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Robert Ellis

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LAPD homicide detective Lena Gamble's third murder case is also Robert Ellis's most explosive thriller yet.

It's another rough night in Hollywood. A horrific double murder at Club 3 AM, the A list hangout for Hollywood celebs. Unfortunately for detective Gamble, it's her case.

The media is swarming. LAPD brass have their stingers out. It's the kind of murder case that goes radioactive from the start. Two dead bodies in Hollywood ...

The first victim is Johnny Bosco, owner of Club 3 AM and one of the most powerful men in Hollywood. But Lena takes the shock hard when she sees the corpse laid out beside Bosco. It's 25-year-old Jacob Gant, acquitted just weeks ago in L.A.'s latest trial-of-the-century for murdering his 16-year-old neighbor, Lily Hight.

Are these murders the result of a father's righteous anger? Or is something bigger at play? Something dark and twisted that no one can see?

You already know the answer. This is Robert Ellis at his very best.

Murder Season Details

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Author : Robert Ellis

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Denise says

Another good who-dun-it, but definitely the lowest point of the series. Too much focus on police politics and political interactions. That's the best I can do without including spoilers. Glad I'm done with the series. This was too much.

Lora King says

Robert Ellis...please don't let this be the last Lena Gamble book! Lena has a very hard case to solve when the killer of a girl is found not guilty putting the whole city on fire but later is found dead at a trendy club along with the club's owner. Did the girl's hero father take revenge....all signs point that way but with Lena you know it's gonna be more complicated. Love the new characters, the suspense was good and while I had a stinking feeling who would be the bad guy in the end, it was still a great ending. Write more Lena Mr Ellis!

Debbie McDermott says

Riviting

Once again, a giant twist at the end. I love it. I gatekeeper have unending figured out by the end but this one got me.

Jan says

Want to read more by this author.

Pat says

Damn I wish I could give this 4.5 stars. This book was excellent. Lena Gamble is given a case that could completely derail her career. Two bodies in a nightclub - one is the owner but it is the second body that causes all the problems. Jacob Gant was tried for the rape and murder of a 16 year old girl. It was a slam dunk case but due to the disappearance of vital evidence he was acquitted.

Clearly the girl's father has just dispensed his own brand of justice and has public sympathy on his side. But Gamble is not so sure. Something about this case doesn't add up but she's on very thin ice here. There is a delicious sense of menace throughout the whole book as the bodies keep piling up and nothing seems to make any sense. Twists and turns and a creeping sense of danger make this a thrilling and enjoyable read. The ending is something you don't see coming. Highly recommended.

Daniel Kelly says

With the ending of *Murder Season*, I have now read every book currently published by Robert Ellis, and have never found one I didn't enjoy. He is a master story teller and puts you firmly in the mind of the main character, believing what they believe and being rocked by new discoveries that change everything. While reading this book, no matter how much you think you know about who did it, most of the characters are flawed, so it's easy to jump to the wrong conclusions.

Murder Season ends the Lena Gamble trilogy, and starts with a phone call in the middle of the night, and ends in a painful, heartbreaking but solid closure kind of way. The story is woven so smoothly, that it's hard to comment on any specifics without running the risk of spoiling the experience, but I can say it's a messy case with high profile characters involved, and it'll keep you squirming in your seat as you try to solve it alongside Detective Gamble.

I heartily recommend this series, and any of the other books Robert has written so far.

Seluca says

At the end of *The Lost Witness*, I was a bit sad that there was only one book left in the Lena Gamble series but now that I've come to the end of *Murder Season*, I think Ellis made a good choice. I love Lena and *Murder Season* is probably the best book of the three, however, it's so over-the-top and derivative of the other two books in the series that I am glad that the series is over. If you're only going to read one Ellis book, this is the one, but if you're like me and read the whole series, prepare to scream, "you've got to be kidding me!" a lot.

Judy Churchill says

What happened? I thought the author was tying up loose ends and out of nowhere comes another twist. I did not see this coming. The plot was challenging, the murders are plentiful and bloody. There are some despicable bad guys, but also some cops with compassion and feelings. Don't start a Robert Ellis novel unless you have time to finish it. It will be hard to put down.

Ciska Bokhorst says

An okay read. Saw the plot coming even with all the twists. A little bit over the top for me. I guess that happens when you read so many thrillers :)

The first 2 were translated in Dutch and I really enjoyed those. A little disappointed...

Sarah Hearn says

Murder Season comes early in scorching LA and Detective Lena Gamble is handed her toughest assignment yet. Pin the murder of Jacob Gant, the man recently acquitted of the rape and murder of 16-year-old Lily Hight, on Lily's father. Only things don't quite turn out that way as the evidence drags Lena and her Assistant DA associate further from Tim Hight and towards more disturbing conclusions.

