



Lost City

Jay Stringer

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Even though he's worked his way to the top of the West Midlands criminal heap as right-hand man to crime boss Veronica Gaines, ex-cop Eoin Miller still has to deal with the dregs of the underworld to earn his pay. That's why he's dispatched to a low-end hotel to work damage control after a hooker kills a local lowlife. But when one of his comrades is mysteriously murdered at the scene, and a suspicious fire claims two more victims, a simple clean-up job turns absolutely filthy.

Hustling to hide bodies and seek answers, Eoin calls on friends and foes alike, including his estranged wife: a shady cop who's a little of both. But the scheme he uncovers gives him a bad feeling in his gut that even his diet of pills and sex can't soothe. Add an ice-cold hit man, a feeble but still ferocious gang lord, vengeful cops, pornography, prostitution, Gypsy patriarchs, and personal demons, and you've got a combustible cocktail of treachery that could blow Eoin Miller's life sky-high.

In the third book of the gritty Eoin Miller trilogy, nobody walks away unscarred.

Lost City Details

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Author : Jay Stringer

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From Reader Review Lost City for online ebook

Ewan says

Loved this series. Had a big gap between reading the 1st book and the last 2, saw the author tweet about the inspiration he took from Matt Scudder for Eoin Miller, which made me buy the other 2 books. Great decision, and Miller, while not quite Scudder, is a great character in a great story.

L says

Hey, there might be hope for Eoin Miller as a human being. Again, a lot of bodies pile up. It's hard to tell the good guys from the bad guys. A solid story.

Steve Weddle says

Jay Stringer and I blog on the same site and have the same agent, though I've never met him in person and he's never bought me a drink.

That said, I feel as if I owe him a drink. I've read the entire Eoin Miller trilogy now. Wow. What a way to end things.

While this book stands on its own just fine, the threads that started early in the series really come through here -- and are tied up nicely. Once I got to the end of the book, I realized that everything had fit nicely into place -- even things that I hadn't known were out of place.

The Gaines family surprised me, especially in this one.

Once again, though, Jay Stringer has written a terrific hard-boiled mystery -- but with an amazingly smart social justice theme throughout.

This is a brilliant book about belonging -- about the individual and the family, about fighting for your place in the world, your patch of dirt.

David Highton says

The third in the Eoin Miller series and a very complex gangster mystery involving the local crime family for whom Miller works, his ex-wife DCI and other police, and other criminal gangs. With a side story of his Romany father in a major high profile threatened eviction from a large gypsy encampment. The plot was too complex for my liking but the characters were written well and the story moved with some pace

Jean Benedict says

Really kept me guessing through the whole book as to whom the bad guys really were. At times the story moved along slow but all in all I enjoyed all the characters. There were many twists and turns in the story . I received this book from First Reads.

James Thane says

Eoin Miller is the right-hand man of his childhood friend, Veronica Gaines, who has now taken over from her father as the leader of Birmingham's most powerful crime family. Neither Eoin nor Veronica has an easy job, and Eoin is basically the troubleshooter who cleans up the messy situations that can often result when one pursues a life in crime.

Lost City opens with a terrific scene that finds Eoin in bed with Veronica's younger sister, Claire. But Veronica phones at the most critical of moments to call him away to deal with a disaster at a sleazy hotel where the third floor is reserved for various criminal enterprises. Eoin, who is also an ex-cop, arrives on the scene to find a small-time hustler named Jellyfish, who's been stabbed to death. With Jellyfish is a hooker, who's apparently stoned or in shock, or maybe a combination of the two, and who appears to be responsible for bringing Jellyfish to his bloody and untimely end.

Eoin is left to deal with the mess, but right off the bat, he makes a critical mistake and before he can even get the room cleaned up, the hooker has disappeared, another body has been added to the mix, and the entire situation is spinning out of his control.

