



Fünf

Ursula Poznanski

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EVERY CORPSE IS A CLUE

N47° 46.605 E013° 21.718. A dismembered hand

N47° 48.022 E013° 10.910 Two severed ears

N47° 26.195 E013° 12.523 A mutilated corpse

A woman is found murdered. Tattooed on her feet is a strange combination of numbers and letters.

Map co-ordinates. The start of a sinister treasure hunt by a twisted killer.

Detective Beatrice Kaspary must risk all she has to uncover the killer in a terrifying game of cat-and-mouse

Fünf Details

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From Reader Review Fünf for online ebook

Hillary Pincus says

A good mystery! I thought I had figured it out mid-way through this read, but I was wrong! Some good twists and turns.

Literameer says

„Fünf“ war mein erstes Buch, welches ich von Ursula Poznanski gelesen habe. Auf Grund der vielen positiven und begeisterten Rezensionen, welche ich sowohl zu ihren beiden vorherigen Werken als auch zu „Fünf“ gelesen habe, war ich schon sehr gespannt auf dieses Buch. Doch ich kann mich den überschwänglichen Lobgesängen leider nicht anschließen.

Das Thema Geocaching war für mich ganz neu und gleich zu Beginn erhält man von der Autorin eine interessante Einführung in das Thema. Sie erklärt verständlich, worum es beim geocachen geht und erklärt auch gleich einige Begriffe. Somit stehen auch Leser, welche bislang nichts mit geocachen zu tun hatten, nicht auf dem Schlauch. Man merkt schnell, dass Ursula Poznanski sich mit dem Thema auskennt und mich hat sie neugierig darauf gemacht, auch selbst mal geocachen zu gehen. Auch die Idee, geocachen in einen Thriller zu involvieren, finde ich gelungen, da dies (für mich) etwas völlig Neues ist.

Der Einstieg in die Geschichte ist wirklich spannend und der Autorin gelingt es gut, einen Spannungsbogen aufzubauen. Der Spannungsbogen lässt dann jedoch schnell nach und das Geschehen wurde für mich langweilig. Dies lag zum einen daran, dass die Ermittler völlig im Dunkeln getappt sind und auf der Stelle standen. Dadurch ist für mich einfach zu wenig passiert und die Ermittler waren mir nicht aktiv genug – und die wenigen Aktivitäten, denen sie nachgehen, wiederholen sich dann auch noch ständig. Zum anderen lag es jedoch daran, dass ich ab etwa der Hälfte wusste, wer der Täter ist, welches Motiv die Taten haben und welche Rolle die einzelnen Opfer spielen. Diese beiden Punkte sorgen bei mir bei einem Thriller immer für Langeweile. Gefördert wurde die Langeweile dann noch durch die privaten Probleme der Ermittlerin, Beatrice Kaspary. Privatprobleme interessieren mich bei einem Thriller nicht, denn da geht es mir nur um den Fall. Diese drei Punkte haben dafür gesorgt, dass ich gar keine richtige Lust mehr hatte, das Buch zu lesen und mich doch sehr überwinden musste, es zu Ende zu lesen. Zu Ende gelesen habe ich es dann nur, weil ich wissen wollte, ob sich meine Vermutung bezüglich des Mörders bestätigt, was sie dann auch tat. Auch einige Dinge, welche gegen Ende geschehen, waren die ganze Zeit hervorsehbar, was ich wirklich schade fand.

Ich habe schnell ein Gefühl für die Protagonisten bekommen, und dafür wie sie ticken und wie sie in bestimmten Situationen reagieren. Dies lag zu Teilen jedoch sicher auch daran, dass ich sie als unheimlich stereotyp und somit völlig austauschbar empfunden habe. Die Charaktere haben nichts Neues geboten und waren so alle schon zig Mal in anderen Büchern da. Natürlich kann kein Autor das Rad neu erfinden, das ist mir völlig bewusst. Aber solch im Endeffekt nichtssagende Protagonisten fand ich einfach enttäuschend. Hier hätte ich mir etwas mehr Individualismus gewünscht.

