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Zoë Sharp

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The cult calling itself Fourth Day is well funded and highly jealous of its privacy. Five years ago, Thomas Witney went in to try to get the evidence that the cult's charismatic leader was responsible for the death of Witney's son, Liam. Witney never came out.

Now, Charlie Fox and her partner, Sean Meyer, have been assigned to get Witney out, willing or not. But planning and executing a clean, surgical snatch is only the beginning. Five years is a long time to be on the inside, and the man who comes out has changed beyond all recognition.

Fourth Day Details

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Author : Zoë Sharp

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From Reader Review Fourth Day for online ebook

Alicia says

I will admit, this isn't normally the sort of book I read but I'm glad I took a chance and did.

Things started out a bit slow after the first, prologue chapter and it was somewhat difficult for me to get into the story. In contrast, the latter half of the book really picked up and was profoundly more fast paced and interesting. I fully approve of that play as that, in my mind, is truly fitting of a suspense novel along with the twists and turns this book presented.

I enjoyed following the main character through this book as she was a realistic person to me. She had faults! I was so excited! My biggest complaint was that this was clearly another book in a series and all the history, presumably covered in previous books, was frustrating to get a taste of but not to have been privy to. I expected this to be a stand alone novel and the fact that it clearly isn't and isn't even first in a series is a bit annoying.

There is a decent chance I'll read the sequel because the end is a cliffhanger. I was very frustrated, but overall enjoyed Fourth Day.

Best Crime Books & More says

Please note, this is the 8th in a series of books featuring Charlie Fox. For those wishing to read the series in order, maybe don't read this review. It's incredibly difficult to review this without inevitable plot spoilers due to the length of time the series has been going.

I am having a somewhat marathon session with this series and am now onto the 8th book in the Charlie Fox series with this latest one. When I started reading I was a little bit confused. The ending of the last book left me with so many questions, however I soon realised that the new operation was a good way for Charlie not to think about what happened at the end of the last book! The story was pretty intense early on and we soon see that Charlie and Sean are trying to extract their 'principal' from a so called cult. As usual with any Fox and Meyer story, things are never cut and dried, and they end up with a bigger problem once the first part of their operation is done.

What results is an opportunity for Charlie to get up close and personal with Randall Bane, the guy running the cult named Fourth Day. Not much time had passed since I had started reading and I was surprised to realise I was once again over halfway through the book. With lots of opportunity to delve, we see Charlie take major risks (as per usual) only this time we see her vulnerabilities in a huge way. I would go as far as to say that although Charlie Fox is one of my favourite female lead characters, she is also one of the craziest. Maybe that's why I like her so much? Not only does she take huge chances, she is also ridiculously screwed up. Her personality leads you to think she actually verges on the edge of becoming as lethal and dangerous as the people she is normally chasing.

Fourth Day held my interest from very early on with all the weird goings-on at the so called cult. However, when you add in the fact that this appears to be the closest we get to layering back Charlie's personality it made for a pretty explosive read. It had everything I wanted and some! What I wasn't prepared for was the

ending. I almost shouted out loud because I just couldn't believe it. Zoe Sharp has certainly whetted the fans appetite to want to plough straight onto the next one. I think after reading so many ZS books I will take a break at just the right time. I will anticipate the next book even more, waiting to find out the outcome of the latest Sharp/Meyer disaster.

RachelW (BamaGal) says

I went into this one prepared to not like it; the cult theme is not my favorite read. What I found, however, was a layered storyline, with lots of threads intertwining...and half-truths and lies that Charlie has to ferret out. Granted, there were things here that didn't sit well with me, especially for Charlie personally; but overall I found this to be one of the better written and paced of the series to date.

Megan says

I didn't realize this was the 4th of a series when I started it, and that might have helped understand the character better. The heroine's past is very important to her current mindset. The books ends on an emotional low note, which is unusual, and clearly meant to set up a fifth book. Overall, a good, reasonably intelligent action novel. I had expected more of a mystery than an action book, but that's okay.

