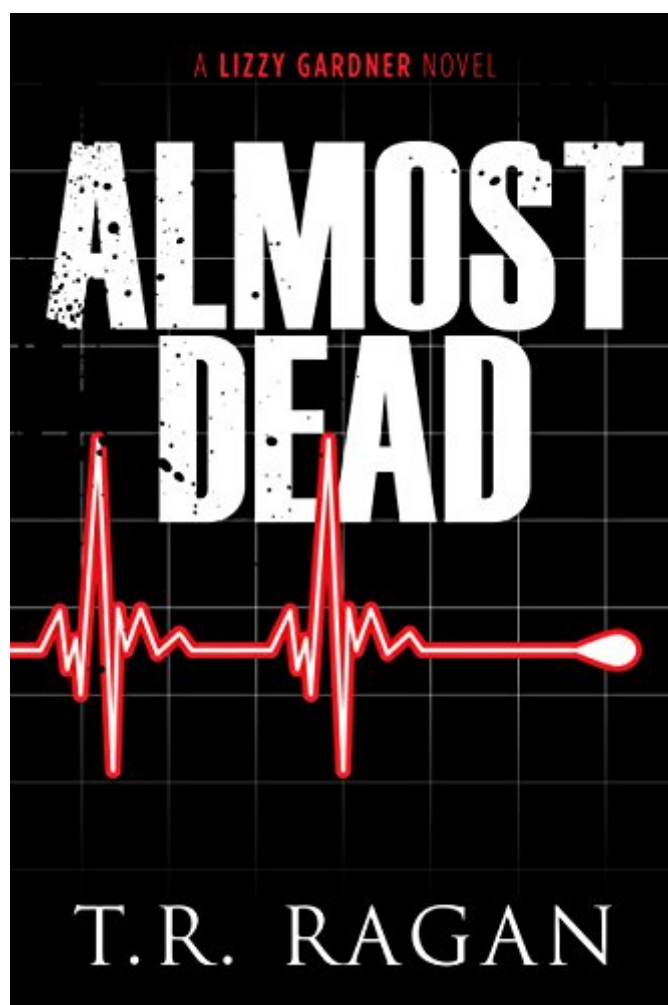


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# Almost Dead (The Lizzy Gardner Series Book 5)



## Synopsis

Lizzy Gardner is a one-million copy bestselling series. Life for private investigator Lizzy Gardner will never be the same. It's been three weeks since her fiancé, Jared, was shot on what was supposed to be their wedding day. He's in a coma now, and Lizzy is being forced to make a decision she might not be able to live with. But a string of deaths has forced her to get back to work. While they appear to be unrelated accidents at first glance, a closer look shows they all have something in common. More than a decade earlier, the victims were all members of the Ambassador Club at a Sacramento high school: a posh posse that bullied other students, one of whom remains tormented years later. In this pulse-pounding thriller from New York Times and USA Today bestselling author T.R. Ragan, Lizzy will need her colleagues and what's left of her wits to help her track down a cunning killer with a deadly revenge list before the next name maybe hers is crossed off for good.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm not sure if this is the last installment of the Lizzy Gardner series but I sure hope so. The first

three books were exceptional and a page turner, but it never kept the same momentum in book four and five. Now that Lizzy and her team of misfits are going over to the dark side I'm not interested in reading about them turning into the very same vicious criminals they fought so hard to put away. The end.

I have read every single Lizzie Gardner book and although the last book, Obsessed, left me angry and hurt, I decided to give this book one more chance because of its description (a little promise). I should have stopped with Obsessed. This book is dark, sinister, unfulfilling, and a complete disappointment. Life is too short to spend it on the dark side. I am very disappointed in the direction this series is going. This was my last Lizzie Gardner book.

Spoiler if you read on- I CANT BELIEVE SHE KILLED JARED!!! He was Lizzys only beacon of hope and now he's dead which means she is dark and twisted. Terrible terrible decision. I'm actually not going to read on!!! I am fuming at Ragan. She's a good writer for page turning events but without hope there is no reason for me to continue the series. I'm actually mad at myself I read them at all because now I'm so disappointed.

This is the 5th book in the Lizzy Gardner series, and it's best if you read them in order. While each book deals with one big case and a few smaller ones, there is an overarching story that will not make much sense if you skip around. In book 4 a disaster ruined Lizzy's chance at happiness and now she is in shock and depressed. Her proteges are taking on the caseload -- and that's not really a good thing. What pulls Lizzy out of her angst is a series of murders that at first glance seem to be accidents -- or is this just a very clever serial killer? This is a dark series. Lizzy and her friends are mainly damaged and bitter, and not much happens to turn the world into a paradise of love and understanding. Many of the male characters are abusive and violent, and even the "good guys" begin to make dark choices. If you're looking for a cozy mystery, this is not it. The writing is good and the characters are interesting, and the cases are decent. Books in the series are: Abducted, Dead Weight, A Dark Mind, Obsessed, Almost Dead, and Evil never Dies.

I don't usually write reviews, I just give the numbers of stars the book deserves and that's it. But geez!!! I cannot not say something about this book! I have loved the way the author describes the story and ITS A MUST READ! All the different points of view of each of the characters and how they have become a family in spite of the situations or their characters. I like to see 4 female heroines,

that in their own way try to make a difference no matter how little.\*spoilers\* But the part of Jared, I didn't not see it coming.... I wept and wept, I couldn't believe he actually died. Like Lizzy said, he was the only light she had and loved her despite it all and after all these years. She has been thru hell and still had good in it. She had all the girls and him, they had their tribulations but still they had something good at the end of the day. And now he is gone... My heart broke and that is something that I love, to feel the emotion coming out from the book. Of course I am not happy Jared died, and it's interesting to see where it's going. But still I like how he portrays Hayley so observant, even more so than Jessica who is in the FBI. How Kitally never gives up and continues to fight and is the glue of their little family and that she is a genius. This book has made me flabbergasted in all the ways possible.

I wish I had never started this book. To read an author's destruction of a good character was inexcusable. This is the last Lizzy Gardner for me. This story was depressing although it did hold your interest. That was the only saving grace in this dark novel. All of the women in this book need a shrink, not just Lizzy. Why this author feels it's okay to commit murder as long as it is for a good reason escapes me. Sorry to say goodbye to this author as I liked reading her work.

After reading 20 pages, I knew intuitively where this book was headed. Unlike my normal reading pattern, I simply jumped to the last chapter. Voila! Just as I had predicted. Of course, this intuition was also a result of having read the four previous books, so I was familiar with the pattern.

The author starts right off with the first character meeting a supposed lover only to learn that instead of proposing to her, he actually tells her that he has just done that with another woman. He tells her to bear up and get a life and to be a real person. With that she goes to the kitchen and gets the butcher knife and show him what he is made up of. He is the first of 13 people that she has hated since high school. With that send off, she proceeds to go through the remaining fellow students in a wide variety of ways to commit murder. Lizzy and her crew try to solve the mystery and have their own problems along the way. We read the book as a read-a-book while on a vacation drive. It was hard to lay down at times.

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