



Killing a Cold One

Joseph Heywood

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Every fall in northern Michigan brings a spate of *dogman* sightings. A radio DJ's invention, the dogman was created as an attention-getting joke. But millions of Michiganders believe in angels and vampires, werewolves, Bigfoot . . . and the dogman. Late summer, the horribly mutilated bodies of two Native American girls are found in a tent in a remote campground in the Huron Mountains. Grady Service, who wants nothing more than to return to patrolling his beloved Mosquito Wilderness, is called into the case. Strange animal tracks are found, mayhem ensues, a bloody trail of victims begins to accumulate, and the governor, in a political panic, and on her way out of office, orders Grady to hunt down and eliminate the killer--on her office's dime. Grady Service does not believe in Easter bunnies, Santa Claus, or dogmen, and the "monster" hunt that unfolds in *Killing a Cold One* builds to a violent finish in some of the Upper Peninsula's harshest and deadliest terrain. Joseph Heywood's legendary woods cop is called upon to use all of his investigative skills to sort fantasy from reality in order to do what the governor wants.

Killing a Cold One Details

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Author : Joseph Heywood

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From Reader Review Killing a Cold One for online ebook

Jim says

Mutilated bodies of Native Americans are being discovered in Michigan's Upper Peninsula at an alarming rate. Who or what is killing them is not immediately apparent. There are rumors that the murders are the work of a dogman, the U.P. version of a werewolf, and there were some extraordinarily large wolf tracks found near one of the bodies.... All of this gets Michigan Conservation Officer Grady Service and his girlfriend homicide detective Tuesday Friday both actively seeking elucidation. They find lots of evidence but not the kind that quickly points to a solution. Everything about this case seems distorted and means following multiple leads no matter how bizarre. Every lead only brought more questions and most of the people who did seem to know something were unwilling to share their knowledge. Only by combining relentless dedication with logic and intuition are Service and Friday able to rise above the many problems inherent in this case and find a solution.

I found the many examples of U.P. dialect in the dialog to be some of the most engaging parts of this book. For example, "Two more day wind make howler, We wait 'er oot, eh? No bloody 'urry. I t'ink he hunker tight." (pg. 417) or "Fill water bottle wit' white gas, make maltoshop contrail, pinhole in bottom, drop bottle down stovepipe." (pg.439) Wonderful distortions that are little puzzles all in themselves. KILLING A COLD ONE is one very quirky mystery. A little too odd for my taste, though it did rally at the end.

Janet Newport says

I received this book through a GoodReads give-away.

Grab a blanket... and a spreadsheet.

I like dark & complex stories. But every character in this book (except Nerf & Cat) has a 1st name, a last name and at least one nick-name...and all are used interchangeably and without consistency. And there are a lot of characters in this book. It made for some slow reading (for me), trying to figure out who the author was writing about. Normally, the various names for a single character gel for me around 15 to 20% of the way into a book, but the characters kept coming into to story like a blizzard, so it was a constant effort (for me) keeping everyone straight in my mind.

Some of the characters seemed to have super powers (especially for their age).

Also, there was a lot of local dialect/idioms used in the telling of the story....without a glossary, I just had to guess at what they were saying from context. A small irritation. But not nearly as tough as James Doss's "internal chatter".

The story itself was a gory one and somewhat incredible. I don't mind gore (unless its in my kitchen) and there was lot of it, so pass on this book if you are at all squeamish. The tidbits of Indian lore throughout the book were interesting as were the war references. But there seemed to be no real focus. There was a lot of traveling as well...Arizona, Missouri, Wyoming, Wisconsin, etc. The story took place over a period of 5 to 6 months, but really??? That's a generous budget for a state conservation office (tho' the State Governor

okayed it). Also somewhat incredible was the cooperation between all the various law enforcement offices (within the State, I know, the Governor ordered it), but throughout the upper mid-west and all the different Indian reservations visited? Really??

I'll stick with Joe Pickett in the future. Killing a Cold One just left me confused.

Foster Winter says

This is the second book I've not finished in the last couple of months - and I generally stick it out to the bitter end (which, by the way, is a nautical term, not intended to indicate a bad end). But, as much as I love reading stories set in the Michigan areas I know, the characters and their crudeness - both the good guys and the bad guys - just left me cold (no play on the book title). Sorry Mr. Heywood, I've liked the other books of yours.

Janet E. Rash says

Cold One

Intriguing round of clues and hunches that finally lead to murderer who commits gruesome crimes in the U. P. New form of wolf appears.

Kimberly says

This was a Goodreads First Reads book that I won.

I also DNF'd this.

Now, what I did read was surprisingly entertaining, fast paced, and addictive, even for someone who doesn't regularly read mysteries. I found the Native American aspect fascinating, being part Native American myself (like, a very small part Native American, but still I have Native American blood). I also loved the legend of the dogman. That made it a bit more interesting, though I would've like to have the dogman and Native American legends go even deeper and make the story more complex.