Todd says

Another great book in the series. Love these books.

Hobart says

This isn't your typical Charlie Fox novel, and in this case, that's a good thing (I can easily see where an atypical Fox novel would disturb my quiet).

Are there twists? Yup. Action? Yup. Bad guys in need of taking down? Yup. As you'd expect. A few less bullets than you'd expect.

But there was more to this. Sure, Sharp develops her characters further and further each novel--but here, they grew by leaps and bounds, a few books' worth. And it didn't seem forced or obligatory, it was wholly organic and genuine.

Honestly, I groaned when I realized we were getting "undercover op in a cult compound" for a mission. But it turned out to be so much more, and a satisfying read.

(I just hope for a little more action and a little less heart next time)

Denise says

Unfortunately I started this series with the sequel to this cliffhanger and now can't remember what happened.

A 2 1/2 stars for this one. Storyline was a little forced IMO & Charlie's stubbornness can be annoying at times.

DD@Phila

Gloria Feit says

Fourth Day is the name of a once subversive organization formed in the 1960's and known for its cult-like origins, but claiming to work wonders especially with vulnerable adolescents [and others] with delinquency and drug addiction problems. It has more recently been headed by one Randall Bane, its new and charismatic leader suspected of having more sinister ambitions.

This newest in the series brings back Charlotte ("Charlie") Fox and her lover, Sean Meyer, a junior partner in Armstrong-Meyer, a "close-protection" [read "bodyguard"] organization, now tasked with retrieving a man who has been living within Fourth Day's grounds on its large real-estate holdings in Southern California. Their 'target,' Thomas Witney, had initially infiltrated the organization five years prior to get proof that Fourth Day was responsible for the death of his son, but for some reason never left. There is some question as to whether or not he will come willingly, but they are told that that is not to be an obstacle. When things go awry, Charlie volunteers to herself infiltrate the organization, with appropriate back-up. What she finds is unexpected, to Charlie and the reader.

This is a fast-paced and suspenseful novel, as Charlie, now 29 years old, is going through some difficult times, personally and professionally. She is nonetheless at the top of her game, and that is very good indeed. The plot races through to a stunning conclusion, which left me more anxious than ever to read the next installment in the series. Highly recommended. [The title, btw, is a Biblical reference - Genesis to be precise - as well as having a double meaning in the final pages.]

Any Length says

First review when I read this book some many years ago: I somehow stumbled into this series on book 9 and was very impressed. Now that I have read book 8 I can understand more about where Charlie is coming from. I really enjoyed this book and can't wait to read more of this series.

Back then I was so impressed by the characters I wanted to read the whole series. Then being distracted by so many other books I forgot the name of the author and only a few months ago with the help of Goodreads group "what's the name of that book" found out again about the series. I promptly started to read from book 1 and have now read this book for the second time.

I couldn't put it down. It really helps to have the knowledge of the previous books which are all very much

worth reading. The characters evolve and Charlie's and Sean's relationship is at a difficult point in this book and ends on a cliffhanger. (You must read this!!!)

I have read book 9 before but want to not miss any developments which I might not be able to remember so am moving on to read book 9 again. Can't wait. I can't get enough of these characters and the wonderful gripping stories. Charlie is a real hero in my eyes. I just love her character and want to read a lot more about her. Each independent story is gripping in its own right. I highly recommend this series. But do start at the beginning.

Linda C says

I HATED this book. I am surprised to see that it has an average between 3-4 stars. The only reason that I didn't give it one star was that I did finish it, albeit it reluctantly. This was my first Charlie Fox book and most likely the last. Truly NOT impressed. I understand that it is a series, but since it was a thriller, I thought erroneously that each book would be a contained story in itself. Half of the book seemed to be references to prior events, with no more than cryptic references, which presumably made sense if you had read the other seven books, but that made no sense if you did not. I can't imagine reading one more Charlie Fox book, much less another six.

