



Ten Thousand Islands

Randy Wayne White

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Government agent-turned-marine biologist Doc Ford sails an endless sea of questions when he agrees to investigate a death from the past. Years ago, off Florida's Gulf Coast, a teenaged girl found an ancient gold medallion. Then, she began having nightmares. Then she was found hanging from a tree.

Now, years later, the girl's mother is being terrorized with break-ins, phone calls with no one there—and her daughter's grave has been dug up. Somebody wants that medallion.

The search for answers will lead Doc through a shadowy world of ancient ritual and modern corruption, to an evil that was born in the past—but lives in the present...

Ten Thousand Islands Details

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Author : Randy Wayne White

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From Reader Review Ten Thousand Islands for online ebook

Peter Lemonjello says

I've been a fan of the Doc Ford character for a while now. This is my third book I've read of the series. This was a short, fairly quick read and honestly, I would normally give these a 4 star rating, this one came out at a 3. That's not to say I didn't like it. It's that I felt the book got wrapped up pretty quickly and conveniently. There weren't many twists in the book and it rarely kept me guessing.

The book centered around some indian artifacts a gifted young girl had found and her mysterious death about 15 years ago. Her death was deemed a suicide, but later discovered to be murder. Doc Ford sought after the men responsible and the important artifacts the young girl how found.

I enjoy the books because I like the character of Doc Ford and since I live in Florida, it's nice to read about the state I live in as the backdrop. But this one wasn't as good as the Heat Islands or Sanibel Flats.

DemetraP says

Not my favorite book in the series. This book got a little "out there" for me. It seemed to go into reincarnation.

I'm still not sure why Tomlinson secretly drugged Ford with mushrooms. And I'm sad about Pilar.

Also some bad things happened to good people in this book and I don't like reading about that.

Carol says

A teenager girl who has a gift for finding things supposedly commits suicide after finding a haunting and valuable Native American medallion, among other artifacts. A man decides to investigate further 9 years (i think) after her death, when her grave was plundered. the book started off good, but shortly into it, it seemed to drag on...a lot of dialogue with no action until the end. It was one of those books that I couldn't wait to end--not quite bad enough to make me drop it in the middle of the book (it helped that I was listening, rather than reading or I am afraid I'd have fallen asleep. It did give some interesting facts about Florida and the history of the Native Americans there.

Donna says

Definitely a thrilling, high action mystery-keeps you guessing til the end. A cold case that turns into a new mystery. Very good historical information on the Calusa Indians and the early modernization of Marco Island and the 10 Thousand Islands. Mr. White always makes you feel like you are in Florida, his descriptions are so realistic. Since I have read many in the series, I also enjoy the growing character development of the main characters in the series. I really liked this one!

Glen says

Inspired by something like a true story, Doc Ford goes on the hunt for a mysterious medallion, found by a teenager who committed suicide by hanging--maybe.

He pokes around and finds a lot weird stuff in Florida, artifacts and more.

Quite good, especially if you are familiar with the true story.

Margaret says

I happily enjoyed reading Ten Thousand Islands by Randy Wayne White. From word one to the end, RWW keeps you reading and totally enthralled - the rugged, yet appealing, Doc Ford and his many admirers, mostly strong females, and of course his villains. What I enjoy the most is his inclusion of Florida geography, marine biology, history and lore, and how he takes the time to explain it in a way that makes it relevant and significant. Ten Thousand Islands takes you from the fictional Dinkins Bay on the real Sanibel Island across the treacherous and real 10,000 islands west of the Everglades to Key Largo, the first main island of the Florida Keys south of Miami, on the east coast of Florida. The story includes historical references to the ancient and extinct Calusa tribe, their artifacts, and the extremes collectors and looters will go for them. TTI is action packed. It is my kind of entertainment. I give it 5 stars. I plan to read it again on my sailboat trip to that area. I look forward to my next RWW book – 'Gone' and sincerely hope he portrays Hannah Smith as well as he does Doc Ford.

MisterLiberry Head says

This is the silliest entry so far in what is proving to be a very uneven series of mystery novels by the popular Randy Wayne White. An ancient gold medallion, lost or hidden, is believed by otherwise sensible Florida power-brokers to possess mystical powers, and they will stop at nothing to acquire its mojo. Hyper-rationalist "Doc" Ford senses a deep karmic link with a dead girl while examining her exhumed coffin and looking "into her dazzling blue eyes; eyes that would be forever familiar on the distant rim of memory" (p.224). But enough about eyes – which are a love connection for Doc and a menu entrée for a bad guy in TEN THOUSAND ISLANDS. Mr. White tosses in some historical lore about the Calusa Indians and the Spanish Conquest, plus staging some action scenes for Doc worthy of Aquaman's comic-book feats – in the face of an oncoming Cat 5 hurricane, no less. Like I said: silly.

