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Stalking Jack The Ripper



Synopsis

A #1 New York Times Bestseller! Presented by James Patterson's new children's imprint, this deliciously creepy horror novel has a storyline inspired by the Ripper murders and an unexpected, blood-chilling conclusion...Seventeen-year-old Audrey Rose Wadsworth was born a lord's daughter, with a life of wealth and privilege stretched out before her. But between the social teas and silk dress fittings, she leads a forbidden secret life. Against her stern father's wishes and society's expectations, Audrey often slips away to her uncle's laboratory to study the gruesome practice of forensic medicine. When her work on a string of savagely killed corpses drags Audrey into the investigation of a serial murderer, her search for answers brings her close to her own sheltered world. The story's shocking twists and turns, augmented with real, sinister period photos, will make this dazzling, #1 New York Times bestselling debut from author Kerri Maniscalco impossible to forget.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Audrey Rose Wadsworth is not at all typical of upper class young women in 1888. Her curiosity has led her to apprentice herself to her scientist uncle who is known for his experiments on cadavers.

Audrey's father is not in favor of this activity. Had he not used laudanum and other opiates to blunt the grief he feels because of the death of his wife, he would have paid more attention to her other than forbidding and overprotecting her. 1888 was when Jack the Ripper was terrorizing London and the victims found their way to Audrey Rose's uncle's lab. She became determined to discover who the killer was. Her lab rival and potential love interest is Thomas Cresswell. She finds him, by turns, fascinating and vastly annoying. Together the two continue to investigate after Aubrey Rose's uncle is accused of being the Ripper, arrested and taken to Bedlam. Aubrey Rose soon develops a pool of suspects including Thomas, the police inspector involved in the case, and ... her own father. I really enjoyed the Victorian setting and the creepy atmosphere of the story. The authentic Victorian photographs that were part of the story added to the creepy atmosphere. Descriptions of medical practice of the day added more layers of detail to an already detailed story - and to the creepiness too. Fans of historical mysteries will enjoy this story.

I had heard such great reviews of this book and have been wanting to pick it up for a while. I'm glad I finally did! I really enjoyed this story and even though I gave it a 4 out of 5 on Goodreads, I'd say it's more a 4.25. In case you don't know, there's a young woman apprenticing with her uncle in mortuary sciences. You get to see the trouble our main character goes through because during that time period it was not the type of thing a "proper" lady would do. This is a story about her journey to help find out who the real Jack the Ripper was (with a few companions). At times I got a really big Sherlock feel. Not saying it's a bad thing! I loved that aspect of it. I also had the audiobook version and would switch back and forth between physically reading the book and listening to it. This book is set in the late 1800's and I found that the narrator for the audiobook was the perfect voice for this character. I really enjoyed most of the characters in this book including the two main characters. The plot was also good in my opinion. Then again I don't know much about the Jack the Ripper murders. There's an author's note at the end of the book explaining the things in the story that she kept accurate and which characters she made up for the story. There were definitely things that happened in the book that I didn't see coming. I also really enjoyed the writing style of this book and felt it was fairly accurate to the time period the author was writing in. All in all, I really enjoyed this book and can't wait for her book *Hunting Price* Dracula which features at least a couple of the characters found in this book.

Review was originally posted on Goldilox and the Three Weres. The only things I knew going into

this book was that it was receiving good reviews in the book blog community and that the heroine was a Victorian lady who does autopsies on corpses which gets her involved in the Jack the Ripper investigation. I was already inclined to like the book based on the Victorian Lady of Science alone. Then I read the first chapter and I immediately fell in love. Any book that starts out with a grisly autopsy is a book I'll probably adore and it only got better. I found myself a little in love with Audrey Rose Wadsworth and her intelligence and tenacity. She wants to be more than what her society has planned for her and she is going to do all in her power to insure the future she wants. It gave her a delightfully modern feel while still feeling realistic for the time period. My favorite thing about Audrey was that she is unapologetic about being herself. She embraces that she can do forensic science and still take pride and pleasure in her dress and appearance. I adored that about her. I was immediately pulled into her story and into the investigation from the first. I've always had a weird obsession with Jack the Ripper and I was impressed by how the author used the details of the actual events to push the story forward. This is one of the best written Ripper novels I've ever read. Audrey Rose is brilliant and a very capable woman in a lot of aspects but she has no street smarts. She would frequently sneak out at night when there was a murderer running amok with little thought to the danger. Thankfully, she was joined most of the time by the dashing and logical, Thomas Cresswell. I adored Thomas from the moment he appeared on the page! He kind of reminded me of a more likeable Sherlock Holmes. He's highly intelligent and logical in a way that is more than a little arrogant but he has a sweet and emotional side to him we really never see in Sherlock. He often joins Audrey on her adventures instead of sending her home not because he feels the need to protect her (which he does) but because he doesn't want to miss out on the action and the chance to spend time with her. He's adorable. I totally ship these two together. Stalking Jack the Ripper was an excellent example of the awesome historical YA fiction on the market today and I can't recommend it enough to everyone who can handle a little bit of blood and gore. I seriously can't wait to see what kind of shenanigans Audrey Rose and Thomas get into in the next book!

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