



The Trapped Girl

Robert Dugoni

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When a woman's body is discovered submerged in a crab pot in the chilly waters of Puget Sound, Detective Tracy Crosswhite finds herself with a tough case to untangle. Before they can identify the killer, Tracy and her colleagues on the Seattle PD's Violent Crimes Section must figure out who the victim is. Her autopsy, however, reveals she may have gone to great lengths to conceal her identity. So who was she running from?

After evidence surfaces that their Jane Doe may be a woman who suspiciously disappeared months earlier, Tracy is once again haunted by the memory of her sister's unsolved murder. Dredging up details from the woman's past leads to conflicting clues that only seem to muddy the investigation. As Tracy begins to uncover a twisted tale of brutal betrayal and desperate greed, she'll find herself risking everything to confront a killer who won't go down without a deadly fight. Once again, *New York Times* bestselling author Robert Dugoni delivers a taut, riveting thriller in the fourth installment of his acclaimed Tracy Crosswhite series.

The Trapped Girl Details

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Author : Robert Dugoni

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From Reader Review The Trapped Girl for online ebook

Sarah Joint says

A fine addition to the Tracy Crosswhite series. Robert Dugoni hasn't let me down yet. I finished the book about an hour ago and it's still on my brain, working out all the twists and turns it took. **Just when I thought I had it figured out as I read, it went in a completely new direction. Bravo!** I look forward to our next journey with Tracy Crosswhite.

A teenager doing some illegal crab fishing has come across something very disturbing: a body caught in a crab pot. Not exactly what he expected when he hauled the heavy trap from the water. The body is a woman, and she hasn't been down there long, likely only a few days. Her being found so quickly is just down to fate... Her murderer probably intended for her never to be seen again. They soon believe the body is a woman that disappeared several months ago while climbing a mountain with her husband... but she clearly didn't fall to her death.

We see some chapters from the perspective of Andrea, the woman who was thought to have perished on the mountain. A bit of an introvert and a voracious reader, she'd fairly recently married a man after only a short time of dating. He pressures her into starting a new business with him and to put a large amount of money into it. Though her late parents left her a trust, they've specified how it is to be used and starting a new business isn't one of them. He seems to resent that fact, and gets more manipulative and angry as the story goes on.

Haunted by memories of her sister who died much too young, Tracy has a special attachment to this case. She balances work with her thriving relationship with her boyfriend Dan, and I loved the little glimpses we got into their happy life. **The rest of the book is filled with twists, turns, suspense, police procedure, and fantastic character development.** I'm quite attached to them all... even Rex and Sherlock. Highly recommended.

I received an ARC of this book from Net Galley and Thomas & Mercer, thank you! My review is honest and unbiased.

Linda says

I received a copy of The Trapped Girl through NetGalley. My thanks to Thomas & Mercer and to Robert Dugoni for the opportunity.

What fuels the intensity of the flames of undying greed?

Greed.....that gnawing, self-propelled instinct in some people with the "I wanna, no matter what happens" syndrome. You'll find it here. And it leaves some deeply embeddened footprints.

An early morning jump from an illegal point of entry into Puget Sound leaves a young man with a shocking catch in his crab pot. More in the range of the human kind.

Tracy Crosswhite and her Violent Crimes Section of Seattle, Vic Fazzio and Delmo Castigliano, are called in

on this one. The body of this young woman has suffered greatly from exposure to these watery elements. This is going to be a rough one to identify and it brings back heavy memories of Tracy's own sister who was murdered.

Police Captain Johnny Nolasco wields an imposing hand on every action delivered by Tracy and her team. He's always been the voice of direction, warranted or not. And there will be a mad tango of foot placement within police jurisdiction here.

We are introduced to Andrea Strickland, an insurance agent, existing within the limited walls of her small cubical. Andrea's voice is found within the pages of her journal. Her husband, Graham, is a Porsche driving lawyer who wants to beat the system and live off the cream skimming the top of the cup. But then, Andrea goes missing after a hike with her husband to climb Liberty Ridge in Mount Rainier National Park. Pretty far from ol' Puget Sound. Right?

