



## Lying Dead

*Aline Templeton*

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# **Lying Dead**

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## **Lying Dead** Aline Templeton

DI Marjory Fleming thrives on the adrenalin and tension that come with heading a major crime investigation. With the discovery of not one, but two murdered corpses on her patch, she's about to feel the pressure like never before.

## **Lying Dead Details**

Date : Published January 24th 2008 by Hodder & Stoughton (first published January 1st 2007)

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Author : Aline Templeton

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## From Reader Review Lying Dead for online ebook

### Barbara Mitchell says

This is my second DI Marjory Fleming story in a series I'll certainly continue. Fleming is a farmer's wife, mother of two, daughter of elderly parents, and dedicated cop. She's so human that I sometimes half believe she's real rather than a fictional character.

A few of Templeton's characters are not so real, but then they'll surprise me by stepping away from stereotype to show another side. This is a very clever author who I suspect has done a lot of "people watching" in her life. (One of my favorite activities.)

In this story the homicide detectives have some sort of office problem. One of the problems is DC Jon Kingsley. He's new to the town and overly ambitious. He's quite sharp so it's hard to criticize him. He can be charming and entertaining, but he is obviously the main source of friction keeping his colleagues out of sorts.

Marjory needs to do something about the situation but she has too much on her plate at the moment. Her father has Alzheimer's; her mother insists on caring for him at home but it's too much for her.

Also there are leftover issues from the foot and mouth epidemic of Cold in the Earth that land a family who lost everything in the cottage on the Fleming farm. Marjory's husband Bill has kindly offered it to them along with a job for the husband. Unfortunately the wife despises Marjory, blaming her for everything because as a cop she was obliged to enforce killing infected herds.

In the middle of all this strife a woman's body is discovered on a wooded hillside. The investigation leads them to an inlet resort area where wealthy people have summer cottages. Their hard drinking and many affairs apparently are common knowledge in the area. The marina is co-owned by a newly rich scrap dealer from Glasgow with questionable background and a local ex-farmer, Niall Murdoch, who has a wandering eye and anger issues.

We also get a bit about sheep herding trials for dogs and their trainers. This aside is interesting and insightful.

Excellent plot with enough twists to keep the reader off balance. I really liked this one.

Recommended eBook

Source: Publisher through Partners in Crime Book Tours

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### Martha says

I surely did not see that coming!

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### Richard Thompson says

The third in Templeton's DI Fleming series and the second one that we've read.

Fleming's squad is confronted by a tangled mess involving an old robbery-assault in the (fictional) resort town of Drumbreck in Galloway, a two murders, two assaults, a bit of arson and several death threats — all of which may or may not be related to one another. Suspects and motives abound.

Well put together, but we had to go back and re-read a bit to figure out how Tam and Marjory figured out what they figured out. And there were a few loose ends that could have been tied up a bit better.

But an enjoyable read.

We are forced to move on to book #6, CRADLE TO GRAVE, as we wait for the earlier books to come available at the library

22. MemoryWalk - the Greyhound bus depot in Fort St. John, BC. In the waiting area, all the seats are filled with sheep — sitting and reading magazines, checking their luggage, watching the clock, nibbling on snacks... The PA system crackles to life and announces: "The 9:15 schedule for Kirkluce, Newton Stewart, Drumbreck, Wigton, Port William, Stranrear and Glasgow is now boarding..." A sheep dog comes in from the boarding area, rounds up all the sheep and herds them out of the waiting area. Once the area has been cleared, we see that one sheep is still there, LYING DEAD on the floor with its throat cut.

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### **Deb says**

#### **Gripping tale with a twist**

Book #3 in this series was the best one so far. A murdered woman unravels a whole skein of carefully hidden secrets. Marjorie Fleming again is forced to walk a fine line between her job as head of her detectives, and her family and friends. She is also dealing with the hot shot new detective Jon Kingsley who seems to be clearly after her job. The ending of this novel had a double-edged twist -- one potentially tragic, and one much more gratifying.

