



Cross Dressed to Kill

Andrew Lucas

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A TORRID TALE of love, loss, blackmail, revenge, and serial MURDER... Gripping - Funny - Thrilling - Compelling.. SET SNUGLY in middle England, in a small town just like yours, where nothing nasty should ever happen, 'Cross-dressed to kill' is a darkly comedic thriller, telling a torrid tale of love, loss, revenge, and murder. Lying somewhere between Niall Johnsons and Richard Russos 'Keeping Mum' and CBS televisions 'Dexter' (a serial killer hero - should you love him or hate him?). Cross-dressed to kill picks up the story of a likeable rogue, a gently camp hairdresser, who, disappointed with life and disillusioned with his once glittering career, after he begins chatting neurotically to his antithetical reflection in a salon mirror, starts culling his most irritating elderly clients. Cross-dressed to kill follows its 'hero' through the course of one turbulent year, charting half a dozen unfortunate deaths, a gender-ambiguous love interest, an arrest and conviction, a thrilling escape, and ultimately devastating revenge..... andrewlucas.co.uk/. ---- 'Easy reading at its very best, a captivating writing style'. Petra Kitto - CGD July 2011. ---- 'Fab holiday reading, had me laughing on the sand and on the edge of my bed last thing before sundown'. ---- 'In 'Cross dressed to kill' Andrew Lucas presents us with a baddy indeed, but a nicer, more appealing villain, a serial killer to love, a Sweeney Todd for the 21st century'. Max Southwell - Read/Write, May 2011. ---- 'CROSS DRESSED TO KILL is what Graham Greene used to call 'an entertainment'. It is not quite a traditional literary novel, although the style of writing is literary, and it makes no pretensions to changing the face of the cultural history of our century. It sets out to amuse, surprise, and entertain, and in this it succeeds. It is pleasingly amoral. The novel is driven conventionally by plot, character, and situation, but also by a very sure hand with dialogue, inner thought, and both mental and physical landscape, which effectively advances the narrative. While it is a well paced, escapist, witty read and can be enjoyed on that level alone, there is more than a whisper, a resonance, of social comment, which - without wishing to sound too pretentious - I think gives the manuscript bite. I read this on a fine cold afternoon in my conservatory in Oxfordshire with a glass of Chardonnay at my elbow, and it the novel was well suited to that function. Andrew Lucas successfully creates in the reader the suspension of disbelief, which has been the task of the novelist since the first storyteller unrolled his mat in the market square, and gives him or her a few hours of escapist pleasure. The reader is inextricably involved in the happenings. I am sure that I will not be the only person to appreciate this well structured, darkly comedic thriller. In particular, it has an original plot, which, these days, is not all that frequently encountered. I don't think there has been murderous hairdresser since the demise of Sweeney Todd.' Bryn Blackthorn PP and E.

Cross Dressed to Kill Details

Date : Published by YeS Press (first published June 5th 2011)

ISBN :

Author : Andrew Lucas

Format : Kindle Edition 415 pages

Genre : Fiction, Mystery, Crime, Humor

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From Reader Review Cross Dressed to Kill for online ebook

Tamara Niemi says

Ridiculous sick, a great detour from real life. Unless your village has a cross dressing hairdresser who is a serial killer, then maybe skip this one.

Lee Petersen says

Couldn't actually finish it. I realised I'd been avoiding my kindle for about two months because I was struggling to get through this book, so at 26% of the way through I decided to call it quits and give up. It started off well and I thought it would be something I would enjoy but I just couldn't relate to the character or his elderly clients. Shame really, I hate not being ale to fish a book!

Tim Pickles says

Poor. I'm not sure why I bothered to keep going with this book. It vaguely entertained, but the story is weak, the characters only semi-believable, and there are a vast number of irritating typos scattered throughout the text. Was this book self-published? It certainly hadn't been properly edited.

Kate Tenbeth says

I bought this book by mistake on my Kindle (pressed the wrong button...) but having bought it, I then settled down to read it no knowing quite what to expect! It took some time to get into the story but once I did I have to say that I enjoyed it. At points the storyline was very black but the author somehow still managed to retain humour. The main character was very realistic - very definitely a hairdresser under stress and I'm sure I've come across a few of his obnoxious customers! The only thing I wish is that the editing and layout had been done with a little more care. I like the way Andrew Lucas writes and I'm sure he'll go from strength to strength!