Fazit:

Mich hat „Fünf“ leider enttäuscht. Die Spannung bestand für mich nur zu Anfang des Buchs, danach war sie

für mich nicht mehr wirklich vorhanden. Auch die Protagonisten konnten bei mir nicht punkten, da ich sie eintönig fand. Gut gefallen hat mir hingegen die Idee mit dem Geocachen, denn hier vermittelt die Autorin neben Wissenswertem auch Lust darauf, es selbst einmal auszuprobieren.

lebe.liebe lese [Tina] says

Ursula Poznanski ist einfach eine super Autorin. Egal ob Jugendbuch oder Thriller... ?

Viv JM says

I read this book as part of German Literature month (see here for details: <https://beautyisasleepingcat.wordpress.com/2016/09/22/announcing-german-literature-month-vi/>). Ursula Poznanski is an Austrian author and this was translated into English by Jamie Lee Searle.

A woman is found murdered and tattooed onto the soles of her feet are a series of numbers and letters. These turn out to be map co-ordinates and what follows is the most twisted geocaching treasure hunt ever!

“Five” is a fast paced and exciting mystery. I read it in under two days because I just could not put it down. Each clue was more perplexing and gruesome than the one before and the suspense was maintained right through to the end.

This is the first in a series featuring Detective Beatrice Kaspary. Unfortunately it looks like the rest are yet to be translated into English, which is a shame because I would love to read more. Maybe I should brush up on my German?

Elaine says

“A series of co-ordinates tattooed on the feet of a murder victim lead the police to a box containing body parts - and a note from the killer with a series of cryptic clues to the identity of the next victim. A nail-biting, page-turning thriller that will send shivers down your spine”

An Austrian crime thriller set around the activity of geocaching – two things I had not come across before, so I was a little bit out of my comfort zone but in the end I thoroughly enjoyed this read. It was a little bit difficult to get into at first, the writing in the first few pages seemed a little bit strange, but that may have been the translation.

The crimes themselves are grizzly, gruesome and bloody. The plot is well thought out and quite complex. I did “suspect” the guilty party before it was revealed in the book, but only just before, and even then it was a “I wonder if XX did it, but even if that is true then I cannot possibly work out why or how” moment. The geocaching angle really intrigued me. I had never heard of it before but the author works it in in a very easy to understand way and she interested me enough to google it and find out more about the activity – and even to have a go myself!

I liked the pairing of Murder Squad detectives Beatrice Kaspary and Florin Wenninger. Beatrice is a dedicated detective juggling her work with her two children, belligerent ex husband and ghosts from the past. Florin on the other hand is more of an enigma. I felt he didn't really come across in this book, yet hopefully the author will bring the pair back for another outing. There is most definitely a spark between them but in all fairness, I think a romance would spoil it. Let them tiptoe around each other for a good long while!

All in all, this is not a bad read at all. Many thanks to the publisher for the review copy.

Lisa says

3,5 Sterne

Zum Ende hin kommt es in Gange, vorher fehlte mir die Spannung. Die Auflösung ging mir dann doch zu schnell.

Pat says

4.5 stars

This was an excellent read. Detectives Beatrice Kaspary and Florin Wenninger receive a case in which a woman is found dead in a cow pasture with map coordinates tattooed on the heels of her feet. So begins a chase for a serial killer whose victims are found through geocaching - GPS coordinates given to 'hunters' to find a treasure. As the killer continues to give the police their clues, it seems they are always behind in finding him.

Excellent writing in this novel and I did not figure out how it was coming together until the big reveal. This seems to be a series and I hope it continues to be translated because I will definitely read more. Highly recommended for those who enjoy a cat-and-mouse type of suspense book.

Ömer says

4.5/5

Yorumu için: <http://kronikokur.blogspot.com.tr/201...>

Nancy Oakes says

it's pretty far away from what I'm reading these days, but it is what it is; and I seriously needed a reading break.