Robert Dugoni presents another stellar Tracy Crosswhite mystery. No one does police procedurals like Dugoni. Pay close attention as you ride shotgun in this one. That mad tango foot placement is accompanied by some loud, crashing music. This storyline will take you through a multitude of clicking heels. Just when you think you know, you don't.

This was a thoroughly enjoyable read and the fourth in the Tracy Crosswhite series. We only ask one thing of you, Dugoni. Keep 'em coming, fast and furious.

Brenda says

I need to ponder a bit before rating and reviewing. [Later...OK, I'm done.]

This book is the latest in Robert Dugoni's Tracy Crosswhite series, and a wonderful addition it is. I had not heard the term "crab pot" and a google image search showed some of them are huge. That was the only search I did, because Dugoni's descriptions of Mt. Rainier, Puget Sound, and other environs put me right in the scene.

Tracy and her crew are working a case involving a body in a crab pot pulled up by an unsuspecting teenager. Clues are there to be found, but I appreciated how Tracy and Kins, with help from Faz, slowly put the pieces together. It was an interesting story with several twists along the way. There are events that cross several law enforcement jurisdictions and things get pretty tense at times.

Development of the characters involved in the crime was very good. Dugoni had me wavering over who could be trusted, who was lying, who had motivation, and who was guilty. The chapters from Andrea's point of view really drew me in. Some focus on Tracy's personal life was an added attraction showing friends are also family, and this contrasted nicely with Andrea's life.

However, for some reason I can't nail down, I didn't connect as strongly with this book as I did with the previous books. Was there not enough good-natured banter between Tracy and Kins? Was Nolasco too subdued? Was the geographical setting too large? Was Tracy written just a bit softer or weaker than before?

I did enjoy this book and I'm looking forward to the next one in the series, due out later this year.

Jean says

The Trapped Girl by Robert Dugoni is as much a “who is it” as it is a whodunit. Seattle detective Tracy Crosswhite is called to the scene when a teenager poaching crabs in Puget Sound comes up with an unexpected catch: a body stuffed in a crab pot. Who is the victim? Autopsy results and initial investigation queries reveal that the victim may have been on the run.

But what starts out looking like a straightforward case of marital discord gone extremely wrong proves to have more puzzles and twists than one could ever imagine. As we’ve seen in the previous three Crosswhite books, Tracy is still haunted by her sister’s disappearance many years earlier. Does that mean that cases involving missing and abused women become even more personal to her? Or is she able to put her personal feelings aside and look at the evidence and the suspects objectively?

Once again, Tracy is teamed with Vic Fazzio, Del Castigliano, and Kinsington Rowe, aka Kins. What a team! It’s like Tracy and the Three Musketeers – all for one and one for all – especially when it comes to pleading their case to their captain, Johnny Nolasco, who always seems to be looking to catch his female detective making a misstep. Besides Nolasco, who resents being shown up by a woman, especially Tracy, there are even worse guys to hate in this thriller. Graham Strickland, the husband of the apparent victim, is a greedy, Porsche-driving lawyer who is the prime suspect and one smarmy, cocky fellow. Stan Fields, the Pierce County detective in Washington who is in an ongoing turf war over the Strickland disappearance, comes across as a redneck male chauvinist creep. On the positive side again, there is Tracy’s love interest, Dan. A little romance never hurts, and Dan fills the bill quite nicely.

As usual, Dugoni’s characters do their best to figure things out, but this one proves challenging. Could it be as simple as it appears? Just when I thought I had a handle on who the victim was – well – maybe not. Then I really did know. But what really happened? I thought I had a general idea there too, but nope. Another twist. Once I untangled that one, I actually thought I had it. Wrong! This was one complex story, and it beats all three of the “Girl” books I’ve read so far – combined! I normally avoid those titles, but Mr. Dugoni, you can put “Girl” in the title anytime and I will read it! I wish to thank NetGalley, Thomas and Mercer, and the author for the opportunity to read and review *The Trapped Girl*. I think it’s probably my favorite book of the entire series so far, and I only hope there will be more to come. Now, the question is, when I go out to dinner tonight, should I order crab?

