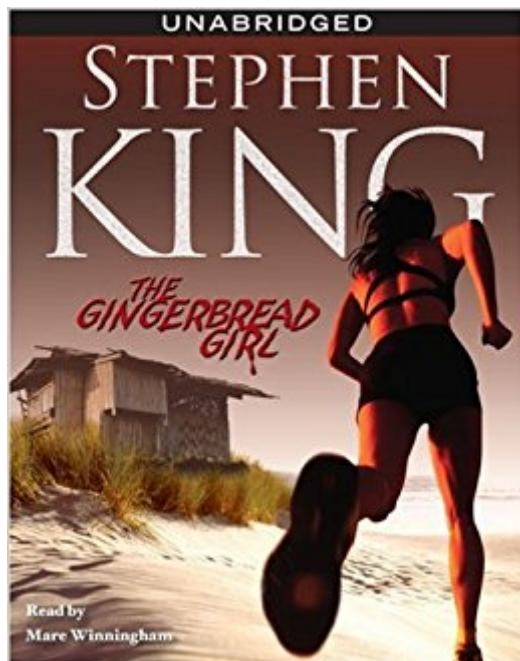


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# The Gingerbread Girl



## Synopsis

In the emotional aftermath of her baby's sudden death, Em starts running. Soon she runs from her husband, to the airport, down to the Florida Gulf and out to the loneliest stretch of Vermillion Key, where her father has offered the use of a conch shack he has kept there for years. Em keeps up her running -- barefoot on the beach, sneakers on the road -- and sees virtually no one. This is doing her all kinds of good, until one day she makes the mistake of looking into the driveway of a man named Pickering. Pickering also enjoys the privacy of Vermillion Key, but the young women he brings there suffer the consequences. Will Em be next?

## Book Information

Audio CD: 2 pages

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Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 53 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,065,789 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( K ) > King, Stephen #120 in Books > Books on CD > Horror #1695 in Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged

## Customer Reviews

Em has become a runner. Maybe it's to get away from her unheroic and all-too-sensitive husband, the memory of her baby, who died, or maybe even her passive life. Inevitably, her training provides the endurance she needs to escape the sadistic and psychopathic tendencies of the man named Pickering. While not venturing into new territory, King's novella has all of his trademark tension, violence and catharsis with a spackling of misogyny. Mare Winningham's determined tone adds to Em's strong character, and she also provides good pacing and tension that flows well with King's style. Her straightforward reading doesn't overdramatize the intense moments; instead, she lets King's words create those anxious moments. Her matter-of-fact vocalization of Pickering makes the villain even more chilling than King's text. Winningham's portrayal of this character will stick with listeners long after the end. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

"Winningham relates the story with honesty and sincerity, capturing the melancholy and sadness that abounds in Em's mind. Her gripping delivery is the stuff that great performances are made of. Winningham brings the protagonist to life while still managing to capture the strong sense of foreboding that so often permeates King's tales....The result is a captivating experience sure to ignite the senses of the listener." - AudioFile, on *The Gingerbread Girl*

This novella is read by Mare Winningham who did a great job with King's *Lisey's Story*. She does the same here, so the reading is professional and top notch. Now the story is another matter. It is a well told story; fleshed out, believable, and the character is developed to the usual high standards by King. But, it's a story that has been told before a thousand times, a woman character abducted by a psychopath. As a result it just wasn't that exciting for a thriller story. It tells of a woman after losing her child in birth, starts to run to escape, and eventually she runs away from her husband and settles on her father's beach vacation home. While prodding her future with her husband she jogs every day on the beach, until one day she jogs past a house with a body in the back of a trunk. She gets abducted by the psychopath and tied up. And she must escape as usual. The running theme is used throughout this story, as it applies to this woman and she uses it in her situation with her abductor. This wasn't a bad story, but I've read too many of these similar in style stories to garner any excitement over this tale.

It was excellent

Mare Winningham does an excellent job narrating this two-CD audio version of Stephen King's long story. It doesn't feel long, though. This one is a well-built thrill ride, and King proves once again that he can reach into his bag of tricks and scare the daylights out of the listener. The story is simple almost to the point of bare-bones, but it has a lot of tension and plenty of surprises in store. Any fan of King who enjoys audiobooks will like this one. It's not profound, but it's great at what it does, gripping the listener in a vice of tension and suspense and not letting go. Saying any more would only risk spoiling this delightful treat for King's fans.

Fast paced and to the point....Stephen King is spot-on as a 'Thriller' writer. There isn't a single 'ghost or ghoul' in this novella. As always, so well done.

I really enjoy Stephen King's books! I don't have as much time to read as I used to have, so I have started listening to them on CD. This was a great book and I would sit in my car just to finish the chapter! This is a great story and keeps your attention!!

Interesting story.

I was a little disappointed that it was so short, but it was entertaining like most of King's books, but for a quick read it was good.

another listening tape that is very well read, wished I'd know about these tapes sooner, should get

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