Why did I only give it 3 stars and not finish? I didn't feel like I cared enough for the story and the victims (I'm not saying I'm a heartless bitch who doesn't give a shit about murder victims, but in this story, I would've liked a reason for them to be unforgettable, their faces (well, once they were ID'd since they were found headless) haunting and their own stories toying with emotions. I just felt like they were just....there.). I understand that kinda contradicts what I said in the previous paragraph, but I just felt it was lacking. I loved, like i said, the dogman legend. However, there was not enough exposure to the issue. It, as well as the victims, were just there, no emotion or true suspense (and maybe this wasn't supposed to be that kind of book). I almost half expected for the book to go all Scooby Doo on my ass and have some freak dressed up in a "dogman" costume, terrorizing and killing people. It would be Scooby Doo for adults.

So, basically, what I found entertaining was the crime-solving these people were doing, and it was truly entertaining, funny, and the characters were interesting. But I just couldn't become engaged in the story. Does that all make sense?

By page 80 or 90 something, I just couldn't go further, at least at this point in time. Maybe I didn't give it enough of a chance? Maybe I needed to read the first 8 books? I do I think this was the wrong book at the wrong time.

Jim Graczyk says

I only gave it a three but that might not be fair. It seems that events this time of year did not allow a concentrated reading effort. Similar to early reviews of him - the number and names of the characters sometimes were challenging. It might help if I knew also had better familiarity with the geography of the UP of Michigan

Rene says

Good story with all the usual strange people that inhabit this part of Michigan. A little too long and drawn out for me, but I stuck with it. Although the people living there, their environment, eccentricities and even strange speech patterns are all no doubt accurate, it does take some time to get used to it.

I have read all the Woods Cops books in order and I think that is necessary and more enjoyable for sure. You really get to know the recurring characters. I love Allerdyce (even while still trying to figure out what the heck he's saying) and you learn a lot more about him in this book. I really, really miss Nance and Walter and wish that book had never happened!! I'm warming up to Friday, although I really don't see her as a good match for Grady.

The story was a bit all over the place but intriguing. However, I did find the ending forced, just to give it an extra little 'twist' when you thought it was a wrap. I think I would have preferred ending before this unnecessary twist but writers just like to get in that final little surprise and "aha" moment don't they? ;-)

This is a great series (start from the beginning) and I will be picking up the next one for sure. The only book I did not like and the only one I did not finish was "Death Roe". That was a big miss for me.

Debbie Clemence says

This wasn't as good as previous books in the series. Although the story was good, it dragged out a bit and the ending was sudden/anti-climatic. I'm still shaking my head over a few missing details.

Christina says

Good continuation in this series. The ending wrapped up a bit too quickly, but overall an enjoyable read.

Michael Higgins says

A series of gruesome murders are fueling dogman and Windigo stories. The leading contenders are a wolf hybrid, a Russian spy or a military killer who's assumed a pastor's identity. I struggled to get a bead on the plot. Grady heads up a special task force with Limpy, Tree and Blue Suit Noonan to put an end to the killing. The characters on the task force and the wilderness are classic Woods Cop.

Christine Braybrook says

Yet another excellent book by Joseph Heywood..#9 in his Woods Cop series. What started as Grady Service finding out about people missing body parts like a head or hands missing from dead bodies - to actually finding the murderer. Along the way, I met some amazing characters like Limpy Allerdyce, Grady's cat and dog, Tree, and many others to count. After Limpy been a criminal for most of the books I have read so far, this one is certainly the most outstanding one - where Limpy gets pardoned from all his crimes in the past because he helped Grady along with other cops and game wardens take down the murderer.

Allan McLeod says

Interesting plot. A good read.

Linda Heim-barger says

I love The Woods Cop series. I love the U.P. This novel is a little more convoluted than some of the others in this series, but Heywood's novels tend to be complex and informative. And they are always entertaining! I would recommend this series for any one who loves Michigan and especially the Upper Peninsula.

Ed says

#9 in the Woods Cop series. The legendary "Dogman" is being blamed for the macabre deaths of Indians on Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The governor, reacting to bad publicity, orders Conservation Officer Grady Service to assemble a team and eliminate the problem. Grady unwillingly tackles the problem with the unlikely team of veteran poacher 'Limpy' Allerdyce and retired Detroit detectives Luticious Treebone and 'Bluesuit' Noonan. An exceptional manhunt ensues complete with entertaining descriptions of some of the 'Yoooper' characters and dialect of the U.P. Unfortunately, the super-wolf sub-plot builds up to an unsustainable premise and a limp finish. Overall, a worthwhile read and series fans won't be disappointed.

Woods Cop series - Every fall in northern Michigan brings a spate of dogman sightings. The dogman was created as an attention-getting joke. But millions of Michiganders believe in angels and vampires, werewolves, Bigfoot . . . and the dogman. Late summer, the horribly mutilated bodies of two Native

American girls are found in a tent in a remote campground in the Huron Mountains. Grady Service, who wants nothing more than to return to patrolling his beloved Mosquito Wilderness, is called into the case. Strange animal tracks are found, mayhem ensues, a bloody trail of victims begins to accumulate, and the governor, in a political panic, and on her way out of office, orders Grady to hunt down and eliminate the killer--on her office's dime.

Liz Tucker says

This is the 9th book in the series, so if you've never read a "woodscop mystery" this isn't the place to start - there is history with the characters that would be lost on a reader just jumping into the series.
