



Murder of a Lover

Faith Martin

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Looking for a **brilliant best-selling murder mystery** with a feisty female detective?

DETECTIVE HILLARY GREENE IS SOLVING THE COLD CASES NO ONE ELSE COULD CRACK.

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A REVISED EDITION OF A BOOK FIRST PUBLISHED AS “A NARROW MARGIN OF ERROR.”

Ten years ago, Rowan Thompson was found stabbed to death with a pair of scissors in his student house. It turns out that Rowan was quite a lover, with many disgruntled partners left in his wake.

But did any of them have a strong enough motive to murder him?

Meanwhile, **Hillary’s stalker is getting more aggressive** with his messages and flowers. And it looks like he may be much, much worse than she thought.

Has Hillary finally bitten off more than she can chew?

Hillary Greene has returned to Thames Valley Police HQ, acting as a cold-case consultant for the Crime Review Team, **looking into murders which the police have never been able to solve.**

She wasn’t sure she wanted to go back. But solving crimes is irresistible for Hillary Greene. And it doesn’t hurt that her new boss is devastatingly handsome.

This is a crime mystery full of well-observed characters, which will have you gripped **from start to the absolutely thrilling conclusion.**

MURDER OF A LOVER is the thirteenth a series of page-turning crime thrillers set in Oxfordshire.

What readers are saying about MURDER OF A LOVER

“It is **full of twists and turns** and keeps the reader on the edge of their proverbial seats.” Joyce

“What a **page turner** this turned out to be.” Greta

“Another **brilliant book** by Faith Martin which kept me guessing until the end.” Barbara

“This book **grabbed me from the first page**, captivated me and left me truly wanting more.” Claudia

“Another **brilliant tale.**” Carole

THE LOCATION

Number 8 Kebler Road is a three-story house in a typical leafy road in Oxford, near South Park. Victorian terraces face each other across the narrow street, whose pavements are interspersed with strategically placed

lime trees. Keble College, an unmistakable building of red and white brick is the dominant feature. Quiet, pleasant, it's in one of the city's many attractive areas, and dedicated mainly to student digs and private residential properties.

THE DETECTIVE

DI Hillary Greene

An attractive, single woman nearing the landmark age of fifty, Hillary Greene was a police officer of many years' experience (earning the rank of DI) and came up through the ranks. Consequently, she knew how the system worked, and was always fiercely loyal to the force without being blinkered to its faults. Forced to retire early through no fault of her own, she has now returned to the force as a civilian consultant on cold cases. She still enjoys a rather enigmatic relationship with the wily Commander Marcus Donleavy, but it is her new boss, the very attractive Steven Crayle, who is likely to cause her the most problems now!

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DI HILLARY GREENE SERIES

BOOK 1: MURDER ON THE OXFORD CANAL

BOOK 2: MURDER AT THE UNIVERSITY

BOOK 3: MURDER OF THE BRIDE

BOOK 4: MURDER IN

Murder of a Lover Details

Date : Published June 16th 2018 by Joffe Books crime, thriller and mystery (first published June 1st 2013)

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Author : Faith Martin

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From Reader Review Murder of a Lover for online ebook

Elaine Tomasso says

I would like to thank Netgalley and Joffe Books for an advance copy of Murder of a Lover, the thirteenth novel to feature ex DI turned cold case civilian investigator, Hillary Greene of Thames Valley police.

After successfully solving her first case with the Crime Review Team Hillary is asked to look into the 10 year old murder of Rowan Thompson, an 18 year old student found stabbed to death by a pair of scissors in his room. More troublingly her recently acquired stalker is upping the ante and the solution of faking a relationship with her new boss, Superintendent Stephen Coyle, isn't making her feel any better.

I enjoyed Murder of a Lover which is a thoroughly pleasant read with a good mystery and some tension attached. The actual murder investigation is fairly perfunctory with Hillary and the team conducting a few interviews before a brainwave leads her to the perpetrator but, to be fair, this is not the main focus of the novel as it is mostly pre-occupied with the stalker plot line. Ms Martin handles it well with a slow build up, started in the previous novel, and uses this novel to cover his escalation, some of it funny to the reader on the outside, but mostly sinister in its intent. Hillary's uneasiness is apparent and she has some uncharacteristic moments of weakness, but who wouldn't in the same situation? The reader gets the stalker's point of view as well as Hillary's in this plot line so his identity and motivation are no secret but I'm not so sure it works. Yes, he is a fantasist and has some warped thinking but it's not detailed or deep enough to be really convincing or frightening, more a cosy view of stalker 101. It does, however, set up the next novel nicely.

