



The Wire In The Blood

Val McDermid

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

The Wire In The Blood

Val McDermid

The Wire In The Blood Val McDermid

Across the country, dozens of teenage girls have vanished. Authorities are convinced they're runaways with just the bad luck of the draw to connect them. It's the job of criminal profilers Dr. Tony Hill and Carol Jordan to look for a pattern. They've spent years exploring the psyches of madmen. But sane men kill, too. And when they hide in plain sight, they can be difficult to find...

He's handsome and talented, rich and famous--a notorious charmer with the power to seduce...and the will to destroy. No one can believe what he's capable of. No one can imagine what he's already done. And no one can fathom what he's about to do next. Until one of Hill's students is murdered--the first move in a sick and violent game for three players. Now, of all the killers Hill and Jordan have hunted, none has been so ruthless, so terrifyingly clever, and so brilliantly elusive as the killer who's hunting them...

Val McDermid's *Wire in the Blood* is "A superb psychological thriller" (Cosmopolitan).

The Wire In The Blood Details

Date : Published (first published 1997)

ISBN :

Author : Val McDermid

Format : Kindle Edition 528 pages

Genre : Mystery, Crime, Thriller, Fiction

 [Download The Wire In The Blood ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Wire In The Blood ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Wire In The Blood Val McDermid

From Reader Review The Wire In The Blood for online ebook

Wendy Darling says

[and yes, I'm aware of the author's orientation, which

Matt says

McDermid returns with another explosive thriller, returning with more horrific details and another sadistic killer bent on complete control. As DCI Jordan accepts a promotion in a new part of the country, she is faced with a new team with whom she must prove her worth, all while a slew of arsons haunt the township. Filling shoes in a predominantly male circle, Jordan struggles while trying to see if these fires are part of a larger serial arsonist's plan. When fires begin to claim more than property, Jordan seeks the assistance of Dr. Tony Hill, busy with his own new project. Hill is working on his Home Office project and launching the National Profiling Initiative, working with police applicants from around the UK. This team, some of the best and brightest, seeks to learn the art of profiling. When one of the team members takes an express interest in their 'practice case', where teenage girls have gone missing around the country over the last dozen years, Hill is eager to see her results. A monumental clue, missed by the local police department, opens eyes and drops jaws as a national television celebrity ends up in the crosshairs, at least in this 'mock report'. The report makes sense and the clues leave the possibility wide open, but it is when the report is presented to Jacko Vance, former Olympic hopeful and philanthropist, that things take a turn. McDermid has chapters running parallel to the main story about the plight of the serial killer's most recent victim, giving the reader gets a first-hand look into the stages of victimhood and how bad things could get. Explosive throughout with a great twist in the middle has McDermid fans lapping up all they can in this stunning thriller. Not your usual serial killer versus cops thriller, which makes it all the more interesting.

Still new to the McDermid style, I am quite drawn to the work she's done. The gore and explicit detail reminds me of Chris Carter novels and its thrill is a match as well. McDermid has a way with words and dialogue that keeps the reader flipping pages well into the night. Perhaps my only critique in this novel is the unusually long chapters found throughout, easily breakable into smaller and more digestible portions. While surely a weak criticism, the 'just one more chapter' technique does not always work, as much as I would like it to. With a story more akin to Criminal Minds, where one knows the killer and hopes only that the authorities do not leave loopholes to let them go free, McDermid has done well in laying out the foundation for a great series. Good chemistry from our two main characters as well, with that emotionally connection present, though not as strong as in the opening novel.

Kudos, Madam McDermid on another great novel. I am hooked and am prepared to delve into the next instalment.

MadProfessah says

Another very strong mystery-thriller police procedural from Val McDermid.

I am very psyched to have finally started reading her books featuring psychologist Tony Hill and homicide detective Carol Jordan. I'm not a big PBS watcher so i was unaware it had been adapted into a popular television series. (I didn't know that another of my favorites, the DCI Alan Banks series by Peter Robinson has also previously appeared on TV, presumably imported from the BBC.)

WIRE IN THE BLOOD is only the second book in the Hill/Jordan series and already the author has distinguished herself by the level of insight she provides on her protagonists' thinking, inclusion of first-person accounts of the motivation and actions of the perpetrators and ruthlessness of placing her characters in mortal danger.

