



Deadline

Craig McLay

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When a body is found in front of the campus arts building, college newspaper editor Colin Mitchell immediately suspects there is more to the case than meets the eye.

His first clue is the severed hand that shows up in his inbox – a hand that belonged to a girl whose story Colin tried to write and both the college and the police did their best to ignore. His second is the strange symbol found at the scene of the crime, one that may have a connection to a murderous cult whose origins go back almost a thousand years to a highly secretive military religious order founded during the Crusades.

As he digs deeper into the mystery, Colin begins to uncover a trail of murder and corruption that extends beyond his wildest dreams. He's going to need every last bit of his innate investigative talent and insider knowledge of how the school operates to get to the bottom of it all because the police are starting to zero in on him as their prime suspect...and the real killer is closer than he thinks.

Deadline Details

Date : Published January 2nd 2013

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Author : Craig McLay

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Genre : Mystery, Thriller, Fiction

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From Reader Review Deadline for online ebook

Pamela Beckford says

I picked this book up free on Amazon. It was well worth the price I paid LOL!

It was an okay book. It read quickly and was intriguing even if a little predictable. The writing was okay. There was decent character development. If you are looking for a quick, fast read, this could satisfy that need.

Katie says

I really enjoyed this book! I got it for free as one of the daily kindle deals on Amazon, and mostly I am not super surprised by those books; some I will like okay and others I never finish reading because of how many typing and spelling errors there are, or the plot sucks. This was really not the case at all with Deadline. It was a unique book in that I feel like I haven't heard this same idea 20 times before. I really enjoyed Craig's writing style and will look for more books to read by him. A+ !!

Will there be another book featuring Colin Mitchell? I hope so!

Denise says

After the dismembered body of a young woman is found on the campus of Westhill college, an investigative reporter with the student newspaper begins to look into the case. With the help of a colleague, he uncovers a connection to a millenium-old cult and a modern conspiracy. Meanwhile, his investigation leads the cops to his door...

A decent, entertaining murder mystery. Colin's attitude, while not at all helpful for his situation, rarely failed to amuse. Only 3 stars, though, as the story never really gripped me.

Joel Ungar says

Main character starts out thoroughly unlikable but becomes a little more tolerable as the story unfolds.

Author employs typical plot devices like having main character figure it out because he had more info than the reader. decent story.

Leslie says

This is a unique story that is like the daVinci code meets Animal House. A college newspaper editor is out to get the 'establishment'; he is constantly butting heads with the faculty advisor and the college president.

When he writes a story about the President's car being towed he is demoted to sports writer and that day's

edition is being pulped.

He is immediately thrust into a mystery when there are police swarming the campus and blocking off roadways... he decides to investigate and goes above and beyond to get the story. And a mysterious package arrives at the office that contains a dismembered hand, that he recognizes. And within hours he is part of the story when his natural curiosity gets him in trouble. Then another newspaper staffer tracks him down and tells him there is an ancient group that are associated with the symbol on the box.

The quickly figure out that is is bigger than corruption, mysterious students, dead people and a seemingly incompetent security staff. And he is quickly becoming the prime suspect.

Dru Pagliassotti says

In this novel, a college journalist investigates a series of murders that start on campus and point to the survival of an ancient Christian cult. As an academic who's worked on, and advised, college newspapers, I got a kick out of some of this novel's cynical remarks about university politics and the student press. However, I ultimately found its relentless sarcasm more obnoxious than entertaining. The book could have used a touch of sympathetic humor to make the protagonist come across as less arrogant and more likeable.

Anne says

Another great book

I really enjoy the novels by this author and appreciate his style of writing which he applies to all sorts of genres. He has got me hooked on these characters and I will follow them in the sequel to 'Deadline'.

Debbie says

A fast-paced mystery that I found fun to read. Colin, the main character, starts out pretty snarky, and is something of a know-it-all. But as the story progresses, he's also revealed to be genuinely passionate about his job, and is working pretty much surrounded by idiots. I liked him better as the main events unfolded. He eventually gets to interact with a couple of characters that are not idiots. The mystery is an interesting one, partly rooted in some obscure history. Relating that history produced the only spot in the book where the story dragged a bit. Mostly, events proceeded at a good clip. Overall, a very entertaining read.

Kathy says

A college newspaper writer gets involved with murder and a sociopath who believes he's part of a 1000 year old militaristic religious sect. It starts with the murder and dissection of a co-ed who was unwittingly part of a porn web site. The cult member is torturing, crucifying and killing people whom he deems are immoral. A very convoluted tale involving government and academic corruption around a plan to rehabilitate former convicts. The author ties it all together very nicely.

Rkb 2015 says

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Ed says

"Deadline" is a clever title for a book about an investigative reporter looking into a growing set of deaths. Colin Mitchell works for a college newspaper and wants to do a good job as an investigative reporter -- but many of his best stories are quashed by either his inept boss, or the corrupt college president, or the corrupt head of the college's corrupt security force, or by possibly corrupt cops -- you get the idea.

When a female student is found on campus in various pieces, and her severed hand appears in Colin's mailbox, he gets quite interested in the case. Especially when a connection to a medieval quasi-religious cult is found at the scene of the crime. The investigation takes on a personal note, however, when the police start looking at Colin as the possible perpetrator AND the remnants of the cult decide he may be a problem as well.

I enjoyed the book as a nice easy read, especially Colin's on-point snarky observations. 4 stars.

Karen Lee LaBarge says

Excellent story line with a lot of twists and turns. Loved all the action. This book grabs you from the beginning and I didn't want to put it down. As soon as I finished, I ordered the sequel, Whitechapel, and was not disappointed. Highly recommended.

Excellent story line with a lot of twists and turns.

Loved all the action. The research definitely added to the story. This book grabs you from the beginning and keeps you til the end. As soon as I finished, I ordered the sequel, which also didn't disappoint.

Carol says

it was a very quick read, did keep me interested though i thought it wrapped up too nice and neat for how complex it was set up to be, and still have a few unanswered questions.

p leonard says

Enjoyable holiday read, but be warned it has a sequel(s)

I like this guy's writing style. clear and zippy, and he throws in a few snippets of interesting facts. Have read another of his stand alone books, which I also enjoyed. Concerns about series in general as I prefer my reads, like my movies, original and independent. Consequently I prefer if series are indicated as such.

LLona Cunningham says

Finished it in less than 24 hours because it held my attention that well. I'm not a fan of the sub-genre(evil religious cult), but appreciate the addition of political influence and the way it gave the story a less than totally predictable thread. The protagon characters are believable and likable. The antagon characters are unlikable enough. The lack of mystery in that makeup is pardonable by well-placed action where it's needed. I will read this author's next book.