Murder of a Lover is a good read which I have no hesitation in recommending.

Greta Halliday says

Another fantastic episode in the Hillary Greene series but this one surpassed them all. What a page turner this turned out to be. It had everything and the ending topped the lot. Impatiently I await the next book.

Linda Strong says

MURDER OF A LOVER (HILARY GREENE, BK 13) by FAITH MARTIN

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A REVISED EDITION OF A BOOK FIRST PUBLISHED AS "A NARROW MARGIN OF ERROR."

Hilary Green is back at work, investigating cold murder cases. Today she's been handed the file of a college student who was stabbed with a pair of scissors 10 years ago.

There are plenty of suspects as the student was well known to be a 'player'. He really liked the ladies .. married or single ... young or old ... male or female. He was always up for a new experience. Seems his life was full .. just someone cut it short.

Was it one of his sexual conquests? A boyfriend or girlfriend of one of his conquests? A parent looking at for his daughter? Greene has her hands full trying to sort this one out.

Meanwhile, she still has a stalker problem .. only he's becoming more insistent that she play his game. Along with letter and notes and filling her care with flowers, he's now sending her crosses with initials burned onto them. Who do these initials belong to? And what does that mean for Greene's safety?

This is a really good series ... I enjoy the character of Hilary Greene. She's more mature, settled into her life, more or less, and she's dedicated to finding closure for families and loved one of the victims. This time around, she has a new team ... the older retired policeman is in awe of Hilary. He knows class when he sees it. The younger guy is a trainee and is so appreciative of learning the ropes under Hilary's tutelage. The lone young female trainee has a thing for Hilary's boss ... but the boss seems to prefer the maturity of Hilary.

The stalker remains at large despite the efforts of Hilary and her boss to catch him in the act...leading to a cliff hangar. Hopefully this will be finalized in the next book of this series. I always look forward to seeing what happens next in Hilary's exciting life.

Many thanks to the author / Joffe Books / Netgalley / Books n All Publicity for the advanced digital copy of this crime thriller. Opinions expressed here are unbiased and entirely my own.

Bev says

Detective Hillary Greene is working another cold case at the Thames Valley Police HQ. She is a consultant with the Crime Review Team. Ten years ago, Rowan Thompson was found stabbed to death with a pair of scissors in his student house. Rowan was known for being quite the ladies man, and not one at a time either. Is it possible that one of his scorned lovers is the murderer? Meanwhile, Greene's stalker is becoming more aggressive with the notes and flowers. Maybe she should re-think how she is handling this person. Can the Crime Review Team and Greene find the killer of Rowan Thompson after all this time? Greene better watch herself, because her stalker certainly is. I would like to thank both Net Galley and Joffe Books for a copy of this story. I voluntarily reviewed it and this is my opinion of it.

Amanda says

This is the thirteenth book in the bestselling series featuring Hilary Greene. Aside from the first book in the series, I have read, reviewed and loved every book in the series and Hilary Greene has to be one of my favourite female detectives. I was excited to get a review copy of 'Murder Of A Lover' and I was not to be disappointed as I absolutely loved it but more about that in a bit

Hilary Greene is a really interesting female lead character. The first eleven books in the series sees Hilary in her role as a Detective Inspector in charge of a small team. The twelfth ('Murder Never Retires') and 'Murder Of A Lover' see Hilary return to work but she is no longer a police officer but she is a civilian employee, who works for the 'Cold Case' squad. Hilary is one feisty and determined lady but then she has had to be. Hilary was married to a bent police officer, Ronnie Greene. Fortunately she divorced him and she has been happy on her own, keeping her options open. It takes a little while for Hilary to get used to the fact that she is no longer in charge of the team but in a sense she is pleased to have the responsibility of being a manager taken off her shoulders. When Hilary investigates a case, you can bet your bottom dollar that she

will investigate the case thoroughly and she will exhaust all lines of inquiry. She has a great gut instinct and if something doesn't seem right to her then it usually isn't. She also has a great internal radar system and knows when she is being lied to or if somebody is not being very forthcoming with vital information. Hilary has recently lost weight and she becomes aware that she is attracting male attention. Some of which she likes, some of which she doesn't like. 'Murder Of A Lover' sees Hilary attract the attentions of a stalker. I am not going to tell you anymore about who it is as I don't want to give too much away. What I will say is that the stalker set off massive alarm bells for me and I was ready to jump inside the pages of this book to stick up for Hilary.

