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From Reader Review The Flesh Tailor for online ebook

Jan says

Continuation of D.I. Wesley Peterson's life as an English Detective in the Devon countryside.

Mysteries going back to WWII, English children being evacuated during the blitz, a young boys body is found in a field, who was he, who killed him, yet another mystery for Wesley! Neil pays a visit, Wesley's sister and hubby play a part in this mystery, and alas, we find out Steve has died, and a new player comes into the police department. Who killed the doctor, and why?

As always a good plot.

Hermien says

A very enjoyable crime mystery, a cross between Midsomer Murders and Lewis. The setting in Devon where I have just been added to the enjoyment.

Lynn says

In The Flesh Tailor, a doctor is murdered as he prepares to leave for a dinner party. There are some obvious suspects, his soon to be ex-wife and her somewhat shady partner, along with a couple of pals of his. Suspects are one thing, but evidence is elusive. Detective Inspector Wesley Peterson has quite a puzzle to sort out.

The second storyline, which is a trademark of this series, concerns skeletons found during an excavation. Peterson's archaeologist friend, Neil Watson, is called out to the site. The bones turn out to be quite old, but further digging to ensure they have recovered everything turns up the remains of a more recent death.

This is a decent mystery series; however, the discovery of old bones every time there's a present day murder is highly unlikely which makes the tone of the books somewhat formulaic. Despite that, Kate Ellis spins a good tale and the historical mystery always adds extra depth to the storyline.

Helen says

Fun, quick read. I like the historical mysteries which run alongside the modern murder (there's an element of archivist's fantasy about these books - imagine actually being able to solve ancient puzzles and know who everyone was! It is often not that straightforward in reality, but it could be! if only more clergymen had actually written a bit more in the parish registers ...) There are three different stories here, and they interconnect - the Elizabethan mystery (involving skeletons dug up around an old house), a Second World War story (evacuees in the same house), and a modern murder (which turns out to have a connection to the others).

Roshni says

Although Kate Ellis' books can be dark, the interweaving of multiple historical threads with the present that she somehow ties together at the end makes this series unique and an entertaining read

Rhian Eleri says

Dr Dalcott is about to go to a dinner party with some friends of his...

when he doesn't turn up alarm bells start to ring.

He is found murdered that evening, on his own doorstep.

Detective Wesley Peterson begins his investigations and soon his workload is doubled as an interesting discovery at a local 15th century building is made.

The two cases become Wesleys' priority, and as he delves into the backgrounds of the people involved in both, there are just too many coincidences .

Exactly what was going on at Tailors Court all those years ago?... is the question all through the book.

An interesting read, enjoyed the story and how everything came together at the end. I always shy away from anything that is set before 1970!! but im glad i took a chance here. a bit of the past mixed in with modern day.

Although i didn't guess the outcome, i wasn't totally gripped. i feel there was a great opportunity here to write something sinister and deep..but yet it felt a little 'murder she wrote' to me.

i would however, try this author again.

Helen says

Kate Ellis' Wesley Peterson series is a fascinating blend of historical mystery and modern. In this case a doctor shot just as he was going out to dinner. Meanwhile Wesley's archaeologist friend from university has been called in to look at some bones unearthed by a couple having a power cable laid on their recently purchased farm. The story takes place in three time periods: that of the early bones (late 16th cent.), that of the new bones (1940ish) and that of the doctor (1950 & present).It sounds very complicated but it is easy to follow, in spite of new information shifting the viewpoint. The excerpts from the Wartime Reminiscences of an Evacuee bring you closer and closer to the solution of the modern bones, but you don't get the answer until the very end. The 16th century situation is fairly clear from the beginning, although even that gets a twist or two. The research one would have to do to find the information in these cases is fascinating, but the reporter who was trying to have a career-making scoop for her paper is just as unpleasant as one would imagine and she gets what she deserves.

