



Live to Tell: A Detective D. D. Warren Novel (Detective D.D. Warren Book 4)

By Lisa Gardner

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He knows everything about you—including the first place you'll hide.

On a warm summer night in one of Boston's working-class neighborhoods, an unthinkable crime has been committed: Four members of a family have been brutally murdered. The father—and possible suspect—now lies clinging to life in the ICU. Murder-suicide? Or something worse? Veteran police detective D. D. Warren is certain of only one thing: There's more to this case than meets the eye.

Danielle Burton is a survivor, a dedicated nurse whose passion is to help children at a locked-down pediatric psych ward. But she remains haunted by a family tragedy that shattered her life nearly twenty-five years ago. The dark anniversary is approaching, and when D. D. Warren and her partner show up at the facility, Danielle immediately realizes: It has started again.

A devoted mother, Victoria Oliver has a hard time remembering what normalcy is like. But she will do anything to ensure that her troubled son has some semblance of a childhood. She will love him no matter what. Nurture him. Keep him safe. Protect him. Even when the threat comes from within her own house.

The lives of these three women unfold and connect in unexpected ways, as sins from the past emerge—and stunning secrets reveal just how tightly blood ties can bind. Sometimes the most devastating crimes are the ones closest to home.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Lisa Gardner Interviews Detective D.D. Warren

Lisa Gardner: D.D.--What do you find most fascinating/frustrating about working with the new guy, crime scene expert Alex Wilson?

D.D.: Alex seems sharp. Knows his blood spatter--I respect that in a guy. 'Course, he's been teaching at the Academy, which is one thing, while we're now standing in a Dorchester home with five dead and carnage in every room. I don't want lectures, I want results. This was a family--according the neighbors, even a nice family who seemed to actually like one another. Until, of course, the father snapped and killed them all. Or did he? These are the kinds of questions I gotta ask, and Prof Alex better be ready to answer.

LG: When did you know you were going to have your own novel?

D.D.: First time I walked on scene in *Alone*. Please, I'm five times tougher than fellow detective Bobby Dodge and twenty times smarter. Plus, I look damn good in Jimmy Choos. Let's see the former sniper do my job in my heels, then we'll talk.

LG: What's the most difficult case you've ever had to handle? Why?

D.D.: These past two family homicides. For one thing, any crime involving kids wrecks you a little. For another...I don't believe in coincidence. Here are two families, totally different neighborhoods, socioeconomics, lifestyles, etc., yet they both wind up the same way, dead. Now, what are the odds of two totally different fathers going whacko in exactly the same way? I don't believe it, but my boss isn't into gut feel. All comes down to evidence. I would like some. Really, it would be nice right about now. Yo, Alex...

LG: What is the thing you love most about being a Boston P.D. Sergeant?

D.D.: Being in charge, calling all the shots, being the boss. Did I mention being in charge?

LG: What's on your nightstand? What's in the drawer?

D.D.: On my nightstand--back issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin I keep meaning to read. In the drawer--emergency stash of chocolate, couple of condoms (don't I wish), and a Kindle loaded up with the latest J.R. Ward steamy hot, seriously action-packed vampire novel. Tell anyone, and they will never find your body.

LG: Favorite food?

D.D.: I've always been partial to Italian. Which my squadmate Phil, told Alex all about. Now, Alex claims to be a serious Italian cook--apparently his mother is a Capozzoli and they know their Bolognese. A little wine, a little homemade pasta, a little tiramisu. All I gotta do is pick up the phone, tell him a time and date...one phone call. How hard can that be? One little call.

LG: You drive that butch police car all day. What's your idea of a dream ride?

D.D.: Walking on a beach. No car, no pager, no shoes. Just me, the wind, the waves and the cry of the gulls. I'd probably go nuts within minutes, but it would be nice to give peace a chance.

LG: Can you ever see yourself partnering successfully with another cop? Or are you the quintessential lone wolf?

D.D.: Excuse me, I love my squad and my squad loves me. Neil is one of the finest detectives around, plus

better him than me viewing all the autopsies. And Phil--hey, family man, great wife, four kids, works in homicide to escape the violence. Gotta love Phil. They have my back and I have theirs. Life is good.

LG: I'm a woman traveling alone, staying in a hotel. What are your top three tips to keep me safe from psychos?

D.D.: Most hotel crimes have to do with property theft. Unfortunately, a guest walking in on a burglary, or a thief breaking in assuming the room's vacant only to find a guest present, can lead to violence. Thus, your best defense is to always use the deadbolt, and always advertise when you're "home," so to speak.

1. Bolt all locks anytime you're in the room and hang out the Do Not Disturb Sign
2. Double-check door is closed and latched (failures happen more than you think)
3. Try to avoid staying in rooms closest to the elevators and/or stairs--these rooms are more frequently targeted by thieves as the location allows for quick getaways.

LG: Do you have any scars?

D.D.: Maybe, but you should see the other guy. Give as good as you get, that's always been my motto.

LG: What's the most you've ever spent on a pair of shoes? Describe!

D.D.: Silver sequined Jimmy Choos, on sale \$500. Should never have bought them, but they're really pretty and when I wear them, I don't look like a cop, walk like a cop, or think like a cop. How does that commercial go...? Oh yeah, priceless.

