



Cleaver Square

Daniel Campbell, Sean Campbell

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The bleakest winter on record and a gruesome discovery bring DCI David Morton to the Hackney Marshes in search of a clue, any clue, as to the identity of a dead child found near the Old River Lea.

Meanwhile, closer to home, Morton's long suffering wife Sarah comes to the conclusion that her man has been doing more than work during his late nights at the office. As he closes in on the mystery of the boy's identity his life begins to crumble and a terrible wrong is done to someone he loves.

With all of London watching, Morton's impeccable ethics will be tested to their limit as he is forced to choose between doing what is right and what is legal.

Cleaver Square is a stand-alone Police Procedural featuring DCI David Morton.

Cleaver Square Details

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Author : Daniel Campbell , Sean Campbell

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From Reader Review Cleaver Square for online ebook

Harry Lane says

Well drawn characters, nicely paced action, highly believable interactions among the players - what's not to like? The two nits I have to pick is the unreasonableness of the artifact that is the fulcrum for unraveling the case, and of the likelihood that its owner would have found himself in the circumstances leading to his being a victim. Setting those aside, the book is an easy read.

April Wilson says

DCI Morton isn't perfect, but that is partly what makes him likeable. Another thing is his amazing memory. He doesn't have photographic memory but can easily recall important facts and bits of data that he comes across. This will surely help him figure out the case he's currently assigned ... a dead preteen body found in the woods. Distractions from other sources interfere with his ability to see things clearly but once he does, he discovers a case that is larger than previously considered. As the book goes along, things happen that I wish hadn't but are part of the fabric of this fascinatingly woven tale. Having no experience with the law or legal system I thought it sad that deals are cut that ignore some crimes while focusing on catching the "bigger fish" but can understand this from their perspective. Taking the bigger player/s out will hopefully cause a break in the overall chain ... or so they think. Time will tell if that is the case in regards to this particular case/s.

Mel says

Cleaver Square is a great example of why you shouldn't read other reviews before you've finished the book. During reading, I glanced at a number of reviews (mainly negative) and found myself waiting for the negative points to appear. Which they never did. The only thing I found quite frustrating was that names were spelt inconsistently. Shelley was spelt both Shelley and Shelly for the same character and Dimitri both Dimitri and Dmitri for the same character. There were 2 authors so this really should have been picked up on.

Cleaver Square is the second book in a series, I haven't read the first but this didn't hinder my reading of Cleaver Square. A couple of things were alluded to early on in the book, but this didn't affect the plot of Cleaver Square.

Overall, a relatively good quick read. Slightly predictable in places but enjoyable all the same.

Niki Driscoll says

This is the first book I have read from this author and I have to say I was impressed. I have not read a good mystery in quite some time as I can usually figure out the bad guy in the first 2 or 3 chapters and it takes the fun out of the read. However in this case I was really not sure who the bad guy was until everything came together in the end. This was a well thought out storyline with several underlying plots that interwove

together seamlessly. There are several red herrings to lead you astray and kept you in suspense. I enjoyed learning about the characters from their thoughts and actions and I picked up some things that were simply implied not stated as fact. This story kept me engaged and did not let me go until I had come to the end. I have to thank the author for challenging my mind and making me enjoy reading a good mystery again.

Cathy Ryan says

A suspicious death investigation soon turns into something very much more complex as DCI David Morton struggles to unravel the increasing threads of a case which becomes ever more daunting.

He and his team have to find the truth behind the discovery of a child's body buried in Hackney Marshes. There are no apparent clues, apart from a very expensive watch found with the body, or evidence as to how the child died. The deeper the police team dig the more confusing the case seems as they chase each lead and reach seemingly dead ends.

While the investigation is ongoing DCI Morton is also dealing with intense personal problems which turn his life upside down, resulting in an interesting sub plot depicting the frustrations of dealing with unaccommodating banks and legal systems.

The forensic, legal details and police procedures are very well researched and the plot is tight and realistic with unexpected twists and a shock departure. It's gritty and the main characters are well executed and believable. All the strands of the story are woven together well making this an enjoyable read.

Could do with a little more precise editing, there are a few grammatical and punctuation errors. I think this works as a stand alone but if, like me, you haven't read the first book, *Dead on Demand*, it's available for a free download in the Amazon UK and US Kindle shops at the moment. Not sure for how long though.

Kate Cherrett says

I enjoyed this second book in the DCI Morton series more than book 1. Lots of twists and turns and plenty of red herrings.

The plot was clever if a little unbelievable as were some of the players. Putting such a scheme into action would be a lot more problematic in reality. I did zone in on the culprit for one of the crimes but I didn't connect them for the other.

