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Threats: A Novel

Amelia Gray

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Amelia Gray : Threats: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Threats: A Novel:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Gray is one of a kind By Lucas Chance Reading these other reviews, it seems that people were expecting a more formulaic kind of novel similar to Flynn's *Gone Girl* when they bought this. No insult to Flynn, but Amelia Gray does so much more with *Threats*. This novel is surreal, strange, and unlike anything else. It has more in common with weird storytellers like Stephen Graham Jones, Laird Barron, and Jeremy Robert Johnson than Flynn. Her prose is uncommonly gorgeous, and while it does not have a traditional plot it more

than makes up for it with originality and wit. I bought her first collection of short stories after finishing this and look forward to anything Gray will produce in the future. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Confusing, Uncomfortable, Incredible Writing - Light on closure, heavy on feeling By Robert Helfst Amelia Gray has built an incredibly uneasy world filled with disquieting imagery and the sort of sentences that will keep you up at night. This book has stuck with me and I keep turning it over in my head. I didn't get the closure I thought I wanted, but I've gotten a delightfully creepy story to puzzle over and think about. It's something I will keep coming back to. It's not a book for everyone, so if you want a linear story with a clear line between reality and delusion, look elsewhere. If you're open to inhabiting a diseased mind's mournful unreality then a great treat awaits you. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I love the idea of a mystery without a solid resolution ... By gwyneplaine I love the idea of a mystery without a solid resolution but i think if you pay attention you will know exactly what happened contrary to what some other reviewers of this book suggest.

David's wife is dead. At least, he thinks she's dead. But he can't figure out what killed her or why she had to die, and his efforts to sort out what's happened have been interrupted by his discovery of a series of elaborate and escalating threats hidden in strange places around his home—one buried in the sugar bag, another carved into the side of his television. These disturbing threats may be the best clues to his wife's death: *CURL UP ON MY LAP*. *LET ME BRUSH YOUR HAIR WITH MY FINGERS*. *I AM SINGING YOU A LULLABY*. *I AM TESTING FOR STRUCTURAL WEAKNESS IN YOUR SKULL*. Detective Chico is also on the case, and is intent on asking David questions he doesn't know the answers to and introducing him to people who don't appear to have David's or his wife's best interests in mind. With no one to trust, David is forced to rely on his own memories and faculties—but they too are proving unreliable. In *THREATS*, Amelia Gray builds a world that is bizarre yet familiar, violent yet tender. It is an electrifying story of love and loss that grabs you on the first page and never loosens its grip.

“Amelia Gray is a sharpshooter, precise and deadly. *THREATS* lures the reader with its poetic sensibilities and then subverts every expectation. Before long, there will be statues of Gray in various corners of the literary world.” —Emma Straub, author of *Other People We Married* “Reading Amelia Gray is like a pyramid of rocks being built on a cloud. That's to say, it's something fantastical, dreamlike, playful, and very dangerous. You will be amazed at what this writer can do.” —Shane Jones, author of *Light Boxes* “The first time I encountered Amelia Gray's fiction, it slugged me in the jaw. The second time too, and the third. Said jaw-slugging has ensued nearly every time I've read something of hers, except for when instead it whispered sad and surprising but undeniable truths about the difficulty of intimacy and sense in the wretched blastoscape of modern life. And then it made me a grilled cheese sandwich to prove that the world can be a kind place, and it waited until I had sated myself and wiped away the crumbs before slugging me in the jaw again.” —Doug Dorst, author of *The Surf Guru* and *Alive in Necropolis* From the Inside Flap David's wife is dead. At least, he thinks she's dead. But he can't figure out what killed her or why she had to die, and his efforts to sort out what's happened have been interrupted by his discovery of a series of elaborate and escalating threats hidden in strange places around his home—one buried in the sugar bag, another carved into the side of his television. These disturbing threats may be the best clues to his wife's death: *CURL UP ON MY LAP*. *LET ME BRUSH YOUR HAIR WITH MY FINGERS*. *I AM SINGING YOU A LULLABY*. *I AM TESTING FOR STRUCTURAL WEAKNESS IN YOUR SKULL*. Detective Chico is also on the case, and is intent on asking David questions he doesn't know the answers to and introducing him to people who don't appear to have David's or his wife's best interests in mind. With no one to trust, David is forced to rely on his own memories and faculties—but they too are proving unreliable. In *THREATS*, Amelia Gray builds a world that is bizarre yet familiar, violent yet tender. It is an electrifying story of love and loss that grabs you on the first page and never loosens its grip. About the Author AMELIA GRAY grew up in Tucson, Arizona. Her first collection of stories, *AM/PM*, was published in 2009. Her second collection, *Museum of the Weird*, was awarded the Ronald Sukenick/American Book Innovative Fiction Prize. She lives in Los Angeles. *THREATS* is her first novel..