5 stars

Carol says

The e-galley of [The Trapped Girl](#) to be published January 24, 2017, was generously provided by Netgalley, Author, Robert Dugoni and publisher, Thomas & Mercer for my honest review.

[The Trapped Girl](#), the fourth in the Tracy Crosswhite Series could easily be read as a standalone but you’d

miss the subtle development of character by not starting with book one.

The environs of Seattle once again play a central piece of the pie as the body of a woman is pulled up in a crab pot in Puget Sound. Brings new meaning to the word trapped. Detective Crosswhite and her team find themselves involved in a complicated plot to discover the identity of the possibly murdered woman. Dugoni chooses some interesting means to unfold the story of said victim. There are clues throughout if you pay close attention and though I wasn't as crackerjack with my conclusions as Crosswhite, I played detective quite well.

Though there is a woman gone missing intriguingly on Mount Rainier, I missed what I already saw as a trademark of this series, the cold case. There's a hint that there could be one in book #5. I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

The two things that have kept me reading this series are the locale and Crosswhite herself. I didn't learn much new about Tracy this go round, but did see growth as she begins to move in new directions after finding a sense of closure in the discovery of her murdered sister's body and killer after twenty years. The wrap-up was satisfactory and hopeful for my new favorite female detective.

Paromjit says

This is the fourth in the excellent Tracy Crosswhite series set in Seattle. This is a wonderful addition to a series that just goes from strength to strength. The teenage Kurt Schill is engaging in illegal crab fishing in the cold waters of the Puget Sound. He is shocked to discover the dead body of a woman which the crabs have fed on in one of his crab pots. This brings in Tracy and her team on this opaque and difficult case. It is hard to identify the woman given the state of the body, and it is facial implant surgery that leads them to Lynn Hoff. This does not get the team far as it then becomes clear this is a false trail and that it is Andrea Strickland, a bookish insurance agent.

We get Andrea's perspective through the details of her journal in the novel. Andrea's disappearance whilst on Mount Rainier with her husband Graham, led to conclusions that she had died. What we have is a woman desperate to escape her life as it is. This fact puts the case under a different police jurisdiction, which Tracy is not going to take lying down. And soon enough developments bring it back to the Seattle team. Graham, the husband, turns out to be a lousy douche bag of a man. The investigation encounters financial shenanigans, intrigue, betrayal and greed. A visit to Portland yields some answers. There are a number of suspects and plenty of twists. There is a dangerous and thrilling finale. Tracy finds herself haunted by elements of the case which bring back the twenty year old murder of her sister.

This is a complicated case that really tests Tracy and her team. There is a fast paced narrative with strong plotlines that come together at the end. What makes this series so strong is the character driven stories. We have new developments in the characters lives. The police team are a strong unit with people you care for. Look forward to the next in the series. Thanks to Thomas and Mercer for an ARC.

Kendall says

I have been a long time fan of the sassy and bad ass detective Crosswhite. This is the 4th book in the series. I

would have to say this is my least favorite book out of the series.

What do you ask keeps me coming back to this particular series? The infamous Tracy Crosswhite herself. I love Tracy and her team!!! She is such a sassy, sexy, and strong detective.

This time around Tracy and her team find a woman's body in a "crab pot"... (interesting right?).. Well.. let me tell you ladies and gents that Tracy always finds herself involved in a complicated case. Dugoni definitely has some twists and interesting aspects to this novel and as the reader you constantly are guessing who, what, why?!

But, for some reason I can't pinpoint why but I didn't connect to this novel as much. Don't get me wrong I am a strong and avid fan of this series but I enjoyed some of the previous books in the series more.

