



The Fire Pit: A Faroese novel #3

Chris Ould

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“A winner for fans of both Scandinavian and British procedurals... a complicated tangle of secret motivations that fans of Henning Mankell and Elizabeth George will appreciate.” BOOKLIST (starred review) on THE BLOOD STRAND

In the wake of a dying man's apparent suicide, the skeleton of a young woman is discovered on a windswept hillside. Detective Hjalti Hentze suspects that it is the body of a Norwegian woman reported missing forty years earlier, while a commune occupied the land, and whose death may be linked to the abduction and rape of a local Faroese girl.

Meanwhile British DI Jan Reyna is pursuing his investigation into his mother's suicide. But as he learns more about her final days, links between the two cases start to appear: a conspiracy of murder and abuse spanning four decades. And as Hentze puts the same pieces together, he realizes that Reyna is willing to go further than ever before to learn the truth...

The Fire Pit: A Faroes novel #3 Details

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Author : Chris Ould

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From Reader Review The Fire Pit: A Faroes novel #3 for online ebook

Roger King says

I now have read all three of the Faroe series, and hope there are more. All the plot lines are concluded: his mother and fathers' death resolved and his detective job in England terminated. There doesn't seem to be any reason to go back to the Islands, unless maybe his stepbrother is knocked off.....

Ken Fredette says

This was Chris Ould's third book on the Faroe Islands and was worth the read. It's a little hectic to read a first because it goes from England to Denmark to the Faroe Islands but you get use to that. Whats interesting is how he starts out in Denmark and gives you a murder right away, with Thomas Friis, who only plays a small role in the book. Then it shifts to the Faroe Islands and you meet Hjalti Hentze, who is one of the main characters in the story, he's found a body which proves very old in a sheep inclosure on a farm where their was a commune in the 70's. Then we meet are main character.

He's pretty messed up and wants to find out about his mother who committed suicide. I won't go into any more detail but lets say there is more murders and out hero has a noir experience. You'll find this book with many plots and red herrings always an interesting read.

Ray says

I agree with the other readers - well-written, interesting set of characters and an unusual setting. This book has very much of a Nordic Noir feel to it - think "The Killing" or "The Bridge." I knew little about the Faroe Islands (except what I heard when I was in Denmark last year) and reading this book gave me a great sense of the place - its topography, its people, its culture and its cuisine. The plot was very compelling, and this was a fitting end to the trilogy. Very satisfying read!

Elizabeth says

So good and yet feeling so final. I loved the play off of the two main characters but I'll be surprised if there's going to be a fourth book. Their friendship felt strained by the end of the book, mostly due to the climax of the case, and I think it'll take a bit to mend it. It's a good ending book to a trilogy as everything seems to be tied up but there could be more.

Bob says

A fitting end to the trilogy. Multiple story lines to keep you guessing, much like Agatha C. One fun thing to

do is to use Google Maps while reading and look at the locations mentioned in the book. Really gives you a "feel" for what is transpiring and the surrounding countryside. Especially the location of Múli. The ending was a bit open-ended, but fitting and satisfying. Actually more believable than some type of Hollywood ending. Highly recommended.

Christopher Williams says

Another excellent book in this series. It may be the last one or there could be more to come. The action, again, picks up days after the end of the second in the series. Jan Reyna is still on the Faroes but has to return to England soon after the start to face some sort of internal disciplinary hearing in the police force he serves in. This is referenced in the first two books but we never know what the issue is but it is explained here.

On the Faroes Hjalti investigates a possible murder from over forty years ago and a book with several strands begins to emerge. Very well written and the plot is brilliantly executed.

Hope we haven't seen the last of the characters in these books!

Larry says

The closing book in a really good mystery trilogy, "The Fire Pit" closes by explaining a series of crimes going back years, as well as the suicide of Jan Reyna's mother, which launched the first book. The first two books in the series had their own crimes, but the crimes of the killer who is identified in the third book are there as well. Its setting—the Faeroes Islands—is consistently interesting, as are the two main protagonists, one a Faeroese cop and one an English cop tracking knowledge about his mother's death. It is sometimes leisurely in pace, but the cops in it are thorough, and so is their work.

Breakaway Reviewers says

The final book in the trilogy where all the strands come together.

I so looked forward to reading this book and I was not disappointed.

The book picks up where the previous one ended and I would say that, although you could read this book on its own, I would really recommend reading all three just like I did. In fact, it has taken me less than a month as I really enjoy Chris Ould's writing style and plot machinations.

