

National Bestselling Author of *Such Sharp Teeth*

Rachel
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BLACK
SHEEP

There's one in every family.

BERKLEY

DEAR READER,

Hello! How are you? I hope you're doing well, hanging in. I'm excited to share with you my new novel, *Black Sheep*. It's about the black sheep of a very unconventional family, who returns home to uncover a terrifying secret.

It's also about identity. The ole nature vs. nurture. How much of who we are is determined by the environment we were raised in, and who we were raised by? Are we destined to repeat the patterns of behavior we witnessed growing up? These are the questions that keep me up at night. That haunt me.

But all of that is pretty heavy, and I didn't want to write a heavy book. I wanted to write a fun book. I wanted to channel my family angst and my general cynicism and my lingering teenage rebelliousness into a horror novel that is resonant and heartfelt, but also gruesome and bonkers.

This novel is for the black sheep, the bad kids, anyone who hides in the bathroom during family gatherings or who has unfriended that uncle on Facebook. For anyone who has done inner-child work, who has spent hours in therapy unpacking, who has ever wondered: Who the hell am I related to? For anyone who might have lost faith but found themselves in the process.

This novel is also for the horror fans, and for the readers who are just down to have a wicked good time.

Thank you so much for checking out *Black Sheep*, and for everything you do!

**Best,
Rachel Harrison**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1.

How does Vesper change throughout the novel? What choices did she make that you agree with, or what do you think she should have done differently?

2.

Do you identify with Vesper? Do you think she was a relatable character?

3.

Did you have any empathy for Constance? Do you think the relationship between Constance and Vesper could have been improved under other circumstances? What do they have in common, and where do they differ?

4.

What role does faith play in the novel? Do you think the book ends on a hopeful note?

5.

When you look back on the book, what scene, description, or plot development surprised you the most?

6.

If you could watch one of Constance Wright's (fictional) movies, which would it be and why?