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### **Jovdb says**

Excellent continuation of the series.

DI Fleming and her team investigate a couple of murders - one, a young woman found out in the hills and a rather nasty character who is fond floating in the marina harbour.

As well as leading these cases, Marjory is coping with her father's slide into dementia, unpleasant neighbours from the previous book who, because of her husband, Bill's, kindheartedness, live in the cottage on their farm, and a small insurrection in the CID office.

Tam and Kingsley continue their rivalry, both using their skills to try to outdo each other and find the culprit first. Kingsley continues to use short cuts to achieve his goals, whilst trying to undermine Marjory's

authority.

Great characters!

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### **Kathleen Kelly says**

Lying Dead is the second Marjory Fleming novel that I have read. It is a well written suspenseful addition to the series. A woman is found not far from a man's house, unfortunately for him he knows the woman intimately. He just got out of prison and gets scared and does something that will haunt him. Moves the body.

Another body is found and now there are numerous suspects and Detective Fleming is pressured to find the killer or killers. A lot of people in this small town are suspect and it is up to Detective Fleming and her team to figure out who and what the motive is.

This is a mystery series not to be missed. The author weaves a suspenseful tale of love, lust and lots of secrets that will have you wanting more. Not only are there lots of suspects to the murders but Marjory is in danger herself from vengeful people that are close to her in her work and private life. This is a novel that just keeps getting more mysterious as the pages turn. Never saw the ending coming. I love the author's style of writing and I will certainly read more of her work.

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### **Carolyn says**

I have belatedly added a new shelf - 'Waiting Rooms', not that I am in need of medical and other professional services, but my elderly clients are. Thus, there are a few hours out of my week spent reading the types of fiction that require little intellectual input, but are one up on Who Magazine or leaflets on the symptoms of prostate cancer etc.

This book was cluttered with extraneous descriptive passages and quite boring and unlikeable characters - very suitable for skipping whole passages and unsustained concentration. I chose it because it was set in Scotland, but it could have been set anywhere, from Queensland to Florida.

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### **Amy Yingling says**

An interweaving web of possible suspects left me stumped as to who committed the crimes which I found maddening but much more entertaining then figuring out who did it by the fourth chapter! Favorite character was DC Kerr, just something about her standing out and being different then the others endeared her to me. The only thing I felt out of my element about was the dialogue about the dog trials, those few pages to me were particularly hard to get through because of this but since the story occurs in Scotland the dog trials have a place there but it didn't make it any less confusing to this American. On the whole, I really enjoyed this one!

What 3 out of 5 stars means to me? {A solid reading experience. Enjoyable, well-written and satisfying. Marked by three or four issues, all-in-all not too shabby. Most books rank on this level for me. I'm just a

middle of the road type person.}

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### **Mitch McCrimmon says**

This is the third book in the series and I have read the first two. The plots are quite complex but believable and the characters very human with a good range of emotional expression and complexity. The setting is near the west coast of Scotland, west of Glasgow. I enjoyed this one as much as the other two except for the fact that quite a number of characters are introduced early in the book and I found it hard to follow at first. Perhaps the characters could have been developed a bit more with less emphasis on sub-plots. However, I will definitely read more in this series. As I said when I reviewed the second one, Aline Templeton's writing reminds me of Anne Cleaves in her Vera Stanhope detective series which is set in the north east of England.

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### **Erin says**

Oh my gosh, this series is GOOD.

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### **Sandi says**

Another great entry in this police procedural series. I especially enjoy the rural Scottish setting and how it impacts the working conditions and outlook of the characters.

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### **LJ says**

LYING DEAD (Police Procedural-DI Marjory Fleming-Scotland-Cont) – G+  
Templeton, Aline – 3rd in series  
Hodder & Stoughton, 2007, UK Hardcover - ISBN: 9780340922255

First Sentence: The wind had dropped with the sunrise.