This is another of those books that became an instant hit with me. As soon as I started reading 'Murder Of A Lover', I just knew that I would become seriously addicted to this book. The story hit the ground running and maintained the pace throughout. The author's writing style is such that you can't fail to be drawn into the story. So it was with me. The more I read, the more I got into the story and the quicker the pages turned. The pages were turning that quickly that it was almost as if they were turning themselves and before I knew it I had finished the book. I was concentrating so hard on the story, the characters and the investigation that I genuinely hadn't realised how quickly I was reading the book. I had mixed feelings about finishing 'Murder Of A Lover'. Don't get me wrong I was pleased to finish because I knew how this story and investigation concluded but I was disappointed to finish because I was loving the writing style, the plot, the characters and the story so much that I just wanted the book to continue. Reading 'Murder Of A Lover' was much like being on an unpredictable and rather scary rollercoaster ride. There were lots of twists and turns and moments where I almost had to read through my hands because I genuinely feared what was going to happen next and I feared what was going to happen to Hilary.

I have to say that Faith Martin has another winner on her hands with 'Murder Of A Lover'. The series featuring Hilary Greene just gets better and better. I can't wait to read the next instalment of the series. I wholeheartedly recommend this author and this series to other readers. The score on the Ginger Book Geek board is a well deserved 5* out of 5*.

Caron Allan says

This was the first of Faith Martin's 'Narrow' books that I've read, and I really enjoyed it. It was pacy, realistic and I enjoyed the frisson of 'romance' between the detective, Hillary Greene, and her colleague. I also really liked the glimpses of life on board the boat. Although this is quite late in the series, it stands alone nicely and makes perfect sense even if, like me, you haven't read any of the earlier books. A real find, and a great foil to the lighter Jenny Starling/Travelling Cook books. This book ends on something of a cliffhanger, and I've already got the next one!

Joanna Larum says

This is the thirteenth in the Hillary Greene series, although it is the second since she retired and then returned to the cold case department. This time, Hillary is investigating a case from ten years previously when an 18 year old student was murdered in his bedroom in his digs, stabbed by a pair of scissors. Rowan Thompson was an attractive lad with a taste for women (in the plural) and excitement. Once again, Hillary has to cover old ground, picking out information which may have been ignored during the first investigation and using it to solve the case.

The added complication this time is the news that Hillary's stalker has become more dangerous and we learn a lot about his past, which doesn't bode well for Hillary.

I believe that this is the best of the whole series of books and, with an ending which isn't a proper ending, leaves me gasping for more and quickly please! Faith Martin's novels about Hillary Greene have always been page-turners but this one goes a step further and left me with a desire to throw my kindle at the wall because it hasn't got the next one in the series on it! I seriously cannot wait for number 14. If you haven't read any of this series then I am jealous, because you have a wonderful time lined up in front of you.

CoffeeTimeRomance andMore says

The pace throughout this story, as well as the series in general, steadily builds until you are practically racing to the finish. Hillary's character is a wonderful mix of maturity and intelligence, with just enough softness and humor to really make you like her. I also enjoy the burgeoning relationship between her and Steven, and how the author seamlessly blends it into the storyline. Finding out what happens next makes book 14 a must have.

Lototy

Reviewer for Coffee Time Romance & More

Official Review @ Coffee Time Romance & More

Renee says

This is the thirteenth book in Faith Martin's Murder series and I am still intrigued to see where Hillary will go next. DI Hillary Greene has retired, but life without work quickly lost its appeal(if it ever was appealing at all). Hillary has returned as a civilian consultant/employee assigned to the Cold Case department where she can utilize her former investigative skills to re-examine unsolved crimes.

As always, Hillary has quite a lot going on. She is investigating the ten-year-old murder of a college student, she has unfortunately acquired a stalker and she may have more than a professional interest in her boss, Stephen. Her new role is quite a change for her and she doesn't come across in the same manner as she did before. Rather understandable though since this is a new chapter in her life.