Tracy says

Had this book been about 150 pages shorter and far more carefully edited, it would have been much more enjoyable. I simply can't stand constant typos, misspellings, and poor capitalization, and the "plot" meandered for quite a bit longer than necessary. Had a few funny moments, though.

Lynn says

An interesting novel about a serial killer... Strangely, the author manages to keep your sympathy with the killer, in spite of what he does, right until the end. I enjoyed it tho did find a few typos in it (not sure if that's to do with Kindle or if they're in the book proper). Definitely worth a read... :-D

Claire MacDonald says

Different

Marie Staight says

I just reread this book for our book club. It is one that I just couldn't forget as it was so fresh and different from any other crime/murder/ thriller I have ever read. The story is told in the first person by the main character who is a male hairdresser that has dual personalities - one who kills people and the other that doesn't. What is so fresh about the writing is the author makes the guy who is killing people, the one who is more likeable. Lucas makes the reader root for the hairdresser that kills! (Perhaps that is the 'cross' in the title?)

There are times when you are laughing out loud at his antics and others when you are on the edge trying to figure out what the main character is going to do next. Lots of twists and black humor is this book. Some parts of the plot are so unreasonable that you are sure the author is pulling your leg, but the character stays true to his quirkiness, so stick with it!

If you want something different and you can tolerate a lot of black humor you will enjoy this very different book. I certainly am looking forward to the sequel which I understand will be coming out in the next year.

Alex says

It started off quite well, light and funny, but towards the middle of the book things started bogging down. The author gets mired in a sea of meticulous descriptions that add nothing to the story but rather subtract from the rhythm. There is a scene where it takes the protagonist five pages to walk a couple of blocks. It's tedious and unnecessary.

There are also a number of coincidences that ultimately lead nowhere. A number of encounters that you spend the rest of the book waiting for them to resurface yet they never do.

I think if the book had been half as long it might have been a good read.

Jennifer says

4 stars for this book simply because it really surprised me. It is a murderous romp about a hairdresser who starts killing off his annoying customers and is really funny. Definitely not to be taken too seriously, but some very good turns of phrase and characterization. 4 stars for entertaining me thoroughly.

Bernadine says

3 1/2 * Would be a fairer reflection.

An amusing murder romp.

Stephen Clynes says

This novel was released as a 575 KB Amazon Kindle eBook and was written in 2011. This is not your usual crime thriller but a humorous anthropological study of Britain today. This story is written in the first person, from the point of view of a male hairdresser working alone in a fictitious small British town. He is a lovely, likeable character with a sharp wit about anybody and everything. This book covers a lot of ground and confronts lifestyles and people's prejudices. Andrew Lucas has a good writing style which is very similar to Mark Steel .

This hairdresser has a good rant about life and people which is very entertaining. He has his finger on the pulse by capturing the zeitgeist of Britain, with it's trends and frustrations of urban life.

Lisa says

This book was something I downloaded off of my Kindle for only £1.99, the best £1.99 I have ever spent.

This book had me gripped from beginning to end, it was fab. The characters are so vivid that you can imagine most of them living in your town or on your street. The descriptive language that Andrew Lucas uses actually made me feel like I personally knew the characters. The situations I can actually feel like I'm in them.

This book is not the kind of book that I usually read but the reviews made me want to read it. It made me laugh aloud on the bus.

I promise if you read this book you will not be disappointed.

Julie Haigh says

I was reading another book at the time when I saw this book on an Amazon recommendations email. I hadn't heard of the author before but I like crime books so as it was only 77p I thought I would give it a go. As a different genre to my other book the idea was I'd read both of these as one a traditional book and this one on my kindle. I had a bit of a dip into this book and just couldn't put it down. It's got murder in it and at times is

quite funny. I know it shouldn't be but it was just some of the quirky obsessive ways the murderer has you couldn't help but chuckle and had to find out what happens next. Some reviewers haven't got the point saying that it's not funny- it is- just not to be taken too seriously. Enjoyed it and would read the follow up when it is released

Lisa says

A surprisingly good read for 99p!