Mlg says

This was definitely one of the better Randy Wayne White books. It was pretty predictable, but I enjoyed the segments on the building of Marco Island and the stories of the Calusa Indians. Based on a weird true story too.

Pat Stanford says

Pretty good adventure with some unbelievable elements. I have read several of this series and while I like the the action and sense of adventure in these books, they all have elements I find hard to believe.

One of those is the seeming irresistible sexual allure of Doc Ford himself. True action adventure books don't need this element unless they are supposed to be appealing to teen boys or frustrated married men. I'm done with this author.

Chris Bauer says

I'm continuing my quest to complete all the Doc Ford books this year.

IMHO, "Ten Thousand Islands" is simply one of the best books in the long-running series I've yet read. The plot is sufficiently interesting without being overwhelming and overly complex. Reading about Doc Ford is like hanging out with a good friend whom you're only able to speak with on infrequent times. One aspect of the series I've enjoyed consistently is the formula of combining half of the setting in Sanibel and Captiva Islands while the other half is much more exotic.

In "Ten Thousand Islands" readers are given a rare glimpse into Ford's background which up to now has largely been hinted at, but never detailed. Tomlinson remains a steadfast companion, spouting New Age BS with insights of deep wisdom. In this book, specifically, it was remarkable to see how White uses Tomlinson as an emotional whiteboard for Ford to express his emotions and inner feelings without actually saying as much.

Readers are also given a glimpse of Ford in full on "beast-rage" mode. Several characters comment on how he seems to turn off emotion and struggle with his ability to go cold and serve up revenge to those deserving it. He triumphs but not without damage. It is almost as if for every violent act he performs a fragment of his humanity erodes away, no matter how deserving the bad guy might be.

The conclusion of this book is much more dark than most and deals with some serious topics. Yet another strong entry in the series. Can't read 'em fast enough.

Judy says

As I weave my way down the East Coast toward Florida for the winter, I'm picking up all the Shames and Hiassen books I find along the way. Then, I came upon White, who I have never heard of, and what a surprise. I really liked the history, the who-done-it, and the characters, with the Florida setting, of course.

Carl says

This is the seventh in Randy Wayne White's Doc Ford Mystery series. Our beloved protagonist is Doc Ford,

a former government agent and now a marine biologist, who lives in a house on stilts on Sanibel Island; he lives near a marina which is filled with characters who are "characters." They are like family to him. His villains take many forms, often the rich and powerful, and they sometimes catch you off guard. This is true in his "Ten Thousand Islands." Years ago, a teenage girl found an ancient gold medallion. Then, she began having visions and nightmares. Later, she was found hanging from a tree. Now, years later, the girl's mother is being terrorized —and her daughter's grave has been dug up. Things are not always what they seem.

White's stories are carefully crafted which is part of his ability of being a good story teller. At times, his plot does bog down - often from some excessive details or explanation, but White keeps the reader involved. What I enjoy is some of this very descriptive writing: I enjoy his inclusion of Florida geography, marine biology, history and local color and folklore, and how White takes the time to explain it in a way that makes it relevant and interesting. This story is a thrilling, high action mystery that keeps the reader guessing. It is a "cold case" that turns into a "hot" new mystery. If you have never read these stories, I would certainly recommend them!

Jacquelyn says

One of my favorites in the Doc Ford series so far. It has everything: history, mystery, adventure, humor, a pinch of romance, and a dash of the occult. I live in southwest Florida, and always learn so much about the area while being thoroughly entertained. Win win!

Keith A says

Not good. Feels like an amateur author's first attempt at a novel. Unlikable, under developed characters. Unrealistic dialog. Over explaining everything. Horrible editing. And worst of all boring undeveloped story line.

Laurel says

Thinking about what I want to say for the moment, I will state that I am glad that there are at least eleven more Randy Wayne White books for me to read!

It has been 24 hours since I wrote that sentence, and I am going to leave it in place. This is book 7 in the Doc Ford series, and I plan to go back and read them all in order, before I move on to book 8. My enjoyment of this book was not impacted by the fact that I had not read the earlier books. There is a lot to be learned about the main character, Doc Ford, to enrich my reading experience and to clarify what makes him tick. The Florida keys setting was described so well, that it made me want to speed up our plans to tour the Florida Keys this fall. His buddy Tomlinson, is a great partner for Doc. Not as mysterious as Joe Pike or as lethal, but I definitely want to know more about him. I am not going to add details of the plot here. They can be found elsewhere.

Doc appeals to me as a blend of Dirk Pitt, James Bond and Elvis Cole. The story was plausible, and the history of the peoples who populated the Keys, leaving behind those interesting mounds, was an added bonus and important to the plot. Additionally, I enjoyed learning about the marine life Doc is involved with, as I

prepare to visit the Keys later this year. I had never heard of a snook before!

Looking forward to reading lots more of Randy Wayne White...how did Doc and Tomlinson meet? What dark background does Doc have haunting his past? Can't wait to find out!