The discovery of a woman's body at the bottom of a rock face turns into a bizarre case involving geocaching, one that keeps the detectives of the Salzburg State Office of Criminal Investigation on the move while trying to decipher strange clues at different gps locations. The dead woman provides the first clue; she has what turns out to be gps coordinates tattooed on the bottoms of her feet. When the police arrive at the specified location, they make a gruesome find -- inside of a food container they discover a hand that looks to have been cut off of its owner with a saw. Also in the container is a cryptic message about the next potential victim -- first name only, description, and a numerical puzzle they must solve to figure out the next coordinates. It's like a macabre sort of treasure hunt where the only possible reward is finding the connection between the victims which will hopefully lead to the killer's capture, but of course in crime fiction, it's never that simple.

So, I knew that this was what I call a "gimmicky serial killer" book when I started reading it, and I picked it up just to have something that I didn't need to put much work into. It was sort of a sandwich filling kind of entertainment read for me, coming between some pretty hefty novels where I needed to pay serious attention to what was going on, and I grabbed it needing a brain break. I didn't realize that it's also another book where cop-has-serious-domestic-issues kind of angst. My psychic powers sense much more home-front drama in coming installments. What's really missing for me here is setting -- seriously, if I didn't know this book came from Austria, it could have been situated anywhere, and that was sort of disappointing. Sigh.

For my own relax purposes, it sufficed. There are some gruesome descriptions, but thankfully, they're sort of after the fact and the author doesn't feel the need to dwell on the horrific details of exactly how things happened. That's a plus in my book, as is the actual core mystery behind the killer's motivations, which I thought was a pretty good one, although I wasn't a huge fan of the actual ending. Readers who are much more into thrillers than I am will probably enjoy it; it's dark but not too dark, and I would say it comes closer to the police procedural end of crime than any other subgenre.

Diane S ? says

One would think after all the mystery books I have read that I could figure out the who before the big reveal, but apparently not. Which goes to the author's credit especially since this is her first mystery and it is a good one.

A puzzle within a puzzle, clues found by geocacheing, which in the states we call letter boxing. It is a lot of fun, two good friends and mine did this for a couple of years and it was a blast. One follows clues posted on a website and you look for the hidden box. In geocacheing they use GPS to find specific co-ordinate, of course my friends and I weren't looking for body parts, nor trying to solve a murder. In this story that is what is at stake.

Good mixture of the personal lives and the professional of the two lead detectives, Beatrice and Florin, which added a much appreciated roundness to these characters. There is some graphic violence, but only that which is necessary to the story. Very well done mystery and I certainly hope to see these characters again. I didn't guess the killer nor the reason, but you may have better luck.

ARC from Netgalley.

Heidi says

Have you ever heard of geocaching? Or even done it yourself? It sounds like fun, doesn't it – a sort of GPS treasure hunt for hidden caches all around the world. It was certainly on my horizon as something that I'd like to do, but I am not so sure now after reading Poznanski's dark and disturbing thriller, where a crazed killer sends the police on a gruesome geocache hunt

If you love police procedurals with a very different theme, then this should definitely be on your radar! Detectives Beatrice Kaspary and Florin Wenninger have their work cut out for them when they are asked to solve the murder of a young woman found in a cow paddock with GPS coordinates tattooed on her feet. When they follow the killer's directions, they discover their first ever geocache – containing body parts of another murder victim, whose blood has been detected on the young woman's clothes. The deeper Beatrice and Florin look into the geocaching community, the more convinced they become that the killer is either part of it, or has a huge grudge against it – or both!

It is getting harder and harder to find thrillers with an original premise, but Poznanski certainly delivers that! Those readers who love working out clues and following leads will also get their wish, as Bea and Florin have their work cut out to decipher the killer's cryptic instructions to find the next cache – in the hope of catching him before another person dies. This is a dark and disturbing book with a mounting body count, which belies its idyllic location in beautiful Salzburg. I recently visited the city with a friend and could vividly picturing the locations described, which made for great armchair travel, though I was very happy to be sitting on the other side of the world as this one played out!

I really loved Beatrice as a main protagonist, which will make me seek out other books in the series. Due to the constant demands of police work, Bea's marriage has fallen apart and she has recently separated from her husband. With the gruesome murder case taking up all her time, it is getting increasingly difficult to juggle motherhood and work, and Bea is constantly feeling torn between wanting to be with her young kids and feeling under pressure from her boss to work longer and longer hours. Her ex-husband, who is still angry at her, makes matters worse by constantly guilt-tripping her into believing she is a bad mother, which is taking its toll. Enigmatic and smart, Bea is the perfect protagonist representing working mothers everywhere, and Poznanski does a great job in portraying her struggle to be a good mother and fulfil the demands of her career at the same time.

