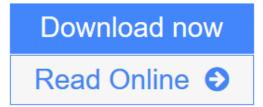


Buried Crimes

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Buried Crimes Details

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From Reader Review Buried Crimes for online ebook

Susan says

The Freemans have recently moved to their new home, and decide to do some gardening, when they find two bodies buried under a bush. The time frame suggests that they have been there for twenty years. Its DCI Sophie Allen and her team's job to investigate.

For me this series has too much personal details of the police interwoven into the story. As I don't really like the characters this creates a problem for me.

A NetGalley Book.

Susan says

The death of children is never an easy subject to read or write about. Having the deaths occur in the notvery-recent past isn't much of a buffer for emotions. DCI Sophie Allen works extra hard to uncover what happened to the small twins found buried in a family's garden. Unraveling their past ends up involving a myriad of other people, dead and alive, and along the way they find additional murders (maybe). The maze that Allen and her co workers go through to solve the mystery took the forefront in this book. Personal stories did not play a prominent role with the exception of Rae, who has successfully completed her transition from a man. I enjoy reading the overriding personal arcs as much as I do the individual mysteries. This one does not disappoint.

A copy of this book was provided by NetGalley and Joffe Books in exchange for an honest review.

Doreen says

Terrific!

Sophie and team do it again! Exciting police procedural involving 25 years buried skeletons of children. Following all leads, accessing old files, and questioning all suspects leads to another exciting solution. This group of police have terrific personalities and interact seamlessly It is a joy to follow the clues with them!

Kathy says

Must back out of this series. I did get to 54% completion, decided this is not my kind of literature and went to final chapter to confirm I had it right without the pain of reading anymore tawdry details. Not your normal police procedural, or to put it another way...all that is abnormal is front and center. This is clearly what interests this author.

Eliza says

Homeowner tries to move a decades old butterfly bush (?) and discovers a buried body. Police are called and another body is found. Both young children. Cold case is reconstructed through forensics, good police investigation and some happenstance. Lots of sexual quirkiness and transgender bias. Great characters (tho Martin was a bit absent). A good read.

Linda Strong says

DCI Sophie Allen is the expert on violent crimes and murder. There are two small bodies, buried one on top of the other, a girl and a boy. Sophie has to investigate these deaths, which most likely occurred at least 20 years ago.

It takes Sophie, as well as her team, to dig deep into family history. This crime affects the entire village of Dorchester ... and who among them are holding back secrets? Who would have wanted these children dead?

This is the 4th in this series, however, it reads very well as a stand-alone.

The characters are growing and changing in each successive book. Sophie is not a spring chicken anymore, and she uses her criminal psychology background to solve the crimes that come her way. Rae is a fairly new team member. Formerly a man who is now a female, she runs into some problems along the way, but Sophie is her champion and Rae is very good at her job. DS Barry Marsh works alongside Sophie and is the perfect foil for her perceived roughness.

All the books in this series have been well-written. The suspense is not overdone, but there's always that question of who, what, when, where and most importantly, why. The author does a marvelous job of explaining it all leaving the reader very satisfied.

Highly recommended.

My sincere thanks to the author / Joffe Books / Netgalley who provided a digital copy in exchange for an honest, unbiased review.

Ashley Gillan says

I want to start by saying that this book is the fourth in a series but I will be reviewing it as a standalone novel. It definitely can be read as a standalone; while there are some references to previous storylines the main plot itself is completely independent of any other books.

So, to begin. The novel centers around the bodies of two young children which are found in a garden 20 years after the children's death. DCI Sophie Allen and her team are taxed with finding out not only who the children are, but what might've happened to them. Not an easy task 20 years after the fact.

Well.....I should start by saying that the mystery was very good. It was compelling and interesting to think about how a cold case could unfold. The mystery was also one of those that slowly unfolds before really slapping you in the face, which I like. It keeps you guessing.

There were also some really compelling characters in the novel. There's a transgender detective, who is struggling to navigate social life post-transition. There's also a really interesting, mysterious woman at the center of the novel, who the author hints may appear in subsequent books.

However, I was disappointed in this novel, overall. The ending just kind of happened. Like, one minute you're waiting for the climax of the last 200 pages, and suddenly they just kind of walk up and get the person to confess. Then it's over. Hurray? I was a little shell-shocked to say the least.

The writing was also a little dry. The conversations felt very formal. Not like people would talk at all. That made diving into the novel a little harder, with the conversations not really drawing you in.

Bottom line: I'd probably pick up another novel in this series, and encourage mystery lovers to give this one consideration, but it's certainly not among my favorites. Keep it for a rainy, boring day.