DI Marjory Fleming and her team were having a quiet week until the discovery of a woman's bludgeoned body is discovered by a young boy. Once the body is identified, members of her team jump to arresting a man recently released from prison, but Marge isn't convinced. The adjoining community of Drumbreck is a weekend playground of the rich and rife with affairs, pride and debt. Another murder ties into the first, Marge is having problems with, and due to, a couple of her officers, and her husband offers their staff cottage to a man whose wife hates Marge. So much for the quiet week.

There is realism to Templeton's characters and their relationships to each other that I really like. However, there are so many characters and so many threads; I found it a bit hard to keep track of them all. But Templeton brings them all together nicely with some wonderful twists. The ending seemed a bit abrupt, yet I mentally cheered when the villain was exposed. This is a very good series and while this is not the strongest book in it, I'm already looking forward to her next book.

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### **Lizzie Hayes says**

‘Lying Dead’ by Aline Templeton

Published by Hodder & Stoughton, May 2007. ISBN: 978-0-340-92225-5

Keith Ingles has served his time, and he is now enjoying his life as forester. On a fine May morning as he stands outside his cabin savouring his good fortune, he hears a mobile phone ringing. Following the sound leads him to the bludgeoned body of the woman whose testimony sent him to prison for robbery. Fearing his innocence won’t be believed, he hides the body.

The prosperous community of Drumbeck conceal a mass of secrets – could any of them be a motive for murder? Niall Murdoch had bought a sheepdog from Finlay Stevenson but the dog doesn’t perform for him, and so he ill-treats it. His daughter is deeply troubled by her fathers actions towards the dog. Niall’s wife Jenna does little to alleviate the festering atmosphere having her own agenda. But Niall has more to worry about than the just the dog.

DI Marjory Fleming also finds troubles close to home when her husband Bill suggests that they offer a cottage on their land to Finlay and Susie Stevenson who are going through a difficult time, but Susie blames her problems on Marjory and makes for an unpleasant neighbour. Marjory finds herself investigating two murders, and struggling with some personality conflicts in her team . Newcomer to the Galloway force Jonathan Kingsley is arrogant and keen to leap up the promotion ladder, whilst Tasey Kerr has got herself involved with a married colleague. At least Tam is OK.

This is a well plotted mystery that kept me guessing to the end. It has an exciting climax. Recommended.

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Lizzie Hayes

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### **Barbara says**

One of the best British police procedurals that I’ve read in a long time. I fully expect to see this series, centred around “Big Marje” and set in a small town in Scotland, turned into one of those great British TV crime series.

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### **Mary Gilligan-Nolan says**

Really enjoying this series and so grateful to the person who put me on to this series. This story in the latest D.I. Marjory Fleming crime/mystery starts out with a man on release from prison, now working as a Forester, coming out of his cabin one morning and discovering the body of a woman practically on his doorstep. The woman in question, was once his girlfriend and was central to putting him in prison by giving evidence against him. In a panic and certain he will be accused of her murder and sent back to prison, he moves her body deep into the forest, but unlucky for him, the body is soon discovered by a trail biker. Now, this case proves to be a real challenge for Marjory and her team, as it transpires upon further investigation

and discovery of the woman's identity, that Keith Ingles may not be the only one with motive to killing her. The story has many angles, Niall Murdoch, the part-owner of the Marina and local stud, has many enemies and his own link to the dead woman and Finlay and Susie Stevenson, also with connections to her and their own feud going on with Murdoch and the McLaffertys, with their dubious crime associations in Glasgow. Marjory also has her own problems with the Stevensons moving into the cottage on her farm, when Bill offers them a home and work for Finlay. Marjory has a bad relationship with Susie, going back to the Foot and Mouth episode. She is also having problems within her team, led by Jon Kingsley. This story took a real surprise turn towards the end and had me guessing and not working it out until the final reveal. I love it when that happens. Another great book by Aline Templeton and one I would have no hesitation recommending. On to the next one. Can't wait.

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