The murder investigation was well written and the identity of the killer was a surprise. I am hopeful that Hillary identifies her stalker(soon) since he is definitely creepy and no good can come from his obsession. I still look forward to reading the next book, so for me, Hillary remains an enjoyable character.

Thank you, Faith Martin, Joffe Books and NetGalley for the complimentary digital ARC.

David says

That is the series on kindle to date so far, last 3 back to back and it is excellent, can't wait for number 14 to be released.

Donna Maguire says

<https://donnasbookblog.wordpress.com/...>

I really enjoyed this book and I am really pleased that the series is actually improving as it progresses when after so many books already published they standard could very easily slip or the plots could all intermingle in to one, but I am delighted to say that it certainly wasn't a case of that with this book!

Hillary is a great character and she must be a joy to write about and use as the main character. The plot in this one is great, it flows very well and the writing style is superb as normal. I love that this isn't as hard hitting as some of the series out there and it isn't quite a soft as cosy crime - it fits just perfect in the middle for me when I want an easy read.

Five stars from me, I loved this added edge to her character as she is determined to solve the crimes that were too hard for the others...

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Louise Wilson says

DI Hillary Greene #13

3.5 stars. Rowan Thompson was found stabbed to death with a pair of scissors ten years ago. Rowan was quite a lover, with many disgruntled partners. Did any of them have a strong enough motive to murder him?

Hillary's stalker is getting more aggressive with his messages and flowers. After her success solving her first case with the Crime Review Team she is asked to look into the murder of Rowan Thompson. She now has to rely on the forensics that were taken for, the crime scene ten years ago.

This book is more preoccupied with the stalker rather than being focused on the cold case she was investigating. We are also told the stalkers point of view. It's a decent enough read though.

I would like to thank Joffe Books and the author Faith Martin for my ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Nicole (TheBookWormDrinketh) says

This almost had a feel of a cozy mystery... It was like a cozy mystery had a baby with a Kathy Reichs novel. There was all the wonderful focus on character building that a cozy mystery would have, with a little more of an ominous scientific feeling to it.

I will say that I have not read the other books in the DI Hillary series, the nice thing is that I don't think that this fact detracted from anything. I don't know if this can be said of each book in the series, but this one could definitely be read as a stand alone without a problem. There were obviously some people and situations that I had to be brought up to speed with, but Faith did a wonderful job of explaining things without getting too descriptive or pandering.

DI (or retired DI by this point) Hillary Greene is a likeable and realistic character. She is beautiful and intelligent, even if she is one of the "wrinklies" as Vivienne says. (Apparently if you are 40 or above, this is

the club you belong to. That had me laughing!)

Having retired from her position as DI she is now working with the CRT solving Cold Cases. I liked that this was very different from other novels. It's definitely a slow burn because of this, it's not quite the crazy roller coaster as the murder happened in the past, but the added suspense of Hillary's stalker lends an urgency (and a little romance) to the present.

I would highly recommend this book to anyone looking for great characterization and some somewhat cozy mystery and suspense. I'll definitely be checking out the other books in the series!

Janet Newport says

Thank you NetGalley and Joffe Books for this arc.

Also, I'd like to apologize for taking so long to post this review. Once I'd finished this book, I HAD to go back and read many of the previous dozen books in the series as my conscious would let me. I LOVED Hillary! Smart, intuitive and tough. She doesn't suffer fools much but is pragmatic enough to deal diplomatically with most of them. This is # 13 in the series, but my first one to read. There's enough backstory here to understand Hillary, but easily comprehensible as a stand alone. I highly recommend for fans of Angela Marson's Kim Stone series

Misfits farm says

Ex Di Hillary Greene now works for CRT(Crime review team. The cold case unit by another name. The body of a student was found ten years ago, stabbed with a pair of dressmaking scissors and the perpetrator was never apprehended. Hillary has a second to none success rate- or at least did have when she had her official badge. Now as a civilian she has to rely on the forensics done at the time but can try and open new leads. She still has her admirer who is now becoming more of a stalker. Will a pseudo romance put him off? I love Hillary. She comes across as a likeable person whilst at the same time taking no nonsense from those around her- either villains or work colleagues. A girl who calls a spade a shovel. These are always wonderful easy reads that you can curl up with and enjoy the ride without anything too gory along the way. An excellent plot, an interesting sub story and a highly enjoyable read.