BUT, can I just say OMG do I love Tracy and Dan! Dan is such a sweetheart and in the previous novel..we were not able to see much of their romantic relationship. What a stand up and romantic man Dan is. <3.

Overall, 3.5 stars rounded down on this one for me. I am looking forward to reading the 5th book to the series :).

Ginger says

4.5 stars!

Another great book in the Tracy Crosswhite series! The Trapped Girl is a good title for this book because that's exactly how I felt while reading it. I was trapped from the beginning and had to find out who the woman was that was found in the crab pot!

Tracy and the A Team, the nickname given to her detective crew are working on a case involving a dead body found in a crab pot. In the beginning of the book, the clues are few and far between with the murder case. I appreciate how Tracy and Kins, with help from Faz and Del, slowly put the pieces together on the dead woman's identity. It was a fascinating murder case with several twists along the way including a missing woman, a manipulative husband and law enforcement jurisdictions that complicate the case. You honestly had no idea on who was lying, who to trust and who was guilty.

I like how Dugoni used POV alternate chapters and flashes back to a year ago. It introduces us to Andrea Strickland. She's a young woman who's an avid reader (aren't we all!) and gets involved in a new love relationship. She's had a tough life growing up and it's about to get worse.

Development of the characters involved with Tracy and the A Team was great! Continuation of Tracy's personal life was an added attraction along with showing how the detectives become more like family. The writing in the book was a nice balance of showing all of the A Team's personal lives along with the plot of the murder case.

Dugoni is quickly becoming one of my favorite go-to authors. This is a well-written and solid plot. In my opinion, the books keep getting better in this series. I'm really looking forward to book #5!

CL says

A young man poaching finds a woman's body in a crab pot in the chilly waters of Puget Sound and Detective Tracy Crosswhite is asked to investigate the case. They cannot identify the woman and as they follow the leads it appears it may be a woman that faked her own death to escape an unhappy marriage. This death brings up Tracy's own sister's death. Now there have been contradictory clues as to who this woman may really be. Great read. I would like to thank the Publisher and Net Galley for the chance to read this ARC.

Monnie says

In the endless sea of oysters stocked with "girl"-titled books, this one's a pearl. In fact, despite my vow to eschew any and all with that word in the title for at least the next three years, I couldn't wait to dive into it. So what turned the tide? Well, it was a can't-miss combination: Favorite author, favorite series, and the chance to read an advance copy in exchange for an honest review. Many thanks to the author and publisher for that invitation, BTW.

This is the fourth in the author's Tracy Crosswhite series, and like the others, it's a winner. I polished it off over the course of two days - not an easy feat when you've got a part-time job and a husband who could burn water if given half a chance (put another way, unless we eat out, dinner is on me).

Crosswhite, for those who don't already know, works at the Seattle Police Department's Violent Crimes Section and partners with Kinsington Rowe, aka Kins. She's in a serious relationship with Dan, an attorney, but psychological baggage carried over from her sister's death and the end of her first marriage keep her on the skittish side of any kind of formal hook-up. All that baggage also creeps into her work, as happens in this book.

It begins with the discovery of a female body in a crab pot - accidentally pulled out of the water by a kid trying to circumvent crabbing laws by placing and retrieving his pots under the cover of near-darkness. Identifying the victim, however, proves challenging; clearly, someone - perhaps the victim herself - has gone to great lengths to conceal who she is. Eventually, though, evidence points to a woman who went missing while mountain-climbing with her husband (a rather unsavory character who remains a person of interest in her disappearance but hasn't been charged as yet).

Needless to say, there's far more to the story. Quite a bit more, in fact; the intriguing plot, and the well-developed characters, seem a tad more complex than in previous books, with a few surprises (a couple of them whoppers). Failure to nail down what really happened and find the killer reminds Tracy of her own sister's murder, prompting her to keep plugging away when the going gets especially tough.

