

Title: *Nothing More to Tell*
Author: Karen M. McManus
Genre: Fiction

Reviewer Name and Grade: Jake S., Grade 11

Date Reviewed: 9/21/23

This book is about a girl named Brynn Gallagher who is a senior in high school. Brynn had lived in Sturgis, Massachusetts and attended Saint Ambrose School, a close knit K-12, private school that wealthy kids attend or those not so wealthy that attend on scholarship. Four years ago some of Brynn's classmates named, Tripp (Noah) Talbot, Shane Delgado, and Charlotte Holbrook were in the woods collecting leaves for a project when they found the dead body of their teacher Mr. Larkin. Tripp attends Saint Ambrose on a scholarship and Shane and Charlotte, who are both wealthy kids, have always stuck to the same story amongst them three and formed a close connection. After that school year Brynn moved to Chicago due to her father's job, now four years later her father's job is being relocated back to Sturgis. Brynn's family, comprised of her mom, dad, and younger sister Ellie, move back into their old house with their Uncle Nick, who has been staying there while they were away. Brynn and Ellie will return to Saint Ambrose school.

Brynn is passionate about journalism and had worked at the school newspaper at both schools that she attended. Unfortunately at her school in Chicago someone messed with her newspaper story and she was humiliated and fired as editor in chief of the paper. She also got waitlisted at, Northwestern, her early decision school. Now, she wants to make a new start and salvage her chances in journalism and going to Northwestern. Brynn applies for an internship at Motive, 'a buzzy, upstart true crime show.' At her interview, Brynn pitches the show's host, Carly, her idea for a story that looks into the unsolved mystery of the death of St. Ambrose teacher Mr. Larkin that happened four years ago. Carly loves the idea and gives Brynn the internship.

Going back to Saint Ambrose, Brynn finds that she still has friends in Nadia and Mason. She sees that Charlotte is dating Shane, whom Charlotte has always been obsessed with and would do anything for. She sees that Charlotte, Shane, and Tripp stick together. Brynn used to be very good friends with Tripp Talbot, one of the kids who found Mr. Larkins body that day in the woods by the school, until he was mean to her and they had a falling out. When Brynn starts looking into what really happened to Mr. Larkin and who murdered him, it takes her down a twisty road of friendships, family, relationships, uncovered secrets, and new revelations about past events.

Did the plot keep you interested?

Yes, the plot kept me interested. You really do not find out until like the last couple of pages who killed Mr. Larkin and even then it is only just implied, so it definitely is an interesting plot with lots of twists and turns.

Was the pace of the book fast, too slow, or just right?

For the most part the pace of the book was just right but it was kind of slow and dragged out in some parts.

What grade level(s) is the book appropriate for?

The grade levels this book is appropriate for would be 6th grade and up.

What type of reader would you recommend this book to?

The type of reader I would recommend this to is someone that likes stories about friends, relationships, and mysteries that keep you guessing.

What other information would be helpful for teens to know about this book?

This book has stories within stories and really develops the characters whom we learn a lot about throughout the book.

I rate this book 4 stars: I enjoyed this book and found it worthwhile reading. I gave this book this rating because although it was interesting and enjoyable to read, the story line was good but too dragged out and maybe had too many twists and turns. It also only implied who the killer was at the end of the book and never had the killer getting caught or facing consequences for their action, so I feel like it needed a more detailed ending with more closure to the story, unless maybe there will be a follow up book to this.