With that, Eoin is launched into a dark and complex web of danger and intrigue, where he can never be certain who he can trust. The cast includes the aforementioned Gaines sisters and their father, along with Eoin's estranged wife, Laura, who is herself a cop, and Eoin's gypsy father who has problems of his own. There are a number of very scary gangsters who seem to have no scruples at all, and if Eoin is even going to survive, let alone sort out this ever-expanding mess, he will need to keep his wits about him and stay at least a half a step ahead of an awful lot of people who would be happy to put him permanently out of the picture.

This is a very dark, engrossing tale with a great group of characters. Stringer also excels at setting the scenes in and around England's "second city," and this is a book that should appeal to large numbers of noir fans.

Andy Cowley says

Excellent end to a gritty and relatable series. Eoin Miller is a deftly realised character, and the setting is perfect for a crime story.

It's such a refreshing change to have something set in a place other than generic USA or London. Stringer's depiction of life in the West Midlands is insightful, honest, and pretty much spot on.

Deven Dougherty says

Besides the secret relationship, I didn't find very much intrigue in this story. I guess it's just not my type of book. It wasn't horrible, I'm sure others would enjoy it, I'm just in bothered. I didn't want to finish it but felt that I should since I'm expected to write a review and wanted to hold up my end of the bargain.

Kevin McNamara says

Very good

This is the third and final? book in the Eoin Miller trilogy. Very well written, this book ties together the series in a very surprise ending. There are double crosses, action and characters that are noble and shady at the same time. Can be read as a stand alone, but I would suggest starting with book one. Looking forward to more books by Mr. Stringer. Highly recommended.

Jack says

Eoin Miller is working for the local gang boss, a long way from his time as a police officer, or maybe not. Life gets very complicated following a mystery death in a hotel.

Barbara says

Lost City by Jay Stringer
Goodread Author

This is a real page turner. You will not be able to put it down.
Eoin Miller, an ex-police detective, is living a life filled with corruption.
Police ,crime commissioner, cartel families, along with ex-wife are amoung the corrupt. The story is an amazing thriller at every page.

Todd Glaeser says

Received the book for free through Goodreads First Reads.

Unaware that this was the end of a trilogy, I enjoyed this crime novel immensely. Stringer gives the reader everything he needs to understand the motivation of the various characters.

I found the setting a pleasant change of pace from the more common American setting of the typical crime novel.

David Williams says

Eoin Miller's day was going pretty well until he got the call from his boss. At first it seemed straight forward. A stoned john got rough with one of the hookers and she knifed him. Simple fix. Except Eoin knew

the john and he wasn't the violent type. Then another murder happens. Before long Eoin is in a race against time to protect himself and the crime family he works for. He uses the skills he learned when he was a cop to piece things together. The only question is can he get the answer before it is too late.

This novel is full of interesting and dark characters. The protagonist, Eoin Miller, is a half-Romani (Gypsy for those who don't know the term they use for themselves) living in a modern world still loaded with prejudice against his father's people. He was a police officer before he left the force and went to work for a crime family. The other characters are just as conflicted. Veronica Gaines runs the Gaines crime family, yet all the while she is trying to find a way to get the family free of its criminal enterprises. There is his ex-wife Laura. What is happening with their relationship? How does she fit in to all of this?

Lost City takes place in an area outside Birmingham, England. This is classic hard-boiled pulp fiction at its best. There is a surprise around every corner. Stringer keeps the reader guessing as to what will happen next. The pacing of the book is very quick. I found myself flying through the book. Now be warned, by its nature hard-boiled fiction has sex and violence. No one wears a white hat in this story.

Ever since Philip Marlow appeared in The Big Sleep hard-boiled detective stories have had a following. Years of reading these novels have taught me that while it is easy to write bad novels in this genre, it is very difficult to write good novels in this genre. Jay Stringer has managed to write a very good novel and I look forward to reading more Eoin Miller mysteries in the future. This book is recommended for anyone who loves to sit down with a fast paced story full of twists and turns.
