



## **Streets of Mayhem**

*John W. Mefford*

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On a cool October afternoon, the majestic blue sky above Dallas is polluted with swells of gray smoke, carrying shattered memories of fifteen people, mostly children, who've just been killed by an explosion on a bus. A white supremacist group claims responsibility, opening old wounds, turning neighbor against neighbor--fracturing the community.

A Southeast Dallas native, Booker T. Adams couldn't be more invested in the city...in the people he'd served for the last seven years as a beat cop for the Dallas Police Department. Without warning, it becomes personal for Booker on so many levels. And as panic grips the city, he must decide how much he's willing to sacrifice to end the chaos.

With his career called into question and his family in the crosshairs of one terrorist act after another, Booker invests every fiber of his being to protect a broken community, and to stop the brutal, senseless slayings.

If he fails, terrorism will reign in the city of Dallas.

Fans of Alex Cross and Jack Reacher will enjoy this private investigator thriller novel full of suspense, action, and crime.

Q&A with author John W. Mefford:

Q: What made you want to write a private investigator series?

JWM: I've always had strong desire to write private investigator thriller novels. When I was young, I was drawn to books, TV shows, and movies that featured a private detective with a little bit of attitude, a rebellious streak so to speak, a determined, gritty soul who used every gift they possessed to solve the case, but for a higher purpose than just paying the rent. I enjoy private detective novels that know how to create and build suspense...and then deliver a mind-splitting thriller with plenty of crackling action.

Q: What can we expect out of the BOOKER Private Investigator Thriller Series of Crime and Suspense?

JWM: To put it simply -- a roller-coaster ride brimming with action and suspense. The characters are tested to their limits, Booker in particular, which adds all sorts of interesting layers to his evolution. There's always a bit of humor mixed in, along with a healthy dose of pulse-pounding thrills. Born in South Dallas, Booker is driven to do anything in his power to protect the mixed bag of people living in his city. But even with the best intentions, Booker is dragged into seedy situations, slammed into obstacles that seem insurmountable. The man's got substance, though, which make his thriller moments even more powerful.

Q: How many books are you planning to publish in the BOOKER Private Investigator Thriller Series of Crime and Suspense?

JWM: Six and a half. Sort of. Six full BOOKER private investigator thriller novels are planned for release in

2015. And I might have a BOOKER novella to share with my readers as well. It's in the surprise bucket that I hope to open in the next couple of months. After that, there could be more. I can envision at least two more stories.

BOOKER Private Investigator Thriller Series of Crime and Suspense eBook categories include:

Private Investigator Thriller Novels

Private Investigator Suspense Thriller Series

Private Investigator Action

Private Investigator Thriller Series

Private Investigator Series

Private investigator Thrillers

## **Streets of Mayhem Details**

Date : Published February 10th 2015 by Sugar Hill Press

ISBN :

Author : John W. Mefford

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## From Reader Review Streets of Mayhem for online ebook

### Jenna says

After reading Mefford's previous Greed series I was expecting an action packed adrenaline fueled ride and this didn't disappoint. As the first in the series it took a while to get going but when it did it went with a bang. Literally! There are bombs going off all over Booker's city and he is not going to stand for it, with or without the support of the police force which suspended him for refusing to lie in an investigation.

From the beginning it is clear that Booker has a conscience, he has a heart and he has an iron resolve. He will NOT stop in the pursuit of justice. Despite set back after set back Booker is relentless in his search to find who is behind these brutal bombings.

Mefford's characterisation is great. You love the protagonist, you roll your eyes and want to slap the protagonist and I challenge you not to have a soft spot for Yosef by the end of the story! He also does a great job in building relationships and weaving back story into his work.

The book ends in such a way that you want more. There are still loose threads and criminals to be brought down. I'm excited for the next book, Booker is a lovable character who just wants to make life a little better for the city and the people that he loves.

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### Lynda Dickson says

Booker T. Adams is a biracial cop in Dallas, too white for some, too black for others. After witnessing an incident of police brutality, Booker assaults the officer in question and is suspended from active duty. Then a bomb blast kills fifteen people aboard a school bus, and it is followed by several more bomb threats, all seemingly racially motivated. As the attacks escalate, Booker seeks vengeance on those responsible, but he begins to wonder who is actually behind these acts of terrorism. Is the perpetrator a racist, or is he just a psychopath? And what can Booker do now that he no longer has his badge?

*Streets of Mayhem* is told from the alternating viewpoints of Booker and a mystery man we find out more about as the story progresses. There are a number of editing errors, including incorrect word usage, and the narrative is a bit repetitive. Nevertheless, the story is interesting and the author maintains suspense throughout.

The book features a likable cast of characters, including Booker's foul-mouthed parakeet roommate Big Al, his barman friend Justin, his DA friend Henry, Justin's barmaid Alisa, and CSI tech Felix, all of who contribute in their own ways to help Booker solve his case. I'm sure we'll see more of them in further books, and I look forward to reading Booker's next adventures.

I received this book in return for an honest review.