At the end of the second book a dying man, riddled with cancer and an alcoholic, apparently commits suicide. However, a body of a young woman is then discovered in the same area and after more investigation her 10-year-old daughter's body is also found. This turns out to be a murder committed more than 40 years ago when there was a commune in the area. Our Faroes detective, Hjalti Hentze, once again is determined to find out whether the apparent suicide and this murder are connected and goes about this in his normal methodical way.

Meanwhile, Jan Reyna is in Denmark searching for clues regarding his own mother's suicide. We finally

discover why he had been suspended from his job in England and that, disillusioned with the way he has been treated, he has resigned and now wants to devote all his energy to finding out more about his childhood.

As the investigation in the Faroes intensifies, so links begin to appear between events there and events in Denmark and Jan and Hjalti again join forces.

Suffice it to say that everything is finally resolved but it would be a shame to give any details away as it was so absorbing to discover piece by piece what happened. These books are what I would call slow movers but this is their charm because little by little events are revealed and are finally put together.

Although the ending was satisfactory and pulled together all three novels, I really hope that there might be some scope for further stories regarding the two detectives, Jan and Hjalti. I imagine one of the problems is that there probably are not too many murders in the Faroes although that never stopped Inspector Morse in Oxford!

Even if this series is not continued I would be very interested in reading any further books by this author, I really enjoy his atmospheric writing and plotlines and would recommend this book thoroughly.

Dexter

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review

Gail P says

This is the third of the trilogy set on the Faroe Islands. I've enjoyed all three books. The continued story has built slowly at a measured pace. The last book is faster with many complicated intertwined stories and characters. There is also more tension as the plot moves to the end. It has been like watching a great storm building on the horizon and then advancing over a long horizon. I guessed some of what might be coming but was fascinated with how the threads merged and mysteries resolved. There were some surprises for me, particular the final resolution of the principal characters. I am not sure if there will be more stories with these characters or who would be the protagonist. Maybe a shift of protagonist. This is different than most books where we can clearly see how the characters could move forward. If there more, I will surely be reading them. Thanks to the author for a well written and interesting series.

Sandy says

4.5 stars

Another gem that's been hiding in my TBR pile for yonks. A few years ago I was lucky enough to visit the Faroe Islands. They are unbelievably beautiful & a hiker's paradise. While there I picked up the first book in this trilogy set in the Faroes & started following the story of 2 police men, Hjalti & Jan.

This is a great end to the trilogy. The plot is intricate with several story lines that Ould skillfully pulls together for an exciting finish. Some of the regular characters have changes in store & their futures are left

up in the air but we (and Jan) finally get answers concerning the death of his mother 40 years ago.

Ould has been quoted as saying it was best to leave the series at 3 books. Probably wise....in a place with such a small population, killing off more people would mean running the risk of it becoming a Faroese version of Cabot Cove. A really satisfying read.

ctdak says

This third story in the Faroe Island mystery trilogy is a 4.5. I think I enjoyed the second one the most, but on the whole the series is well written. All of them are slow paced plots with good character development and a great setting. The one major annoyance in this series for me is the endings. For plots that are very methodical and slow moving, the endings are the opposite, a very abrupt wrap up with a lot happening in relatively few pages. So the endings are less than satisfying for me and seem out of sync with the author's basic writing style, but I have a weakness for otherwise well written "island mysteries"!

Icewineanne says

This book begins with numerous storylines. In the beginning Jan Reyna goes back to England for his disciplinary hearing. Afterwards he continues to investigate the circumstances of his mother's death which take him to beautiful Denmark. Both of these storylines began in the first Faroes book, The Blood Strand. If you haven't read the earlier books, begin with that first one, otherwise you may feel a little lost as Chris Ould refers to past events & people without explanations.

Hjalti, a Faroes detective, continues his investigation into the death of a man who was killed at the end of the last book. The investigation intensifies when 40 year old bones are found in a shallow grave on land the dead man had owned. And finally a Danish detective hunts for a killer that he believes may be a serial killer.

What is a terrific series. It just keeps getting better. The descriptions of the Faroes Islands are wonderful. The author really gives the reader a sense of the people, their culture, and the weather.....the constant wind, often overcast skies, the pounding rain and short lived spurts of weak sunlight. And in this 3rd book he contrasts it with a bit of sunny Denmark.

Chris Ould slowly reveals bits of Reyna's character & that of Hjalti, and the reader knows that there's much more to discover. I look forward to the journey in the books to come.

Highly recommended 4.5 ??

Rebecca A Burch says

Excellent, intelligent, gripping series

The last (but hopefully not) in a 3 part series set in the Faroe islands. Absolutely recommend for Scandi noir readers or anyone who appreciates top of the line writing, plotting and characterizations.

Simona says

Really enjoyed this - it's a shame that this is last in the trilogy

Sunnie says

Loved all three of the Faroes books. Looking forward to more books by this author .