For those who already love this series, there's a downside; this latest installment isn't scheduled for release till January 24, 2017. But for anyone else, here's a suggestion: Although reading the first three books isn't a requirement for enjoyment of this one, why not spend the time reading the first three? In order of appearance, they are *My Sister's Grave*, *Her Final Breath* and *In the Clearing*. You'll be glad you did!

(Bern) Mom to 2 Posh Lil Divas says

5 Stars for this 4th installment of Robert Dugoni's Tracy Crosswhite series!

This is my favorite book of the series to date. The mystery was interesting: A young boy goes out to do some illegal crab fishing and snags a bit of a surprise - a body! From there the story takes on quite a few different twists & turns. **Just when I thought I had it figured out - something else would happen!** I was glued to the book and couldn't read fast enough. This was one of those books where life was "put on hold" because I had to read one more page.

What I enjoyed most about this installment in the series was the character development. The relationship between Tracy & Dan has grown so much since book #1 and it was wonderful to see the leaps they take together in this book. I also thoroughly enjoyed seeing the relationships between Tracy and her team - Kins, Del & Faz. They have essentially become family and it was a big, integral part of this book. I fell in love with them all that much more. Who would think a bunch of tough cops could be so heartwarming?! Dugoni has such an amazing cast of characters in this series!

I have grown to love this series & these characters. Dugoni does an amazing job of weaving an engaging roller coaster plot that keeps you guessing while also really building on the back story of his main characters. We become invested in them in all the right ways! I can't wait to see where the series continues to take us. I know I'll definitely be along for the ride, for the long haul.

Sue says

THE TRAPPED GIRL is the fourth book in the Tracy Crosswhite series by New York Times bestselling author Robert Dugoni. I have read the previous books in the Tracy Crosswhite Series:

My Sister's Grave (#1)

Her Final Breath (#2)

In the Clearing (#3)

(I plan to read the 5th book in the series-Close To Home)

I have always enjoyed reading his books, and this one is no exception...again another winner!

Tracy is a detective in Seattle PD's Violent Crimes Section and she and her team are assigned to investigate an intricate case-a woman's body is recovered from a crab pot in the waters of Puget Sound. Identification is difficult, but Tracy and her team believe they have discovered Andrea Strickland, who disappeared after climbing Liberty Ridge in Mount Rainier National Park with her husband Graham. But there are a lot of unanswered questions?

“After evidence surfaces that their Jane Doe may be a woman who suspiciously disappeared months earlier, Tracy is once again haunted by the memory of her sister’s unsolved murder. Dredging up details from the woman’s past leads to conflicting clues that only seem to muddy the investigation. As Tracy begins to uncover a twisted tale of brutal betrayal and desperate greed, she’ll find herself risking everything to confront a killer who won’t go down without a deadly fight.”

The novel alternates between first-person POV information on Andrea Strickland and Tracy's investigation. The story has an intriguing plot, and the well-developed characters, with lots of twists and turns to provide a captivating read.

Many thanks to Robert Dugoni, Thomas And Mercer and NetGalley, for providing an ARC.

Matt says

First and foremost, a large thank you to NetGalley, Robert Dugoni, and Thomas & Mercer for providing me with a copy of this book, which allows me to provide you with this review.