Austria has really come through for me lately with some great Scandi-noir type books that have given me all the dark and disturbing elements I love in a thriller. This clever police procedural will appeal to all lovers of multi-layered and somewhat unsettling stories that will keep you at the edge of your seat until the thrilling finale. Highly recommended for anyone looking for an original premise and an overall great read.

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Rocio says

Una novela muy bien planificada donde el asesino le va dejando pistas a la policía a través de unas coordenadas, con en el juego de geocaching. Me resultó muy entretenida.

L.A. Starks says

This is a fine translation of a well-plotted mystery set in Salzburg, Austria. Archer does a particularly good job of explaining and tying up the story at the end. The climax will leave readers with more sympathy for the antagonist than might be expected.

Joy says

Creepy!! What a suspenseful thriller! I will never look at Geocaching the same again! Rated this a 4.5!

Aleshanee says

Von der Autorin habe ich bisher nur "Saeculum" gelesen, was mir als spannendes Jugendabenteuer schon sehr gut gefallen hat. Bei "Fünf" hat mich vor allem auch der Thriller Aspekt angesprochen und auch wenn es mich eher an einen Krimi erinnert, war die Spannung zwischendurch doch immer wieder präsent.

Der Prolog hat mich schon sehr neugierig gemacht und ich hatte schon einige Ideen im Kopf, um was es gehen könnte, natürlich ohne zu wissen, was tatsächlich dahinter steckt.

Die Ermittler sind hier das eingespielte Team vom LKA Salzburg: Beatrice Kaspary und Florin Wenninger. Beatrice hat es nicht leicht, denn ihr Chef wartet nur auf einen Fehltritt von ihr, während ihr Ex-Mann ihr vorwirft, dass sie die gemeinsamen Kinder wegen der Arbeit zu sehr vernachlässigt. Mit diesen Problemen im Gepäck fällt es ihr nicht leicht, sich auf die Spuren des Mörders zu konzentrieren, aber ihr Partner Florin ist ihr dabei eine sehr gute Stütze. Vor allem sie wirkt sehr echt mit all ihren verkorksten Facetten, die man teilweise auch von sich selber kennt.

Insgesamt fand ich die Charaktere gut ausgearbeitet, nur der Vorgesetzte des Ermittlerteams reagierte mir oft zu übertrieben dramatisch, ohne selbst konsequent zu sein.

Sie verfolgen ein sehr grausames und perfides Spiel eines gerissenen Mörders und müssen viele Puzzleteilchen sortieren, die der Täter für sie austreut. Vor allem der Aspekt der Jagd im Stil von Geocaching war sehr spannend zu verfolgen. Den Begriff hab ich schon öfters gehört und ich wusste auch ungefähr, was man dabei macht; die Autorin hat hier einiges zu dem Hobby mit einfließen lassen, was mich direkt darauf neugierig gemacht hat.

Vom Schreibstil her konnte man der Handlung gut folgen und Ursula Poznanski hat alles auf den Punkt gebracht ohne zu sehr ins Detail zu gehen. Es gibt einige blutige Szenen, die ich jetzt aber nicht übertrieben fand. Das Gleichgewicht zwischen allen Facetten der Handlung war sehr ausgewogen, wodurch es mir aber ein bisschen an Spannung gefehlt hat.

Der Fall war gut durchdacht und die Auflösung am Ende überraschend.

Fazit

Ich hab mir mal wieder etwas mehr Thrill erwartet, da es doch wieder eher eine kriminalistische Ermittlung war, die mich allerdings gut unterhalten und einige Überraschungen bereit gehalten hat. Die Fortsetzung

möchte ich auf jeden Fall weiterlesen.

© Aleshanee
Weltenwanderer

Beatrice Kaspary

1 - Fünf
2 - Blinde Vögel
3 - Stimmen