As for the storyline in this book, there were flashes of interest-- i.e. is Fourth Day really a cult? Who are really the bad guys? Is Randall Bane messing with her mind? Unfortunately, these were only flashes. There were no real plot twists, something that should be a staple in a thriller. As for Charlie herself, I simply didn't care. I didn't care that she was troubled. In fact, I had trouble believing that she felt guilty for the people that she had killed; she was a professional bodyguard (or mercenary, if you prefer) and had been a soldier. Not exactly the profession for someone who is going to be consumed with guilt. She was even consumed with guilt over a miscarriage and that got old very quickly.

Just a dull, bad book. If I was the type of person who can quickly give up on a book, I never would have read past the first 50 pages of this one. It was a complete waste of time. I was relieved to have it over.

Harry says

Being interested in reading series mystery/detectives I ran across Zoe Sharp during my aimless wandering through book worlds online. I admit, reading the reviews I was skeptical as to whether or not I'd like this book for the simple reason that I'm interested in a particular type of hero (principled but tempted by physical violence, alone in the world by choice but always tempted to abandon this lifestyle). Female main characters usually do not fit this model if my previous reads are any indication. And so I considered that books written from the viewpoint of Charlie Fox, a female protagonist, might or might not interest me.

Having said that, the character of Sean Meyer did interest me. And so I dove into the Charlie Fox mystery/thrillers.

Ms. Sharp did a nice job of incorporating my particular interest, not just in the character of Sean Meyer, but also in the female protagonist. Charlie Fox is in the business of security, protection, and self-defense. That too went a long way into my choosing to read this series. Constantly weighing her principles against Sean Meyer vs. the various antagonist you will encounter in this series, Charlie Fox comes across as both hard

boiled and vulnerable, hero and unwilling victim, intelligent and driven by desire.

As with all series books, read them in order! And if you've read this review of Charlie Fox than you've read them all. Ms. Sharp remains consistent in terms of interesting plots, depth of character to warrant a blanket review of the entire series.

The Cats Mother says

This is the 8th in the Charlie Fox and it really helps to have read the previous books to understand the characters and the relationships between them. In this one, Charlie and Sean are tasked to retrieve a man who has been living with a cult in the California desert for 5 years, but things go wrong because secrets have been kept from them and Charlie has to go into the cult herself to prevent the sinister Epps from raiding it. There are lots of twists and lots of action as usual.

I found myself getting really frustrated with Charlie and Sean and wishing they would just talk to each other instead of 2nd guessing each other and jumping to the worst conclusions all the time, but it is in character since they are both so emotionally stunted that they don't seem to know how to be normal or happy. The ending wasn't as much of a shock as it could've been because I had read the blurb for the next two books, and I'm torn between wanting to read them ASAP, and the knowledge that after that I have to wait for Sharp to write each book. Probably my favourite series at the moment and definitely my favourite heroine.

Sarah says

Another interesting book in the Charlie Fox series. I enjoyed the fact that this book didn't quite turn out as I had predicted based on the description. The usual main characters were present in this story (Sean and Parker) and I liked a few of the other characters in this book as well, particularly Gardener. There was a fair bit of action and definitely a lot of emotional angst that I'm not quite sure gets solved by the end. Another good read and I look forward to the next one in line. Hopefully things work out for Charlie and Sean!

Sarah says

This is my least favorite Charlie Fox book, mainly because of the whole American cult/convoluted conspiracy topic. I guess I've had enough of those types of books already, and I didn't feel like this brought anything new to it. And, honestly, it was really unbelievable, which I don't want in my mystery thrillers. But I'll keep reading because I loved the previous books in the series.

Julia says

After the urgency of the flash forward opening, I had a hard time backtracking to where it all began. But other than the pacing issues, I enjoyed this one.
