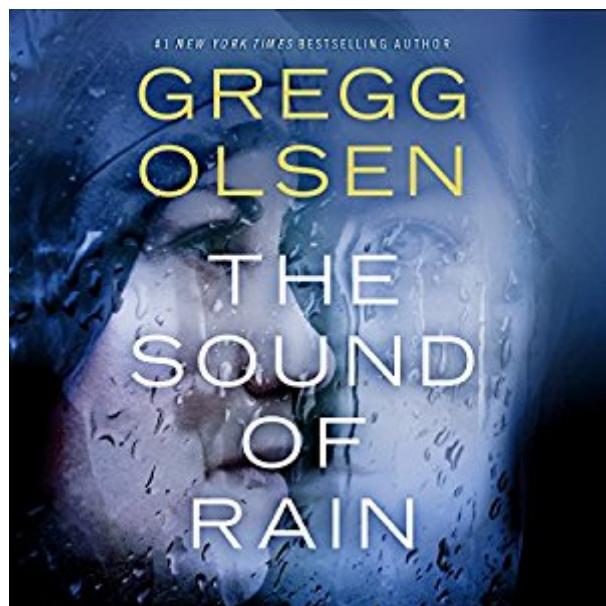


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The Sound Of Rain



Synopsis

Former homicide detective Nicole Foster has hit rock bottom. Driven off the force by her treacherous partner and lover, she's flat broke and struggling with a gambling addiction. All Nicole has left is the dream of a warm bed at a homeless shelter and the haunting memories of three-year-old Kelsey Chase - whose murder case ended her career. As Nicole obsesses over the old facts, she realizes everything about that case felt off: a disinterested mom, a suicidal pedophile, and too many questions left unanswered. When the little girl's grieving father begs Nicole for help, she's drawn back into the investigation...and given one shot at redemption. But the deeper Nicole digs, the more evil she uncovers, including betrayals that hit painfully close to home. Will a shocking discovery be the key to finally getting justice for Kelsey and resurrecting her own life?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I usually read non-fiction books, but enjoy a good high-tech fiction book, in fact going to go back to it. But I also enjoy good fiction, such as Stephen King. Now I finished reading 'The Sound of Rain' by Gregg Olsen and have to say the book kept my interest and the last third of the book I read all on a winter, snow covered day in Michigan. The title is perhaps from the fact that Nicole is an addict. She gambles, but she wins, oh she also loses. And it is the LOSSES that get her in trouble. Well, that is part of it. She loses her home, her dog, her car & her dignity. She has to rely on her younger sister Stacy for support. And as many of us, myself included that has one other sibling, there is rivalry. Stacy now has the upper hand, roles reversed. Nicole has lost her job as a detective at the

Bellevue Police Department in Washington State. Her boyfriend, also a detective Danny has too lost his job, and it involves the missing girl Kelsey, which Danny has botched up the investigation of. Both lose their jobs & Danny goes to jail for his felonious part. The investigation involves the neighborhood of a local Target's store. The surrounding neighborhood is a trailer park. It's a rainy December day, again symbolic of the title of the book. It is with reference to the sex offender registry that the police focus their investigation of the missing child. It leads them to Charlene & Alan Dawson's home. Alan has been convicted of sex with a minor. He spent time in prison. He was 17 1/2 years old & his girl friend was 15 at the time. They later marry. But it doesn't matter to Danny, Alan is his target & Alan goes to jail accused of the crime. Gregg Olsen has a way with descriptions I like such as his description of Danny. Danny is a stud. He works out, has a tough looking body, with the "veins in his neck plump like ziti in vodka sauce". He wants to appear as the tough cop and smart. As the story progresses we see the 'sick' side of Nicole when she is destitute and has to eat in soup kitchens, sleep on church pews, but only in the evening. During the day, she wheels her one piece of luggage on wheels, in a perpetual drifting manner as if the plane she needs to board is never going to appear. I also like the description of the office cubicle that Nicole used to have. She loved the window view she had. It was of old Douglas firs planted by an old lady who was a classic cat lady. Nicole & her sister Stacy would ride their bikes and leave them at Mary's place. Nicole respected and loved Mary even though several around her thought her a nuisance. It reminded me of my late dad & me going to eat at a certain restaurant that had tall spruce trees, probably 40 years old & that was one of the highlights of the meal with my dad. I miss that & understand Nicole's wanting that cubicle back when she comes back to work. The story relies much on a blogger Lane Perry. Lane is a "festering wound" but he is also the source of much information, perhaps the same as the local tabloids are in the grocery lines. He is the one to bring shocking news to Nicole. This is a story that criss-crosses a bit of the state of Washington, going to Washington State University. I didn't look at a map as I often do. But that would be a wonderful addition to the mysteries in the State of Washington. A list of the characters with a brief description would be useful too. But I was able to keep track of who was who. I am just a bit of a sentimentalist so I often do keep an atlas by me when I read about the areas the book is at. This is a great read, and I am glad I read it. I highly recommend it to anyone that enjoys a good 'who done it' type book! You won't be disappointed.

