

# The Bookish\* Newsletter!

Issue No. 6 | July 2025

*Check out updates on my good reads progress, upcoming titles, lists, and reviews.*



✦4.5 STARS✦

## OTHER TITLES

The Golden Spoon  
I Need You To Read This

## [Latest ARC Review] Dead of Summer

**The Dead of Summer**, Jessa Maxwell [Thriller, Mystery, Summer]

I love Jessa Maxwell mystery/thrillers, and this is the 2nd title I've read from her catalogue. Her stories are always well set up, and the narrative maintains a steady pace, following the plot that has been introduced.

Dead of Summer has the right amount of players, so you don't get bogged down in all these characters that eventually turn out not to have anything to do with the original plot. There are no unnecessary or conflicting backstories that distract the reader from the original premise, and the story stays on track to deliver a great ending.

The Dead of Summer focuses on two neighboring friends, Orla and Alice, who share every aspect of their lives, including their love of art, and they plan to go to New York to attend college when they graduate. They can't wait to leave Hadley Island in New England, where everyone knows everyone.

However, Alice realizes that her New York dream would be a little hard to come by due to her circumstances. Orla doesn't see this, but she notices that her friend begins to act strangely, dress differently, and pull away from her little by little.

Of course, there's a boy ...David, who's from a wealthy family and doesn't have the worries or concerns of Alice and Orla. Emotions and nativity can be a catastrophic combination when it comes to teenagers, and everything is in the moment. There are a few other essential players in this story. Henry, the island recluse, watches everyone from his tower. Faith, David's girlfriend from New York, hoping for an engagement, and David's father, Jeffrey, seemly pulling everyone's strings.

This thriller is a slow burn, building to the disappearance of Alice and the events that unfolded that night. Town gossip would reveal absolute truths as another girl goes missing and recluse Henry is once again at the center of everything.

*I enjoyed the conclusion of this story and was on the edge, waiting to see what happened, although it was somewhat predictable.*

# More Updates & Progress!

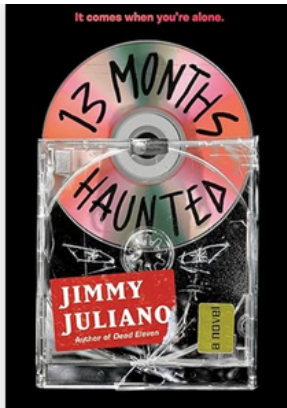
## Upcoming Summer Thriller

### 13 MONTHS HAUNTED

Jimmy Juliano

(August 12, 2025)

**HORROR, THRILLER, PARANORMAL**



A twisty, edge-of-your-seat novel about a unique haunting in the early 2000s.



Piper Lowery, a public library clerk in charge of liaising with the local middle school, can tell right away there's something strange about the new girl in eighth grade. Avery Wallace won't touch any kind of technology, not even the computers at the library, and her mother comes to school with her every day, refusing to leave her side—not even when Avery uses the restroom.



## COMPLETED TILES FOR JULY!

The Broken Girls, Simone St. James  
Breathe In, Bleed Out, Brian McAuley  
The Family Remains, Lisa Jewel

✨ *Currently Reading* ✨

 The Familiar, Leigh Bardugo

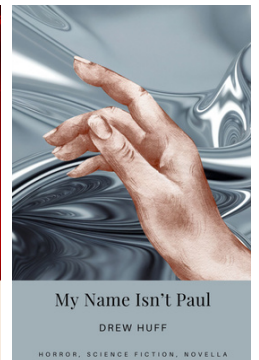
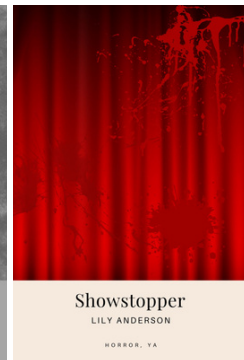
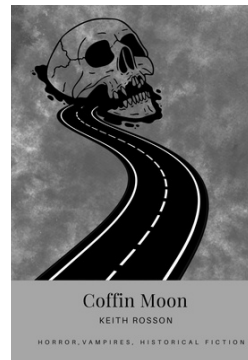
 Witchcraft for Wayward Girls, Grady Hendrix

## Good Reads Challenge Progress

I've been on fire with my challenge and managed to squeeze in a group audible read. ✨ Whoo-hoo!!

82% {23/28}

## ARC TITLES IN THE QUEUE



## BOOK SOURCES

BookTrib [<https://booktrib.com/>]

Good Reads [<https://www.goodreads.com/>]

Book Riot [<https://bookriot.com/>]

NPR [<https://www.npr.org/books/>]

Literary Hub [<https://lithub.com/>]

Booktrovert [<https://booktrovert.com/>]

## August Reading Challenge!

*“Read a book with a three word title.”*

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Stay tuned for more  
reading updates.

