



Deep Waters

Barbara Nadel

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A man's body, virtually decapitated, is found by the Bosphorus. His identity card names him as Rifat Berisha, an Albanian. The family is impenetrable but when Inspector Cetin Ikmen, whose mother was Albanian, consults his cousin, Samsun, he's left in little doubt that Berisha's death is likely to be the result of a *fis*, an implacable blood feud between rival Albanian families. Which means the blood already shed will have to be avenged. And if the Berishas or their enemies discover Ikmen is from a noted Albanian clan, some of the spilt blood might be his...

Deep Waters Details

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From Reader Review Deep Waters for online ebook

Charles Kerns says

Complications upon complications. All in Istanbul--A psychiatrist calls long distance to confer with her Irish priest relative about marriage proposal from a younger, somewhat-aristocratic Turkish detective teamed with a half-Albanian, honest, hardworking to the point of not seeing his wife and 9 kids often, but meeting (work-related) his cousin, a trans-sexual middle-aged fortune teller who is planning to marry the younger, well-muscled man downstairs, to find out about old-country blood feuds. A rich half-English woman with a rogue kidney and a gold Rolls-Royce, and a cast of thousands (it seems) all appear in the first hundred pages.

Not a page turner, but it holds you, not too tightly, as it wanders thru the results of two thousand years+ of metro living and genetically mingling.

I did not mention the one paltry (but nasty) murder that I have found so far.

I am plunging on past page 100, but this is it for the review.

Susan says

When a young Albanian man is found dead in Istanbul, his family assumes that his death is one more tragic, but inevitable, step in a blood feud they are having with another group of Albanians. But the police need more: They need proof. As Inspector Ikmen investigates, he realizes that his own Albanian blood may be a handicap. The memory of his Albanian mother, who died of a heart attack when he was a young boy, still resonates. Now someone tells him that she was murdered in a blood feud. His cousin, who gave him valuable information on the ins and outs of the Albanian community, is attacked. Meanwhile, his colleague Mehmet, the scion of impoverished aristocrats, is ready to propose to half-Irish psychiatrist Zelfa, one of whose patients has a strange connection to the dead man. If you haven't found this series yet, look for it!

Sally Edsall says

If you love Istanbul, then you will enjoy Nadel's crime series, featuring experienced, perhaps somewhat jaded, police officer Cetin Ikmen. This story is well-paced and plotted, and muses on some interesting aspects of Turkish culture and history and contemporary mores.

You don't have to be a Turkophile to love the setting, but those who are will be especially delighted. Sometimes Nadel is compared to Donna Leon. The settings for their crime stories are as much stars as the people. In that sense, both are equally successful. Both detectives also have family relationships with their wives and children which are brought to life and have a bearing on the stories. Both detectives also have internal conversations which are thoughtful and humane.

I believe if you enjoy Leon, you will also enjoy Nadel, though both are distinctive writers able to bring their characters and places to life.

Jack Laschenski says

Barbara Nadel does it again.

Istanbul today!

Peasant Turks, Descendant Turks from the Sultans, and Albanians all distrust and even hate each other.

Inspector Ikmen has to deal with: a decapitated body, a death obsessed adolescent with the world's ugliest (physical) sister, Albanian tribes "in blood" with one another, discovering that his mother was murdered by a rival tribe (he is half Albanian), a wife in middle age crisis, his 9 children, a police psychiatrist in love with his sergeant, and a permanent obsession with cigarettes.

And the city itself is a major character.

Read with pleasure!!

Rob Kitchin says

Deep Waters is the fourth book in the Inspector Cetin Ikmen series set in Istanbul, Turkey. This outing has a strong Albanian focus with Ikmen and his team investigating the blood feud between two Albanian families and its latest victim, while also exploring his own Albanian roots and the death of his mother. In addition, one strand of the story focuses on a rich, troubled family that have links to the young victim, and on the relationship between one of Ikmen's aristocratic colleagues and an Irish/Turkish psychoanalyst. Indeed, as well as charting the murder investigation, the story focuses equally on the domestic lives of Ikmen and his team and the social and cultural aspects of Turkish life. The result is interesting and engaging tale, with a strong sense of cultural context and place. In my view, the storyline relies on too many of convenient relationships between police and non-police characters and there's no great surprise in the resolution, but nonetheless it's a captivating read. I'm looking forward to reading some of the other books to follow the characters evolving lives and learn more about the city and its people.