DCI Morton is a bit of a curmudgeon but I don't get a good picture of him from the books. I'm onto book #3 "Ten Guilty Men" so I'm hopeful I will learn more about DCI Morton

Una Tiers says

This book was bleak with a poor plot. Few of the characters were developed. The ending, while anticipated, was divulged in a casual fashion, much like the central character's actions in the book.

Lillian Cummings says

David Morton is planning to surprise his wife Sarah for their real anniversary with a trip but she finds out and she thinks that he is having an affair. The bank thinks that he used all their savings all because he downloaded a sports game. But how can he prove to Sarah that it wasn't him? A new case has come in a young boy has been found dumped and they have no idea who he is, the only thing he has is a old watch. They start digging on it leads them into the trade of child trafficking and what they find will give them chills. Who is the this boy and why is someone pretending to be him? The more Morton digs the bigger the case becomes and it will end in the death of one of his officers. Will Morton be able to get justice for the child and find out the truth about all the other children? Will he ever be able to clear his name and be able to get back together with his wife? Another great read.

AngryGreyCat says

Cleaver Square by Daniel and Sean Campbell has been on my Kindle for a little while, so I decided to pick it up. Loved the story and the idea behind the crime. Very modern feel dealing with trafficking and the care system; children being lost within the system is all very current news. I think that it needed a little fleshing out. It just felt a little thin to me in character development and details. It was a quick read and fast paced. I would read another in the series.

Zane says

Satisfied

The Campbell brothers does it again with Cleaver Square. A thrilling mystery that leads you into an adventure with enough suspense to keep you up and awake all night.

✿Claire✿ says

Another great book, this one had even more twists and turns than the last and I found myself surprised by the outcome. A gripping suspense that I couldn't put down.

I liked the development of the main characters in this and the way it all tied together, a little at the time until it created the bigger picture.

A few typos and it could probably do with a proof-read but not enough to diminish the enjoyment of the book.

Definitely looking forward to the next one.

Kim says

Really enjoyed this one!

Kath Middleton says

DCI Morton and his team are investigating the murder of a child whose body was found in ice at Hackney Marshes. They can't get a handle on the investigation and for a long time the identity of the body remains a mystery. Meanwhile, some hacker has emptied Morton's bank accounts and his wife, blaming him, has thrown him out. And that's just the start!

I really enjoyed this story in which a number of villains get their comeuppance but a lot of difficult questions are asked. Catch the bad people and lock them up? That can allow even worse people to get away with murder, literally. Sometimes what seems the obvious answer simply throws up more problems. I enjoyed the mystery, the characters and fact that, although it was satisfying, the ending left a few threads. Life isn't always black and white. I was engrossed in this story all the way through.

Sandra Knapp says

This was a very good, stand-alone Mystery novel. Filled with interesting characters, and all manner of crime being committed, from murder to child/human trafficking, and even Identity theft against the leading investigator, Detective Chief Inspector David Morton.

The story begins when a 12-year-old Foster child is found dead and frozen in the marshes very close to the village. And at the same time, our DCI Morton is planning a "second" honeymoon surprise for his wife, but when he attempts to pay for it, discovers all of his credit cards are being refused. And thus the tale begins.

This was a straightforward mystery done very well. The story was quite believable and interesting to follow the unfolding of events, evidence and seeing how one thing leads to the next. I can't say it was so intense that I could not put it down, but I looked forward to picking it up, following the "case" and seeing how it all would work out in the end. I would definitely recommend it if you enjoy a well-written story.

Julie says

I can only describe this book as mediocre.

The only thing that kept me reading was solving the puzzle of the boy. Unfortunately, I felt the resolution was disappointingly shallow and not worthy of the lead-up. Whatever was going on between DCI Morton and DC (? I think) Vaughn was uncomfortable. Then again, so was Morton's relationship with his wife. The entire identity theft scenario felt like a put-up from the beginning, mostly because I had a difficult time

believing a police officer of Morton's alleged repute could be so naive about it when it was happening to him. He doesn't come off as the sharpest tool in the box.

The book is also in serious need of an edit. There's a lot of telling and repetition, as well as annoying inconsistencies. When DCI Morton states in the first chapter "...women are rarely victims of murder," I was so gobsmacked, I had to look up the stats. In the U.K. last year, over 1/3 of homicide victims were women. I don't consider that "rare." And when I think about it, why mention it at all? It has no bearing on the story and doesn't tell us anything about any of the characters. I was pulled out of the story for no good reason.

sigh In short, I'm not going to be looking to read more of these.