Jan says

SO many twists--some telegraphed. Having the historical elements, the horrors of the Blitz and the 1600s' developing scientific explorations, combine to shadow and shape the present-day murder mystery was superb. Humans are SO wily and SO interesting.

Ruthy lavin says

Well, seeing as the best way to describe this book is as something somewhere between Morse and Ruth Rendells inspector Wexford, I had not expected to enjoy it quite so much!

It was well written, with strong characters, a beginning...middle ... And not disappointing end.

It does exactly what it says on the tin!

A Good honest British book, would be well suited as an Autumnal dramatisation.

If you have some spare reading time on drizzly nights - give it a go :)

Monica says

Another good book in one of my favourite mystery series.

Debi says

A lot of characters. Sometimes difficult to follow.

Cathy Cole says

First Line: November. The month of the dead. The month of remembrance and funerals.

Once again Kate Ellis has written a wonderful blend of new and ancient mysteries occurring in the south of England. Dr. James Dalcott is found shot dead in his cottage, and when Detective Inspector Wesley Peterson begins piecing together the facts of the victim's life, he finds the well-liked doctor had been hiding some very strange family secrets.

While Peterson is working on the Dalcott murder, archaeologist Neil Watson has been called out to Tailors Court-- a property that dates back to Elizabethan times-- where six skeletons have been found. Watson finds that the skeletons show signs of dissection and may be linked to tales of sixteenth-century body snatching. However, one more skeleton is found-- that of the body of a young child buried with a toy car and a coin dating from the 1930s. Watson's investigation has taken an even more sinister turn from the days of Queen Elizabeth to the time of children evacuated from London during World War II. Could there possibly be a connection between the murdered doctor and the skeletons of Tailors Court?

If you've ever read a Wesley Peterson mystery written by Kate Ellis, you know there is a connection between the new mystery and the old, and the delight is in trying to discover the connection before the author reveals it. Now through fourteen books in this series, the main characters feel like well-loved members of my family, and I look forward to reading about what's happened to them as much as I enjoy the murder investigations.

The Flesh Tailor is particularly engaging because of the three separate cases. The present-day case concerning the execution-style murder of the doctor is truly puzzling, and learning about the history of an old

house has always been a favorite past time of mine. Tailors Court and its Elizabethan occupant do not disappoint. When Ellis introduces the memories of a wartime evacuee who experienced Tailors Court as a child, my interest and my level of enjoyment moved up another notch or three. The quality of Ellis's Wesley Peterson mysteries is consistently high, but The Flesh Tailor is one of the best of the series. If you love mysteries that blend excellent characterization with the police procedural and strong dashes of archaeology and history, this series will most definitely be your cup of tea. Curl up with one and find out!

Shauna says

This is the fourteenth in the Wesley Peterson series and it felt very formulaic and pedestrian. Some of the clues in the story were obvious to me but it took another 50 pages for the detectives to catch up. The author has hit a winning formula and although each story is different the model is the same each time and my interest in the characters is waning. In the early books we had Wesley interacting with his family and his colleagues but this book had little of that.

Margaret says

Kate Ellis writes crime novels that are different. Contemporary crimes that have an historical echo or overlay.

In "The Flesh Tailor" a local doctor is shot dead in his home, meanwhile skeletons turn up during an excavation on a 16th century property. There cannot possibly be a link. Wanna bet?

Great story with plenty of plot twists.

Highly recommended.

Susan says

When a well-liked Devonshire physician is killed, the police think they can just find the one or two people who didn't care for him, and easily identify the murderer. But that's before they learn that he's been researching his genealogy, and come up with a strange death. And it's before a trench dug for electrical cable reveals skeletons from the distant past, and one from much more recently. As Wes Peterson investigates the doctor, his friend, archaeologist Neil, looks into the skeletons, and an elderly woman who was a World War II evacuee in the area disappears, the picture gets darker. You'll find yourself staying up late to finish this one.
