



Hangman

Michael Slade

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The game begins in Seattle, where a hanged woman is found with one leg missing. Then, in Vancouver, a corpse is found with both legs missing. The clue that binds these horrific crimes together is a game of "Hangman" crudely drawn at each location--painted in the victim's blood.

The victims, it seems, were jurors on a controversial case years ago, in which a man was sentenced to death--by hanging. Two cops on both sides of the border--Canadian detective Zinc Chandler and American detective Maddy Thorne--are up against a killer whose every move means death. To stop him, they must solve the riddle of the hangman--before the madman makes his final, murderous move...and wins the game.

Hangman Details

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Author : Michael Slade

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Genre : Horror, Thriller, Mystery, Crime, Fiction, Suspense, Mystery Thriller, Cultural, Canada

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From Reader Review Hangman for online ebook

Mike says

2 Stars for this one. Really did not like the time jumping: "tonight", "16 days ago", "tonight", "2 weeks ago", etc. Hard to follow and keep characters aligned. Written by two people, father and daughter, and it shows. An excellent history of hanging, primarily in the English legal system but some in the American. Some interesting background on word origins: "toe the line", "red herring", etc. Very anti-capital punishment, much on the Canadian legal system, comparisons of US and Canadian law. serial killer(s)?, lawyers and police, really all over the place. I did read to the end and the ending surprise came out of the blue.

Jaret says

very exciting psychological thriller

Teresa says

I finished reading Hangman more out of curiosity. I needed to know who the "real" hangman was! Getting to that last page was more work than I care to go through when I am reading for enjoyment. There was A LOT of unnecessary detail in this book. I learned more about hanging than anyone really needs to know in order to enjoy this book. Many details were repeated, again without necessity. Michael Slade is intelligent and has done his research. His characters are real and believable. It just took too much time to get to the point.

Calli says

Definitely not a book for those with weak stomachs, but an AWESOME read nonetheless.

Unfortunately, one can't really review this book without giving spoilers but I have to say it's a must-read for horror and crime fans.

Courtney Torres says

Very well written!

Loved popping from one person to the other, city to city...never knowing who was the killer and then hoping it wasn't who they were hinting at!

The ending is totally a surprise!

Loved it! Loved it! Loved it!

Nancy says

Didn't like the way the story jumped around. I found it hard to keep track of who was where and when...

Taylor says

Great psychological thriller. I will definitely have to re-read this book.

Zaraliyana Adijaya says

I want to read it again & again ♥ I love the drama & the suspicion ♥ Who ever thought !

Erin says

I had a really hard time rating this book. On the one hand, it was a compelling mystery. On the other, it was (as another reviewer noted) written at times like a textbook about the history of hanging (and the Canadian court of law). This could be partly because Michael Slade is actually the pen name of a father-daughter writing team, so the lack of consistency between writing styles could be related to who wrote which characters.

I'm willing to overlook all that for the sake of an otherwise good story. But even though the mystery was compelling, I wasn't satisfied with the solution. I can't get into specifics without spoilers, but I never care for this type of ending.

Even so, this is a genre I enjoy, and I'm willing to give Slade another shot in hopes that his resolutions won't always be, pardon the pun, such cop-outs.

Orient says

During my trip with Mr. Slade I was charmed, intrigued, disgusted a bit, all in all enchanted with almost every single read (a bit disappointed with Burnt Bones, but it seems it was just a short stop to recuperate and get back to awesomeness). There is a new energy and intrigue with "Hangman", I guess it's the new teaming up (Michael Slade is the pseudonym of Vancouver trial lawyer Jay Clarke. In "Hangman", Clarke teams up with daughter Rebecca Clarke).

The story has lots of twists and turns, it definitely feels like a new taste of spice. Traditionally, mysteries are backed up by action, gore and incredible amount of research into police and legal procedure. It kept me intrigued from beginning to end. I kept guessing, while diving into several different characters stories. Some mysteries were easier to crack, but the very main one just blew my mind and I was left with my jaw hanging

down.

I loved the tasty bit about the origin of

You could say:

“So much fuss about a picture of a woman who has lost her earrings .” And you would probably be right. I look at that from this angle ?

“A scream a day keeps the shrink away ”

My fave part, characters:

Slade is famous for his complex, scarred characters with tough past, but at the same time they are so realistic. Centered upon the portrayal of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, with my beloved Zinc in the lead and several gruesome murders for dessert, “Hangman” is soaked with suspense, interesting historical facts and a fantastic race to guess who the culprit is! Damn, I had five suspects myself and only one of them matched the killer (there are way more killers than one there, so go on, try to solve “Hangman” mysteries yourself!) And I came to the part, which is a heart-breaker for me, people died, sometimes they were worth it and I cheered the Hangman to kill that mind-pooper! But one death was very sad for me, I loved that character a lot, also I think that it’s unfair to another character who was again left with a broken heart ? Damn it, but will there be enough of bad times for my faves?! Ugh.

All in all, that is an awesome read and if not for my passion to Malazan, I would have swallowed “Hangman” in a couple of days. Can’t wait to see what this new teaming has in store for me in other books in the series!

Jara Eunice says

It was good, kept me hooked.

I recommend it to anyone who's a fan of crime/mystery.

Gevera Bert says

This wasn't a bad book, but I could not get into it. Too many similar characters doing similar things made it hard to keep track of who was who and after a while I just didn't care. The end came totally out of left field and was rather disappointing.

Ronald says

This was very good. A few shocks and surprises. Very gory killings and an interesting method/reason behind the killings. Will be reading more by this author. A fast read, also. And you get a history of hangings and hangmen throughout. Highly recommended to those who like mysteries.

Brian says

Bought this for a vacation read. Was great. Haven't been able to find anymore of the novels by this father-daughter duo.

Kristina says

3.8 stars [Not a 4 because of the slow start. More than 3.5 because of how quickly I became interested once it picked up for me]

This book started out so slow for me, honestly. The storyline sounded interesting and I wanted to get as anti-Valentine's Day as I could, so I grabbed the closest book on my TBR list. I was reading what I assume was a 2000 paperback copy, so the print was really small and took some getting used to. For the first hundred pages or so, I found my attention straying. Somewhere between page 100 and page 171, I became involved.

Finally, the mystery was getting juicy and the murders were getting more gruesome. I had so many different suspects - Justin, Ethan, Peter himself!, a juror from Peter's trial, a psychotic fanatic. Of course I won't give anything away. But the twists and turns are so unexpected, you can't help but scramble for people to be the face behind the mask. It may have taken me a while to get into, but once I did, I was hooked. I'm ashamed to say I almost put this aside to finish at a much later date or just not bother with at all, but because I'm stubborn, I stuck with it, and I'm glad I did. The only spoiler I will provide is this: I'm greatly disappointed that we don't discover who killed Anna, the little girl Peter was accused of murdering. It may not have been important to the overall moral of the story, or even the plot, but it would have been nice to see some kind of justice for that poor girl.