In another impressive addition to his latest series, Dugoni places Detective Tracy Crosswhite in her most confounding case to date. After a body is found in a crab pot at the bottom of Puget Sound, Crosswhite and her homicide team are called in. The victim is identified as Lynn Hoff, though there is little backstory or digital presence with which to work. However, after circulating a photo of the victim, a ranger on Mount Rainier recognises Hoff, though knows her as Andrea Strickland, presumed perished when she disappeared off the side of the mountain while ascending with her husband, Graham. Further investigation shows that Hoff was likely an alias that Strickland used in an attempt to go off the grid and flee Graham's controlling ways. This disappearing act does not explain how Strickland ended up in a crab pot, but might offer some suggestions as to who put her there. As Crosswhite learns of a sizeable trust Strickland held and some curious bank transactions that occurred soon after the body was discovered, all eyes point to a spurned husband who discovered the truth. Dugoni adds a parallel narrative in the voice of Strickland, which helps reveal some of the information as Crosswhite discovers the identity ruse, while also fleshing out some of her own impetus for taking such drastic action. As Crosswhite and the team travel to Portland to piece together the lives the Stricklands led, all becomes a little clearer, until a single theory muddies the entire investigation and forces Crosswhite to cede control in an inter-departmental tug-of-war. While Crosswhite faces struggles of her own, based on memories of her past and an uncertain future, the reader learns much about her worries and wonders as she places work as a priority. Unable to sit idly by and ponder the meaning of her life, Crosswhite puts her team on a mission to dig a little deeper, and focus on wresting control of the case back to Seattle's Finest. However, it will take a huge discovery to allow that to happen. In a thrilling fourth novel in the series, Dugoni shows why he is the master of his genre, pulling readers in until the final sentence.

While this series has been sensational from the get-go, Dugoni always seems to be able to tap into something new that allows series fans to feel refreshed and left wondering what is yet to come. Additionally, Dugoni continues to weave additional backstory out of Tracy Crosswhite while reopening the murder of her sister. Self-reflection is a key aspect to a series character and Dugoni focusses on a few new areas that help personalise Crosswhite a little more. While the narrative itself is strong, it seems that the banter and ongoing development of the story as the chapters progress adds another layer of excitement to the novel. Dugoni keeps the story moving with twists that take things in a number of directions, which keeps the reader guessing. Strong dialogue puts the crime thriller front and centre while allowing the reader to feel they are in the bullpen or the interrogation room throughout the novel. I can only hope that Dugoni will continue with this series, as there seems to be so much more to explore, even as he anchors his key characters with life-altering events. As this series continues to gain momentum, new fans are sure to arise the most they hear about Dugoni's literary magic.

Kudos, Mr. Dugoni for another wonderful novel. I can only hope that you'll keep impressing us with Tracy Crosswhite and her complex cases.

Like/hate the review? An ever-growing collection of others appears at:
<http://pecheyponderings.wordpress.com/>

Sandy *The world could end while I was reading and I would never notice* says

This is my second Robert Dugoni book in a row. Previously I read *In the Clearing*, (Tracy Crosswhite #3), and I have to say I was pleasantly surprised and enjoyed *The Trapped Girl* far more.

The Trapped Girl is more tautly written; there is more suspense, more surprises, more of those delicious 'oh, I can't bear to put this down' moments, particularly in the second half of the book. Twists and turns in the plot were well done, and every time I thought I had it all figured out, Dugoni would throw in a new twist and we would be off on another tangent.

If this is how Dugoni's writing improves between books, I await his next offering eagerly.

Thank you to NetGalley and Thomas & Mercer for providing a digital ARC of *The Trapped Girl* by Robert Dugoni for review. All opinions expressed in this review are entirely my own.

Liz says

This is my third Robert Dugoni and I enjoyed this more than the other two. The others were decent, but not memorable. This one's writing is a little zippier. I loved how he describes one gal as swearing like a sailor with Tourette's. And the writing and dialog continues to be sharper than before, more of a Nelson DeMille dark humor tone to it.

The premise is a dead body turning up in a crab pot in Puget Sound. The dead woman is a "ghost", a person deliberately living off the radar.

The story alternates between Tracy's murder investigation and the background of Andrea Strickland, a "cubicle worker" who marries a man she barely knows. A man who appears more and more manic as the marriage progresses. Both parts of the story are interesting narratives. Additional murders follow and Dugoni does a good job of showing the confusion and mess created when they occur in different jurisdictions.

I thought I had this one figured out but Dugoni threw me for a loop. The ending was a little unbelievable, but it was still a good tale. The real strength of the book is the character development. I felt a real bond with Tracy and her team.

My thanks to netgalley and Thomas & Mercer for an advance copy of this book.
