

Five Bad Deeds

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Introduction

Acclaimed, internationally bestselling author Caz Frear ratchets up the suspense in this outstanding standalone psychological thriller—a gripping tale of revenge, loyalty, and the secrets hidden between the walls of the most beautiful home in town.

Ellen Walsh has done something very, very bad. If only she knew what it was . . .

Teacher, mother, wife, and all-around good citizen Ellen is juggling nonstop commitments, from raising a teen and two toddlers to job-hunting to finally renovating her dream home, the Meadowhouse. Amidst the chaos, an ominous note arrives in the mail, declaring:

People have to learn there are consequences, Ellen.

And I'm going to teach you that lesson.

Right under your nose.

Why would someone send her this? Ellen has no clue. She's no angel—a white lie here, an occasional sharp tongue there—but nothing to incur the wrath of an anonymous enemy. She'd never *intentionally* hurt anyone.

But intention doesn't matter to someone. Someone blames this supposed “good person” for all the bad they've experienced. And maybe they have reason to? Because few of us get through life without leaving a black mark on someone else's. Could the five bad deeds that come to haunt Ellen explain why things have gone so horribly wrong?

As she races to discover who's set on destroying her reputation and her future, Ellen continues to receive increasingly threatening messages . . . each one hitting closer to everything she cherishes.



Questions for Discussion

1. *Five Bad Deeds* features a large cast of complicated characters—which of them did you relate to, or empathise with, the most?
2. Do you believe Ellen to be a good person deep down? Did your view of her change dramatically as the story progressed?

3. Whether correctly or not, Nush blamed Ellen's advice for causing the end of her marriage. No matter how strong the friendship, do you think it's best to keep quiet when it comes to other people's relationships?
4. Ellen could never have foreseen the consequences of failing to pay Kristy back promptly. Is Kristy's resentment therefore unfair, or understandable?
5. Which scene stood out to you as the pivotal moment in the narrative?
6. Can you imagine a bright future for the children in this novel, or will they forever be damaged by the events of the story?
7. On the book jacket, it states, "*few of us get through life without leaving a black mark on someone else's.*" Do you think this is true? Did the book make you think about unintentional harm you may have caused?