This is a great read. The heat of the city seems to pulsate off the pages, and the twists and turns Ellis builds into his plot kept me riveted to the last word on the last page. I did not see the ending coming at all! If you enjoy a real police thriller, you will gobble down this novel.

Krisana Tipton says

Never saw it coming...

Robert Ellis has become one of my new favorite authors. The suspense and twists this story takes its a full on rollercoaster ride! And I never saw the " who done it" coming!

Seluxes says

At the end of *The Lost Witness*, I was a bit sad that there was only one book left in the Lena Gamble series but now that I've come to the end of *Murder Season*, I think Ellis made a good choice. I love Lena and *Murder Season* is probably the best book of the three, however, it's so over-the-top and derivative of the other two books in the series that I am glad that the series is over. If you're only going to read one Ellis book, this is the one, but if you're like me and read the whole series, prepare to scream, "you've got to be kidding me!" a lot.

Gloria Feit says

It is just the beginning of spring in Los Angeles, but the heat has come in early this year, with temps reaching 117 degrees, and with it the murder season. Homicide detective Lena Gamble is called in the middle of the night to the scene of a shooting at a celebrity hangout, where the owner of the club and a patron are found dead. The patron is 25-year-old Jacob Gant, acquitted just days before in a very high-profile and volatile case involving the rape and killing of a 16-year-old girl. Think George Zimmerman in Florida, a recent case analogous only in its bare facts: a young and seemingly innocent person killed by an older one for no apparent reason.

Another notorious case is brought up here as well: OJ's murder trial, where someone thought by the public to be guilty is freed by an LA jury. As in that case, there is outrage as to the way the case has been handled, or mishandled, by the LAPD and its forensics lab. There is strong feeling that the girl's grief-stricken father is responsible, and much evidence to support that theory. The public of course sees it as completely justifiable. Under the spotlight from the public and the media, Lena and others believe she is the designated scapegoat for the police department.

There are twists and turns galore, with many a red herring. The reader will be in doubt as to who did what, as are the police, until the very end. Not all of the plot was credible to this reader, nor were some of the scenes depicting one male character after another nearly breaking down with tears and near collapse one minute and filled with homicidal rage the next. But as the author says, "humanity can be shed as easily as clothing. Everything you know about someone can change in the blink of an eye."

Fair enough.

An interesting and suspenseful read, the book is recommended.

Kim Clements says

Another home run!

Seriously good. Enough so to push me to write a review, which I don't often do. The third in the Lena Gamble series, this is another that I could NOT put down! I've loved all three of Robert Ellis' books in this series, and only wish I had more of them to look forward to.

Jeffrey says

The Murder Season, Robert Ellis' latest Lena Gamble novel is a suspenseful police detective story, with enough twists and turns to keep the jaded reader hustling to finish. Ellis is a master of the kind of old fashioned cop investigating a murder, and Gamble follows the evidence wherever it leads. As the tension escalates, the story hits high gear.

Lena Gamble is called in the depths of the night to a double homicide at a big nightclub. One of the victims is Johnny Bosco, a club owner to the stars with connections to the District Attorney, but the other victim is Jacob Gant, recently acquitted of the sensational murder of Lily Hight because the DNA evidence linking him to the crime disappeared.

The police immediately suspect Lily Hight's father of the crime and a traffic cam video places him on a road minutes after the murder, but it's a case that would be horrible for the LA police and district attorney because who will actually convict the father of killing the killer of his beautiful lily white daughter. The two assistant district attorneys, Bennett and Watson do not want to touch this case, and the police brass have it in for Gamble because of the actions in prior novels in this detective series.

So Gamble and Vaughn, another prosecutor in the DA office are told to handle the case, which has all the hallmarks of a career destroyer. At the same time Cobb, the original detective on the case, who seems to have secrets, starts to follow Gamble around.

Gamble soon starts to suspect that the original case against Gant was somehow wrongly prosecuted. Maybe Gant was not the killer that everyone thinks and the killer is still out there. She gets the murder book from Cobb, but finds holes in its story. She shares her findings with Vaughn and they ponder the fact that Gant was railroaded. But if Gant did not kill Lily Hight, how did Bennett, Watson and Cobb try him anyway and

why, and who did kill Lily Hight.

These are the questions that Gamble must answer and as she follows the evidence and strikes out on her own to solve the original case, she finds the original assumptions about the case all wrong. Lily Hight was not so lily white as she appeared, Bennett has an ugly past, the district attorney and his hired goon are snooping around, the murder book looks like it was doctored. The bodies start to pile up, and the evidence leads to a central figure in the original case, but is it really him? Or are we being played.

A great read.