CL says

Two small bodies are found buried one on top of the other. DCI Sophie Allen and her team are called to investigate. As they dig into a crime that effects the entire Village of Dorchester they begin to uncover secrets some would prefer not be known. This is a steady read and can be read as a stand-alone story. Great read. I would like to thank the Publisher and Net Galley for the chance to read this ARC.

Trina says

I received this arc from Netgalley.

This was a huge disappointment. First of all the title of this book should have been 'Let's see how much we can talk about Sophie Allen's family'. Or 'The life of a transgender person at their job'. If I wanted to read all about a transgender person's ups and downs on the job, that's what I would have gotten. We don't need to be beat over the head with it. As it is, I have zero interest in that subject. Hopefully Rae will transfer to somewhere else in the next book. I'm overjoyed that Sophie has a wonderful, loving well put together family but can we solve this murder please? This next bit had me shaking my head. I'm not using names so I don't spoil it. Okay, a man has been found dead and it's established that he'd recently started dating. The woman has spoken with police and been fingerprinted. Her fingerprints turned up on the headboard, in the dead man's bedroom. Barry Marsh asks Sophie 'should we get her (the woman) to explain' why her fingerprints are on the headboard. What??!! Really?? Why the hell do you think they are there? If Barry had to work by himself, no crimes would ever get solved. By the time I got to 60% I was ready to toss this book. I kept checking to see how far I was from completing it, so that tells you how interesting it was. Those were just some of the things that annoyed me but I've wasted enough time on this book, so I'll leave it at that.

Nolene Driscoll says

I was given an ARC of this book in return for an honest review.

I found this book to be a great read. I love Michael Hambling's writing style. It is easy to read, fast paced and suspenseful with lots of twists and turns. It had me guessing and changing my mind a lot about "who done it".

Two children have been laid buried in a back garden for over 20 years. Why haven't they been missed?

DCI Sophie Allen is given this cold case to investigate. Also on her team are DC Barry Marsh and Rae a fairly new member of the team who is a transgender. Not only has DCI Allen have to deal with the investigation but she also becomes embroiled in office politics, namely Rae's nemesis.

This is a book I couldn't put down and thoroughly enjoyed. Kept me on the edge of my seat right until the end.

Look forward to reading more by Michael Hambling.

AngryGreyCat says

Buried Crimes and The Beekeeper are this month's reads over at book clubs on Goodreads. Buried Crimes was quite good. It involves a somewhat cold case, bodies are discovered buried in a garden and they had been there for quite a while. The crime centers around two children who slip through the safety net and no one knows what happened until their bodies are found in the garden of Finch Cottage. There is quite a bit going on in here as the case is investigated and connected crimes are discovered. The characters are not always what they seem and DCI Sophie Allen is a competent and sympathetic investigator.

Colleen Maclennan says

Just an ok read. When the lead detective 's whole family is involved in some way with the investigation that is sketchy to me!!! Also when a veteran detective has to get advice from her grandfather about sexual predators that is scary as well!! Basically the whole book had moments of you got to be kidding me... too many coincidental moments . Not sure what the long lost dad had to do with the story . Mystery component was so so.

Sarah says

I absolutely love this series! It keeps getting better and better. I'm devouring them and cannot wait for the next one.

The development of all the characters is done extremely well, the crimes are more twisty and turny and the settings are just as good as they've always been.

I'm glad that Rae is still an important member of the team and hasn't been given the back seat treatment and I enjoyed the parts with Neil and his prickish behaviour and how they were dealt with. I can see him becoming a vicious and disturbing villain pretty soon.

Patiently waiting for the next book as I write this.

Huge thanks to Michael Hambling, Joffe Books and NetGalley for this copy in exchange for an honest review

Joann says

This was a freebie and I hadn't read any books in this series so I started with #4. I didn't feel like I missed much at all and just have to decide if I'll continue or not. I'm sort of sitting on the fence about this for some reason. I have a few female detective stories that I already follow and I'm not sure this meets some of the standards. I thought there was a bit much going on and I'm not sure if I was satisfied that all the questions I had were answered. I did enjoy that DCI Sophie Allen was a happily married woman and that it was for the most part a very clean book. If you are offended by a lot of swear words this would be a good start for a mystery series. A 4 star.

Christopher Roden says

This is the fourth title in Michael Hambling's series featuring DCI Sophie Allen. It's the first one of the series that's come my way, and I shall definitely be seeking out the others.

The skeletons of two children, apparently buried for twenty years or more, are discovered in the garden of Finch Cottage, and the task of solving the crime falls to DCI Sophie Allen and her team. As with all cold crimes, endless ploughing through paperwork ensues, and the trail leads from Dorchester to the far East before clues are pulled together to reveal what exactly occurred all those years ago.

This well-paced, well-written novel is worthy of your attention.

Thanks to NetGalley and Joffe Books for providing an ARC of the Kindle edition.