It won't take you long before you will wonder how a female detective could be so flawed! Detective Nicole (Nic) Foster of the Bellevue, Washington, Police Department is smart, but such a mess! She allows her partner and her sister to verbally abuse her, control and manipulate her, and doesn't

seem to have an assertive bone in her body! She is a fascinating character! In fact, all of the characters in this book by Gregg Olsen are well-done and interesting. A little girl goes missing and Nicole watches the case get "solved" to everyone's satisfaction, but hers. She isn't able to do much about it, though, as her own career is circling the drain. This mystery is written to confound; there are more twists and turns and surprises than a mountain road. Impossible to guess who-done-it! Issues of sexual abuse, gambling addiction, homelessness, abandonment, and more are dealt with in a brutal and realistic manner. Nicole disappoints in some ways, but in others, she's right on. This is a great read!

I loved, loved this book. Never saw the surprising ending coming. It haunts you after you finish reading it. I am hoping for a sequel. I was rooting for Nichole all the way thru. I would give it ten stars if I could. Tona Wan

This book was so good that I read it in 2 days! On Xmas Eve and Xmas Day yet! That good. So very well written with well developed characters. Lots of twists and turns, family dynamics, won't guess until the end who all done it. Having lived in Seattle for 30 + years, I really enjoyed the settings in Bellevue and other parts of Washington State. I even gambled at the mentioned casino! Saw Joan Rivers perform there also. I'm hoping there is a sequel. Loved the book and the author. First time reading his books, won't be the last time either.

Former homicide detective Nicole Foster just can't seem to catch a break. Both her career and her romantic life are in the dumper and her finances have been depleted by a gambling addiction she just can't seem to shake. Without a roof over her head she has had to rely on homeless shelters or the spare room at the home of her happily married younger sister, who offers assistance grudgingly. The prime factor in Nicole's downfall is the case that ended her career -- the murder of a three year old girl -- a crime with which she has become obsessed. Gregg Olsen's intimate personal knowledge of all things Seattle explains the authenticity of the settings in THE SOUND OF RAIN and his imagination and grasp of human nature allows him to provide a story that is can totally ambush the reader while it provides a conclusion that is both satisfying and shocking. SOUND OF RAIN is clever, addictive entertainment that begs for a second chapter in the life of Nicole Foster.

I just started this book and am very close to finishing it. The Sound of Rain, typical of a Gregg Olsen

book, can not be put down. A small child has been abducted from a Target parking lot and as the story unfolds the situation is very puzzling to the homicide detectives. Detective Nicole loses her job and sleazy boyfriend, also a detective, finding herself in the darkest time of her life. She has lost everything including her beloved dog due to her gambling addiction. Always at the back of her mind was the case she left behind, a little girl who still needed a hero to find her. Or, does the little girl save Nicole?

Detective Nicole Foster stumbles and then falls. The abyss opens to welcome her as she sheds everything - her possessions, her relationships, her dignity, EVERYTHING. Will her losing streak ever end? But Nicole is a determined woman. Since she can't pull herself back up through the system, she has to use her training, her instincts and people she only thought she could trust to climb her way out.

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