhile, at St. Mary's Hospital, Erin's eyes finally fluttered open after days in a coma. As Roxy sat by her bedside, sharing the horrific developments, another shocking revelation emerged investigators had found Brooke Ripley's remains in Josie's garage, still clothed in her prom dress, a haunting testament to a life cut tragically short.

Through tears, Brooke's mother Abigail revealed her stunned reaction to learning of her daughter's secret relationship with Roxy. The revelation cast new light on Brooke's final moments, explaining her fateful decision to get off at that bus stop near Roxy's house.

In a raw, emotional interview, Erin, recently diagnosed with autism, peeled back the layers of her mother's possessive nature. She painted a portrait of Josie as a woman consumed by jealousy, someone who couldn't bear to share Walter's affection - not with his children from his previous marriage, and not even with her own daughters. This toxic need for exclusive devotion would ultimately drive her to unthinkable acts.

In a chilling revelation, Erin describes a childhood marked by neglect and manipulation. "Roxy's broken arm was just the beginning," she says, her voice trembling. "While Walter worked endless shifts, Josie's idea of 'homeschooling' was parking Roxy in front of the TV, spinning elaborate lies to my father about her educational progress."

The control Josie wielded over her family reached a breaking point when Erin's successful streaming career on Glitch offered a glimpse of freedom. "The moment I started saving money to move in with Roxy, something in Mom... changed," Erin recalls, her eyes distant. "It was like watching a storm gather on the horizon."

Then came the violence. Erin witnessed Josie's savage attack on Brooke, whom she blamed for Roxy's escape. "I became a ghost in my own home after that," Erin admits. "Watching, silent, afraid."

The fatal night unfolded like a nightmare. What began as an argument between her parents escalated when Erin intervened, defending her father against Josie's accusations of pedophilia. "She kept screaming about how he'd slept with her when she was sixteen," Erin recounts, her hands shaking. "I tried to fight back with whatever I could grab - the TV remote was there. But Mom... she was stronger than I expected." The last thing Erin remembers before losing consciousness was the sound of her mother's ragged breathing. When she came to, she was bound to a chair, facing the horrific reality that her father was dead.

Part IV

Four Weeks Later

One month after Nathan's tragic death, mourners gather at a solemn funeral near his father's house. While family and friends say their final goodbyes, Josie Fair remains a ghost - vanished into thin air, leaving investigators grasping at shadows. The tragedy has left Alix not only emotionally devastated but also financially vulnerable, as Nathan had no life insurance. Turning grief into purpose, she channels her investigative skills into producing a podcast about Josie's twisted tale. When the first episode drops, it spreads like wildfire across social media, captivating listeners worldwide. Then, unexpectedly, Katelyn emerges from the shadows with new information.

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

Over coffee at a quiet café, Katelyn finally meets with Alix, her hands fidgeting nervously with her cup. "I need you to know something," she says, her voice barely above a whisper. "Nathan talked about you constantly that night. Even drunk, he kept showing me pictures of you both, telling me how lucky he was." She pauses, tears welling in her eyes. "He was just a friend to me, Alix. Nothing more. I wish I'd never agreed to be part of her twisted plan."

August 2020

The final episode of the podcast drops like a bombshell in August 2020. Amidst the shocking revelations, Alix announces a potential Netflix documentary adaptation in the works. There's a glimmer of light in the darkness - Erin and Roxy have found solace in each other's company, slowly rebuilding their lives together. Meanwhile, their mother Josie remains a phantom, evading justice and leaving a trail of unanswered questions in her wake.

In the series' most powerful moment, Alix abandons journalistic neutrality and delivers a scathing address to Josie. Her voice trembling with barely contained rage, she strips away the facade of victimhood, branding Josie for what she truly is - a manipulative, evil woman who destroyed countless lives in service of her twisted desires.

Wednesday, October 28, 2020

On a crisp October morning, DC Sabrina Albright reaches out to Alix with news that sends a chill down her spine. Though Josie remains frustratingly elusive, the investigation continues to chase promising leads across the country. In a bittersweet moment, officers return a collection of stolen mementos to Alix - each item a painful reminder of the life she had before Josie's devastating intrusion.

November 2, 2020

A thick cream envelope arrives at Alix's doorstep, its contents making her blood run cold. Inside, Josie's elegant handwriting fills page after page with a mix of fury and calculated manipulation. She rails against the podcast's portrayal of her, insisting she's not the monster Alix made her out to be. With clinical detachment, she explains Nathan's death—a miscalculation, she claims, in what was meant to be merely a sedative dose.

The letter's final paragraph, however, transforms from defensive ramblings into something far more sinister:

"Please send my love to your lovely children, especially Leon. I had such a soft spot for him. A lovely boy. A delicate boy. Keep him safe."

Sixteen Months Later – March 2022

In a quiet Midlands café, Josie sits alone, her once-dark hair now a striking blonde, fingers absently toying with the stolen golden bumblebee necklace - Alix's necklace. Her ears prick up as two women at the next table dissect The Birthday Twin Netflix series in hushed, excited tones, debating the veracity of Roxy and Erin's testimonies. A bitter smile plays across her lips.

Her mind wanders to that fateful night - the night that changed everything. She can still see Roxy's tear-streaked face, hear her daughter's broken voice repeating "I didn't mean to" over Brooke's lifeless body. The scene plays out like a macabre theater: Erin frozen in horror, Walter taking control with chilling efficiency, and Roxy's final, venomous threat before disappearing into the night a daughter's ultimate betrayal, promising to pin everything on her own mother if the truth ever surfaced.

Stirring her untouched coffee, Josie weaves her familiar web of self-justification. Each decision, each calculated move, she frames as maternal protection. "I am a good mother," she whispers to her reflection in the window, but the words ring hollow in the afternoon silence.

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