Full blog post: <http://booksdirectonline.blogspot.com...>

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## **Jane says**

Booker – Streets of Mayhem (Volume 1) by John W Mefford

4 Stars

Suspended from work, Booker is clearly working through some issues at the moment, and things only get worse when there is a bomb scare at the after school club his daughter Samantha, attends. Frantically he searches the running crowd for her, but when he can't find her he realises there is a group of children trapped on a school bus within the cordoned off area. Terrified she is on the bus, Booker asks one of his (ex)colleagues to contact the adult trapped with them to see if she is there, before he has the chance the bus explodes leaving thirteen children and two adults dead. This is just the start of a string of malicious events that strike across the city.

With spare time on his hands and a friend with a sister in trouble, Booker puts his skills to good use and goes on a mission to both stop the bomber, and to find the crook who conned the girl.

This is the third book I have read by John Mefford and it is clear that he knows what he is doing. His descriptions of the scenes of destruction are graphic and detailed and Bookers emotions at the school bus bombing were particularly heart felt and well written. There is a lot of racial tension in this story, again well written and emotional, and I would recommend this series to all fans of the suspense thrillers.

Coy supplied for review

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## **Martin Pingree says**

I enjoyed this book immensely after I got into it. First few chapters were a bit difficult for me to get into the story. After that it really took off. Having lived and worked in Dallas a lot of places mentioned brought back memories. Great read.

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## **Michele says**

Do you like psychological mind blowing thrillers? Then this novel is definitely for you! I read it in one sitting-and am still shivering at some of the images which were artfully portrayed by the author's choice of words. Booker-a police officer is suspended after he finds one of the other officers beating up on an old drunk and will not lie and change his story.

Then the bombings begin----and Booker is bound and determined to help find the culprit or culprits responsible. He is toying with the idea of becoming a PI and does get his first job thanks to an old friend who owns a bar that Booker frequents. There is actually a bit of comedy, albeit street comedy, in this novel as friends interact with friends.

You will know who the bomber is and possibly why he does this--and all is explained at the end of the book. Does Booker become a PI--will he reconcile with his daughter's mother? All I know (or am willing to say at

this point) is that I am glad this will be a series--one I will be following!Booker - Streets of Mayhem

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### **Jaimie Hope says**

When I opened this book I was expecting the typical, run of the mill, predictable cop/Mystery story. However, from the moment I began reading Booker: The Streets of Mayhem I was transported to Boston and experienced everything Booker Adams did, blow by blow. There was nothing predictable about this book.

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The author did a great job developing these characters. They were all so dimensional and real. I felt a connection with them and enjoyed my time with them so much that there were nights I read well into the early morning hours because I couldn't put this book down.

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### **Clifton Brown says**

#### **The first book in the Booker series, Cop turned P.I**

Booker is the type of guy who loves his community and wants to protect it. In between leaving his job as a cop and turning P.I he tries helping a friend's sister recover money and at the same time try and catch a mad bomber that has the city on edge. Even though I know Booker is new to the P.I thing the way he went about tracking down the guy who swindled his friend and confronted him seemed not the way most would go about it. This book isn't bad but it just seemed ok to me even though I will give the next book a chance someday, I'm in no rush. A few editing errors but not a lot.

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### **Toni Osborne says**

#### **Book #1, In the Booker series**

This story features a private detective with attitude who shows a rebellious streak and is determined to solve cases handled to him. Dallas is where all the action takes place and where Booker will do anything in his power to protect the people living in this city. But even with the best of intention, Booker is dragged from one situation to another and faces seedy situations that seem insurmountable. He is tested to his limits when a white supremacist group claims responsibility for an explosion on a bus killing fifteen people mostly children, fracturing the community and setting panic in the city....and this is just the beginning....

This novel is simply a roller-coaster ride filled with crackling action and suspense. Mr. Mefford slowly introduces his protagonist and letting us know him before plunging us into unexpected twists and turns so captivating it is hard not to stay riveted to the pages. I was hooked from the start and I simply couldn't help but to zip through wanting to see who was responsible for these terrible acts of terrorism. To better know the players the story is told alternately from the point of view of Booker and the person responsible for the bombings. Although the story flows fast, it is smooth and well-written with all the great elements a thriller needs in order to capture and hold its reader till the very last page: "Booker" has it, no doubts...

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### **Nadene (Totally Addicted to Reading) says**

Before I begin my review I must admit that I am a big mystery fan. Yeah, I know I have not read much of this genre lately, but I do intend to rectify that. It was with this in mind that led to my decision to read and review this title.

This is my first time reading John W. Mefford's work so I had no idea what I would be getting myself into. However, based on the blurb I figured this was going to be an exciting and riveting read. From the moment I began reading I knew I was right in my assumptions. I was hooked and could not wait to uncover the mystery of the bombings.