LG: If you had to: dog or cat?

D.D.: No! Never! Don't even think it!

LG: Tell me something I don't know about you.

D.D.: I like mobiles. Don't ask me why. But there's something cool about looking up and watching the various shapes and colors slowly twist around. Sometimes, after a really bad day, I go home, close my eyes and create mobiles in my head--maybe one with bright origami animals, or another with silver geometric shapes. I let them go round and round, til finally I can sleep. Then when I wake up, I'll know something critical about the crime--a piece of the puzzle I missed the day before, a clue I'd overlooked. I think it's from focusing on patterns. That's what crimes are, really--very violent patterns that a good detective must deconstruct, then rebuild in her head.

LG: Worst crime scene?

D.D.: The mummified remains of six girls on the grounds of the abandoned mental institute in Mattapan. Never saw anything like it, never want to again. Funny, that was Bobby Dodge's first case as a detective (*Hide*)--got him a wife, and now a baby girl. But he never talks about it, and neither do I. Sometimes, finding justice for the victims isn't enough, but it's all we got. So a good detective walls it up, puts a Do Not Disturb Sign on that section of memory and walks away. Gotta in this job, or you'll go mad.

LG: What do you wish you knew five years ago?

D.D.: Can a working woman have it all? Five years ago, I sweated my job. I worried I wasn't working smart enough, closing cases fast enough. Now, I sweat my entire life. Am I working too hard? Missing out on other parts of life? Maybe I should take Alex up on his offer of homemade alfredo, except can I really be the detective I need to be, while trying to be the girlfriend I'd like to be? Can't figure it out. So I wish that I'd realized five years ago, how good I had it. That focusing only on my policing career was a luxury I'd never have again. Spoken like a true workaholic, huh?

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. At the heart of Gardner's outstanding fourth novel featuring Boston PD detective Warren (after *The Neighbor*) are some very sick kids, notably Lucy, a nine-year-old feral girl who self-mutilates when any attention is given to her, and Evan, an eight-year-old boy who during fits threatens to kill his mother. D.D gets involved after two grisly family annihilations lead to the locked-down pediatric psych ward in Cambridge that specializes in Lucy's and Evan's types of hard case. When a child is too sick and the parent can no longer handle care, the child ends up in the acute care facility under the tutelage of pediatric psych nurse Danielle, the lone survivor of her own family bloodbath. Coincidence? That's for D.D. to figure out--in the midst of a budding romance with police academy professor Alex Wilson and infuriating encounters with Andrew Lightfoot, resident "woo-woo expert" (that's cop talk for psychic), who works in tandem with the hospital. Plenty of red herrings keep readers guessing, but Gardner always plays fair in this tight and consistently engaging page-turner.

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Boston police detective D. D. Warren returns in another gripping thriller. A family is murdered, apparently by the father (who, it seems, barely failed to take his own life after killing his wife and young children). But soon there are questions, the most pressing of which is, Why would this man, apparently out of the blue, slaughter his own family? Is it possible that someone else was the killer, perhaps another member of the family? In addition to telling a compelling story, Gardner also explores an issue that is rarely discussed in fiction: children who are psychotic. In first-person chapters narrated by other characters (Victoria, a mother at her wits' end; Danielle, survivor of a family slaughter), she eases the reader into unfamiliar territory, telling us about children—like Evan, Victoria's eight-year-old son—who are capable of astonishing violence, including plotting to murder their own parents. Gardner has never shied away from creepy, psychologically twisted stories, but this may be her most unsettling. The notion of murderous children may be off-putting enough to make some readers avoid the book. That would be a mistake: Gardner never sensationalizes her story, and the book ends with a resolution that is creatively and emotionally appropriate. An excellent novel. --David Pitt

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Aline Moran:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive now, people have do something to make these people survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice by surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a e-book your ability to survive improve then having chance to stay than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading the book, we give you this *Live to Tell: A Detective D. D. Warren Novel (Detective D.D. Warren Book 4)* book as beginner and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Gerald Kelly:

People live in this new time of lifestyle always try to and must have the time or they will get lots of stress

from both daily life and work. So , if we ask do people have free time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not really a robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer will unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading ebooks. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, often the book you have read will be Live to Tell: A Detective D. D. Warren Novel (Detective D.D. Warren Book 4).

Sunday Richey:

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Hattie Godfrey:

This Live to Tell: A Detective D. D. Warren Novel (Detective D.D. Warren Book 4) is brand-new way for you who has curiosity to look for some information mainly because it relief your hunger of knowledge. Getting deeper you in it getting knowledge more you know or perhaps you who still having bit of digest in reading this Live to Tell: A Detective D. D. Warren Novel (Detective D.D. Warren Book 4) can be the light food in your case because the information inside that book is easy to get through anyone. These books create itself in the form which is reachable by anyone, yeah I mean in the e-book form. People who think that in reserve form make them feel drowsy even dizzy this reserve is the answer. So you cannot find any in reading a e-book especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for an individual. So , don't miss it! Just read this e-book style for your better life as well as knowledge.

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