Chris says

I enjoy this series but this book was too long and too busy. Ikmen is involved in a case involving an Albanian blood feud which quickly takes on a very personal dimension. Suleyman, his former assistant, is besotted with his Irish/Turkish psychiatrist friend, who just so happens to be treating a person of interest involved with an Albanian. You don't know this initially but you can see it coming. The excitement in the book ends around 50 pages before the final end and the last 50 pages are all about personal closure. Just too much in this caper. Should have been 100 pages shorter.

Spuddie says

Fourth in this series set in modern-day Istanbul, Turkey and featuring Inspector Cetin Ikmen and his team. This book deals with an Albanian blood feud that reaches right into Ikmen's own family history and shakes up the family tree. The more I read in this series, the more I enjoy the books and I'm very much looking forward to the next one.

Rita says

2002

Very nice to read a mystery set in modern-day Istanbul.

Reading this, you get the impression half of Istanbul originates from another country or is born of an international marriage, but OK, as a British writer it is probably wise to have characters of mixed/hybrid backgrounds.

The Albanian immigrant families are quite amazing.

I would not be tempted to read the book a second time, but am not sorry to have read it...

Alexandra says

I had this book for years before I finally picked it up and am really glad I did! Liked the main character a lot, the setting of the story in Istanbul is very interesting and a great diversion to the meanwhile so well-known London, Venice or Scandinavian cities.

Will definitely read more of the series!

Tracey S Choat says

Inspector Ikmen Book 4

I recently discovered this series and I am enjoying them so much. These crime mystery novels are clever and unusual. Set in Istanbul, the author gives the atmospheric account of a flawed but intelligent police homicide inspector Ikmen as he and his team solve crimes involving many different religions and cultures that thrive in Turkey. Fascinating! I suggest reading them in order.

Lynne says

The interesting thing in Turkey is the mixture of civilizations in this crossroads area. The latest mix stems from the 1923 population exchange. The social issue explored in this mystery centers on the different cultural issues inserted from the population exchange that included Muslims not just from Greece but also from Bulgaria and others countries of that area. Nadel also does a good job of developing her characters and

their personal stories.

Amy says

I did enjoy this book, and I whipped through it very quickly (as I have done with all of the Cetin Ikmen books), but I didn't like this one as much as some of the others. The plot seemed kind of all over the place with this one, and there was just so much *weirdness* and family dysfunction going on. Also, I'm beginning to get a little bit weary of all the dysfunctional sex that seems to go on in these books. If Nadel wrote Ikmen to believe that murder is either motivated by sex, fear, or envy, then it would be a nice change of pace to have a murder motivated by either one of the latter two emotions for once.

Given all that was going on in this book, I found that I really relished the parts of the story that involved Fatma. Even when she's off kilter she's the most grounded, functional person in the book. This is the first Ikmen book in which I have really come to appreciate the anchor that Fatma provides to Cetin's life, and the safe harbor that she allows him and the reader to come home to.

Sandi says

Istanbul police inspector Ikmen investigates the murder of a young ethnic Albanian in the fourth book of this series. Though a bit too long with a plot that was overly stuffed with various side stories, I always find the Turkish setting fascinating and found this to be an enjoyable read.

Ronkeli says

Lähes kaikki kirjan hahmot esiteltiin heti alussa. Turkkilaiset ja albanialaiset nimet kuitenkin hämäsivät siinä määrin että jouduin palaamaan alkuun 60 ensimmäisen sivun jälkeen ja kertaamaan, kuka oli kuka. Tämän jälkeen sain paremmin keskittyttyä tarinaan albaanisukujen verikostosta. Arvosanaksi tulee "ihan ok".

Viola80 says

Niente non mi ha acchiappato il tema della storia e ho mollato quasi subito. Non che sia illeggibile ma avendo un sacco di libri da leggere non posso perdere tempo. Avanti il prossimo.