Booker T. Adams is a bi-racial police officer who does not take kindly to fellow officers who feel that they are above the law. He is a by the book cop and will not lie to protect his colleagues. It was this belief that led to him facing a four week suspension with the likelihood of him losing his job. Suspension however, does not mean he stops acting like a cop. He was not about to let his not having a badge or gun prevent him from doing what he knows best. He was further motivated when a bomb explosion hit too close to home. He is determined to find out who is responsible for this act of terrorism.

The story is told from the POV of Booker and the person who is responsible for the bombings. This allows readers to get a feel of what they are feeling and what motivates them. I enjoyed reading about each of the characters. The way in which they were portrayed made it easy to relate to them.

*Streets of Mayhem* is an exciting, fast paced, explosive and suspenseful read that will keep you on your toes. It will keep you guessing at every turn. It has all the ingredients that make for a good mystery.

If you enjoy spine tingling mysteries and you are looking for a story that will keep you guessing from one minute to the next then this one is for you.

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### **Delta says**

Free 07-19-15 (Suspense Thriller)

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00R...>

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### **Tina says**

For some reason this book took me so long to get through. Maybe it was because Booker's perfect timing when it came to all of the moments of destruction. It was hard for me to read about all of the story lines that started but never really came to a conclusion or even develop past just the start.

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### **Teresa Kander says**

I'm a huge mystery fan, and there is something about this author which reminds me of James Patterson and his Alex Cross series, which is one of my favorites. One I started reading, I didn't want to put the book down. I just had to know what was going to happen next, and how it was all going to play out.

Booker, the main character, is a very diverse character. He is multicultural, which makes him able to relate personally to many different parts of the population of Dallas. He's intelligent, has a great sense of humor, and is very attached to his family, particularly his young daughter, Samantha.

I also like the fact that several of the chapters are written from the point of view of the person Booker is trying to catch. That lets us into his thoughts and motivations a little at a time so that we have some understanding of why he is doing what he does.

I'm looking forward to reading the next book in this series.

\*\*I received this book to review through Beck Valley Books Book Tours, all the opinions above are 100% my own.\*\*

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### **Leila says**

I have read John Mefford before with his Greed series, so I knew to expect action and suspense – and I was not disappointed.

Booker is my kind of guy.

Best put, he is hot headed that doesn't take crap from anybody. He stands up for what he believes in and does what's right. (As a side note, he is biracial and there is a lot of racial/religious conflict throughout the book – but not in a bad way. In a way that really drives the story and let's you know Booker.)

Of course, it gets him in trouble, but that's just how we roll.

The book starts off with Booker getting suspended from his job from the Dallas Police Department for doing what's right.

Although he is suspended, has no badge or gun, that doesn't stop Booker from acting like a cop.

His first gig after being suspended is to help his buddy's sister get back money from someone who conned her. With that gig, he decides he is going to open his own private investigation firm.

While he is working that case on the side, he starts hunting down an anonymous bomber who nearly killed Booker's young daughter. He makes it his mission to find out who is terrorizing the city of Dallas.

The book really does take on 2 different stories – there is trying to the money that was conned from his buddy's sister that we follow and then of course the bombings that keep occurring.

Both of which Booker is trying to figure out.

I really enjoyed the book and the suspense that came along with it. I highly recommend the read if you enjoy suspense!

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### **Ashley Tomlinson says**

I became an instant fan of John Mefford after reading Fatal Greed so I was excited to start this book too. For the most part I enjoyed this read, it was a little alarming at times but incredibly thrilling! I am really enjoying thrillers the more I read them.

Booker was an awesome character! He was very entertaining and a helluva cop, even when he was suspended he still managed to be cop like. I liked how even though he was suspended he didn't let it stop him, he picked himself up and found what he needed to do. That's all anyone can really do and it was refreshing to be reading it.

I didn't care for any of the racism. I know it exists in the world I have to read about it everywhere else, so I don't like it in my books. It sucks that it still exists and I hate reading about it in the news so I really, really hate it in my books. I'm glad Booker was able to keep his cool the way he did when he was faced with it.

This was a pretty fast paced book, it did not take long at all for things to start happening. All I'll say about that is it starts with boom. There was so much action in this book that it made it so much more enjoyable for me than I thought it was going to be. The ending was kind of easy, and I'm not sure if that's a good or bad thing yet. It was good because it was almost like you could let go of the breath you were unknowingly holding. It was bad because I'm always looking for a long drawn out fight but I enjoyed the way it ended.

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### **Cindy says**

This book was given to me in exchange with an honest review.

Right at the beginning of the story you see Booker already in trouble. He has just been suspended and you still cannot take the cop out of the person. Since he is suspended he agrees to help his friend's sister. It seems that she was conned out of her money. Booker has now decided that instead of going back to being a cop he was to open his own PI firm.

Booker has a daughter who is almost killed by a bomber and is determined to hunt him down. Not only is he determined to find this bomber but he is also determined to find the person who conned his friend's daughter.

The true question is will Booker survive finding the bomber or will he become his next victim.

I really enjoyed this book as you read you didn't want to put the book down. There is plenty of action, well developed characters and lots of suspense. John Mefford did it again!!!

