



The Endless Knot

Gail Bowen

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The tenth novel in the highly acclaimed Joanne Kilbourn series features the murderous fallout of a tell-all book on the troubled adult children of Canadian celebrities.

When journalist Kathryn Morrissey's sensational book on the lives of thirteen adult children of prominent Canadians is published, one of the parents, Sam Parker, is furious enough to take a pot shot at the author, grazing her shoulder. Charges are laid, and Joanne's new beau, Zack Shreve, is hired by Parker as his defence counsel. At the trial, which Joanne is covering for NationTV, Shreve focuses the jury's attention not on who shot whom, but on why — on the ethics governing the relationship between a journalist and her subject.

Morrissey's betrayal of her subjects opens up questions about an even more serious betrayal — the betrayal of children by their parents. While everyone condemns Parker for taking a gun to Morrissey, no one can fault his defence of his only child, Glen, a transsexual. The mutual love and commitment between this father and child stands in stark contrast to the alienation between Howard Dowhaniuk, Saskatchewan's former premier, and his son, Charlie.

On the day of the verdict, Morrissey is brutally murdered, and Joanne's investigation quickly has her trying to unravel the endless knot of the relationship between parent and child.

A deeply affecting novel of trust and betrayal, *The Endless Knot* is a superb mystery by a virtuoso of the genre.

The Endless Knot Details

Date : Published August 22nd 2006 by McClelland & Stewart (first published 2006)

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Author : Gail Bowen

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From Reader Review The Endless Knot for online ebook

Helen Skawinski says

great read

Wisewebwoman says

I've enjoyed Gail Bowen's series in the past but this one left me shrugging. I didn't care for the love story threaded through it, far too unbelievable and I sensed the "who-dun-it" from about the middle onwards.

Perhaps the series has run its course.

Jo Kilbourn seems far too good to be true.

Joanne says

Transgender issues: Glen to Glenda (Olympic swimmer - years before Jenner and Caitlyn).

Personal lives are exposed in a book. Sam Parker is accused of attempted murder of the author and is defended by Zach.

Joanne & Zach's relationship is serious and a wedding is planned; new house

Taylor is troubled by a classmate, Ethan, who turns out to be the son of the author

Ethan is deeply troubled and kills his mother

Mieka's marriage is over

Howard D. and Charlie

-lots of new story lines

Kim says

Amongst mysteries and suspense I consider this book to be a pure gem. The author is from Regina and her stories all take place in Saskatchewan, mostly in Regina. Of course the fact that I am from Saskatchewan myself adds to the enjoyment, but Gail Bowen has exactly captured the feel of my hometown province. The characters all seem very real, to the point that if I were to meet the author and talk to her about her books, I would have trouble remembering that her books are works of fiction and might end up asking her to meet Joanne Kilbourne, the main character!

Cybercrone says

Good story, but some strange stuff in it.

When the author has her protagonist explain transsexualism to her daughter, what she actually explains is

hermaphroditism. NOT the same thing, at all.

And a couple lovely homophone twangles that I noted, but can't remember.

This may be the beginning of the end. I first read a book near the end of the series and liked it, then started at the beginning and hated it, so then went and read from where I'd started to the end, now have been reading from where I started backwards and I get the sense that they're starting to get awful again.

I'll try one more and see.

Wendell Hennan says

Joanne's family finally is showing some cracks as her daughter Mieka's marriage to Greg shows cracks. A skilled interviewer author's a book on the lives of a number of young people exposing their inner darkest secrets, leaving families in a turmoil. The father of a trans woman saves his daughter from taking her life and then goes to the author and she is shot, but not mortally. A trial follows with Zack defending the accused and he is found not guilty. The same day the author is murdered. A complex story with a sudden twist when Taylor goes missing and the murderer is revealed.

Laura says

This is an outstanding novelist. All of her books have pulled me into the story. Wonderful background with interesting details.

Meg says

didn't read this one either... HELP

Debbie says

I am starting to sound like a broken record concerning this mystery series and this book is no exception. The books are readable definitely but I don't like most of the main characters. In this book I took umbrage with Joanne discussing an especially disturbing adult book about bad parenting and the shattered lives of the children they parented with her 10 year old daughter. I know the girl is mature but give me a break, she is 10! Also, her older daughter's behavior came out of left field and didn't sit too well with me. Like I said a definitely readable mystery but the characters, for the most part, leave me cold.

Laura says

More a 3 1/2 star, because I found some of the characters' behavior to be...well, out of character. I also simply do not buy that Joanne would be asked to provide TV commentary for a trial where her love interest is the defense attorney. But these books are so compelling, I can't stay mad.

Toni Osborne says

Sam Parker is furious and confronts Kathryn Morrissey about her recent novel which reveals secrets concerning the children of prominent Canadians. Frustrated with her reaction, he shoots her, grazing her shoulder and charges are laid. Zack Shreve (Joanne's new love) is hired as his defence counsel. During the trial, everyone condemns Parker for his action but no one blames him for coming to the defense of his only child, Glen, a transsexual. On the day of the verdict, Morrissey is brutally murdered and the fallout quickly becomes a far more personal and urgent matter than Joanne has ever expected.

I enjoy Canadian writers and mysteries set in Canada this one is in Saskatchewan. The characters are well developed and likable. The plot is complex and entirely believable. The story is of a man accused of murdering a journalist who has exploited and betrayed him. It makes us think seriously about the ethics of broadcasting and the individual right to privacy. This novel is about trust and betrayal, deeply affecting.

Several of Gail Bowen's mysteries have been made into TV movies starring Wendy Crewson as Joanne. They are also very entertaining.

Grace says

Good mystery. Surprise ending that I guess I should have seen. The advantage I have is I live in the city that the book takes place in. Seeing in my mind the places that she writes about adds to the enjoyment of the book. Also, seeing the cozy second story sunroom that she writes in and meeting the author herself was thrilling to say the least.

Natashya KitchenPuppies says

A joy to savour, The Endless Knot is an intelligent and entertaining literary mystery.
See my review here - <http://livinginthekitchenwithpuppies....>

Peggy says

#10 in the series (12 to date as of 2011). This one is slightly different because the bulk of the book is a courtroom case, and there is not a murder until almost the end. Joanne Kilbourn, the English prof/amateur sleuth is asked to cover the trial for Nation TV because she knows those involved, and she is on sabbatical. The theme of parents betraying children runs through the book, and is illustrated in various ways.

Colleen says

Good one!
