Amazing Book!

As loyal Entertainment Weekly subscribers, we have been fans of Gillian Flynn for her smart, funny, and spot-on reviews of books, movies, and TV, but we were not prepared for her stunning debut novel Sharp Objects, a wickedly dark thriller that Stephen King calls a relentlessly creepy family saga and an admirably nasty piece of work. We're calling it a cross between Twin Peaks and Secretary—sinister, sexy, and stylish. Perfect fall reading. --Daphne Durham

10 Second Interview: A Few Words with Gillian Flynn

Q: Do you prefer writing novels or reviewing?

A: I think writing is more pure—and actually a bit easier for me. It's just me and my laptop, not me and my laptop and a TV show that 30 people have worked on. Reviewing keeps you sharp—I can hardly watch or read anything without taking notes now—but plain old writing I find actually relaxing.

Q: Do you think your writing is influenced more by books that you have read, or shows/movies that you have seen?

A: My mom spent her career as a reading teacher and my dad is a retired film professor, so I was really steeped in both books and movies growing up. To this day, when I get my dad on the phone, pretty much his first sentence is Seen anything good lately? I love putting words together (I've never met a simile I didn't like), but when I write I often think in scenes—I want these two people, in a dirty bar, with this song playing in the background.
Q: I hear you are working on your second book...is it too early to ask what it's about?

A: I'm still playing around with the whole plot--when I wrote Sharp Objects, I wasn't even sure who the killer was for a bit. But I can say [the new book] has to do with family loyalty, false memories, a wrenching murder trial, and a dash of good ole 1980s hair metal and devil worship.

Q: What is your writing process like? Have you changed anything about how you work since your first book?

A: My writing process is incredibly inefficient, and hasn't changed between books. I really don't outline: I know basically how I want the story to start, and vaguely how I want it to end (though like I said, with Sharp Objects even that changed!). Then I just write: Some characters I start finding more interesting, some less. I write entire swaths that I pretty much know I'll cut. I have an entire file of deleted scenes. I guess the one thing that has physically changed is I moved into a new place since my first book--it has a great bathtub, and I'll prop my laptop up and write in the bath for hours. Which is, admittedly, weird.

**Personal Review: Sharp Objects: A Novel by Gillian Flynn**
This is a book that you will be recommending to your friends. The wealthy are a lot wierder than you or I! Interesting characters, well-developed plot, with more than enough twists. Her new book, "Dark Places" is just as good. I am eagerly waiting for her next.

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