



A Void in Hearts

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A private detective is dead, and Brady suspects it's murder

Les Katz may well be scum. A private detective, he does not hesitate to take the case when a Farrah Fawcett look-alike hires him to tail her husband. The photos he secures suggest the man is cheating on his wife, but they aren't definitive. Rather than disappoint his client, he contacts her man and offers to sell him the pictures. Katz considers this a charitable act, but to his attorney, Brady Coyne, it looks an awful lot like blackmail.

Brady tells Katz to give the money back, fully expecting to be ignored. But when Katz is killed in a hit-and-run, he realizes blackmail wasn't the PI's only mistake: Les Katz was murdered to protect a terrible secret—and a conspiracy that goes far beyond a single cheating husband.

A Void in Hearts Details

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Author : William G. Tapply

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Diane Large says

A really good mystery. I like the Brady Coyne character and will read more in the series.

Forthbridge says

First class atmospheric thriller. The author handles plot and character with great panache. There is quite a lot of amorous activity in this one which I could take or leave but overall I really like the book and can't think of a contemporary author who does this easy to read material which is satisfying on a number of levels.

Joe O'Connor says

Excellent; Continuing character: Brady Coyne; after his PI friend is killed, Coyne tries to unravel what he was working on to see if he can identify who is responsible

Ed says

#7 in the Boston attorney Brady Coyne series.

Boston attorney Brady Coyne series - Brady is consulted by private eye Les Katz, who was hired by a woman who suspected her husband of having an affair. Katz took incriminating photos that he sold to the husband; now he is worried about the ramifications of his small-time blackmail. When Katz is killed in a hit-and-run accident, Brady is determined to find out if it was murder. His investigation leads to a money-laundering scheme involving high figures in the financial world and the leader of organized crime in New England. In developing the case, Brady finds complications of the heart as compelling as clues: still trying to define the relationship with Gloria, his former wife, he is fast drawn into an attachment with Katz's widow that is closer than he anticipated.

Don Gorman says

(2). As I slowly, enjoyably, wend my way through this series I am slightly sorry to say that this is the weakest entry so far. Even with the exciting and terrifically twisty ending, the first two thirds of this book drag it down. Brady is still Brady and we dearly love him, but his activities are not quite up to snuff and way too much of the action here is out of character or just plain not as interesting as usual. All that being said, I have number 8 queued up and ready to go in a month or so. I will definitely see this series through to the end.

James Thane says

This is another solid entry in the Brady Coyne series. A private eye that Brady sometimes uses comes to him for advice. The P.I., Les Katz, has been hired by a woman to see if the woman's husband is having an affair. Katz gets some pictures of the husband in the company of another woman, but the pictures do not conclusively prove that the two are romantically or sexually involved.

Katz assumes that the wife is looking for proof of her husband's infidelity so that she can take him to the cleaners in a divorce, but these pictures aren't going to do the trick and so Katz tells her that he's found no evidence that her husband is cheating on her. He then meets with the husband and suggests that the husband might want to buy the pictures that Katz has taken, just to ensure that they don't fall into the wrong hands, innocent though they may be. Now Katz's conscience is bothering him and he asks Brady for his advice. Brady, of course, tells Katz to see his client and admit what he has done, but almost immediately thereafter, Katz is killed by a hit-and-run driver.

At this point, the reader must wonder why, six books into this series, have we never met Les Katz before if he's a P.I. that Coyne uses regularly and, even more important, why would Brady be using a P.I. whose ethics are as bad as this?

Those issues notwithstanding, Brady feels obligated to dig into the mess that Katz has left behind and soon finds himself confronted by a mysterious and dangerous set of circumstances. It's an interesting plot that moves right along and winds up in a satisfying climax. Seven books into the series, Brady still has issues with his ex-wife, Gloria, that prove critical to the case, and, naturally, a new woman will appear in his life. It all adds up to an entertaining read that will appeal to fans of the series and to those who enjoy fairly traditional mystery novels.

Kathie says

Kind of slow moving story. Not really into the women in this book and Brady has got to get over his ex-wife and move on. She has. Sort of a non-story in this one.

Owlsinger says

Sorta satisfying; the bad guys go down, the semi-bad girls kinda walk, and Brady spends time in the hospital. What else can you ask for from this series? Aside from sleeping with the newly-bereaved widow, , what else is there?