The first book (THE MERMAIDS SINGING) I found was needlessly gory and excessively violent in some places so I'm glad to see that in the second book McDermid leaves more to the imagination instead of including gut-churning details of bodily defilement.

The presence of Jacko Vance, one of the nation's most popular television personalities, as a primary character (and suspect) demonstrates the author's confidence in her craft and raises the stakes of this book to an extremely satisfying level.

I look forward to seeing how the relationship between Tony Hill and Carol Jordan will develop as well as seeing how and whether British policing will change as a result of the establishment and evolution of Hill's national criminal profiling center.

Overall, this is a very impressive series. I find that most mystery thriller series usually improve as they develop so with the first two books easily being five-star reads I hope McDermid is able to maintain the quality for a long, long time! Surely EVERY book in the series can't be worthy of five stars?

BrokenTune says

Meh. I'm really not getting any warm fuzzies for this series. Nor any reaction really.

I was hoping that the second book in the series would be more interesting and getting away from the scene setting that took up so much of The Mermaids Singing, but no...a large part of the book is still about workplace politics and Tony Hill's struggle to find acceptance of his profiling task force within the police.

Blah, blah, policing, blah, blah...

And I have literally no interest in the relationship between Tony and Carol. Shaz was an interesting character but there was not that much interaction between her and the rest of the characters.

The fact that we know from the start who the killer is, does not help the situation. Instead of reading on to guess who may have done it is practically spoilt and for me there isn't that much fun in following the profilers trying to balance their professional aspirations with their personal entanglements.

So, whilst I seem to enjoy Val's standalone novels, I just can't find anything in this series that resonates with me. At all.

DNF @ 55%.

Jean says

The title of Val McDermid's *The Wire in the Blood* is taken from TS Eliot's "East Coker" section of his collection of poems, "Four Quartets": "The trilling wire in the blood/sings below inveterate scars/ appeasing long-forgotten wars." The poem, written during World War II, reflects Eliot's religious faith and his belief that hope would overcome despair and darkness. Val McDermid considered the phrase to be a metaphor for the thrill of adrenaline surging through the bloodstream. (<https://uk.answers.yahoo.com/question...>)

Buzz! Yes, I felt it! In this second Tony Hill/Carol Jordan novel, that hormonal rush captivates a number of characters. Dr. Tony Hill, who heads up the National Profiling Task Force, pilots a team of young detectives through a series of exercises as he trains them to be profilers. Carol Jordan, recently promoted to DCI, struggles to lead a squadron as she investigates a series of fires. Carol has a difficult time lighting a fire under her gang; Tony has the opposite problem, at least with one protégé. DC Shaz – don't call me Sharon – Bowman is particularly gung-ho. When the group is assigned to study for a batch of cases of teenage girls who've gone missing over the span of more than a decade, Shaz not only links them, but she also puts herself in mortal danger.

The introduction is slow and steady, as characters are introduced and the scene is framed; having read McDermid's *The Mermaids Singing*, I knew that she was setting me up for an addicting undertaking. Once I got into the corpus delicti of the dual plots, I was hooked.

The coppers and profilers weren't the only ones affected by McDermid's "wire in the blood." From the onset, the reader is given an insider's view of the killer's world, and I felt no sympathy for this chap. He is a sadistic egomaniac, but because he is a charming public figure, he is considered to be beyond reproach. The arsonist is a different animal, and Carol turns to Tony for help with his profile. When he and his crew come up with suggestions, well, things don't turn out quite as planned.

Because this book builds on the first, I would recommend reading *The Mermaids Singing* before starting this one. McDermid doesn't give away any secrets, but she does not provide much background information about Hill and Jordan either, so I was thankful that I had read her previous work. The only criticism I have is quite minor: there were, surprisingly, a number of typos in the Kindle edition that I read. This did not affect my enjoyment of the story, however. To American readers: You might want to keep your British terminology dictionary handy for this one! I am aware that there was a British television series based on this book; somehow, I cannot imagine it holding a candle to McDermid's writing!

5 stars

Tara Moss says

‘The best profilers have probably got more in common with serial killers than with the rest of the human race. Because killers have to be good profilers, too. A killer profiles his victims. He has to learn how to look at a shopping precinct full of people and pick out the one person who will work as a victim for him. He picks the wrong person and it’s good night, Vienna. So he can’t afford to make mistakes any more than we can...’

Top profiler and clinical psychologist Dr. Tony Hill is now heading up the newly formed National Profiling Task Force, and he sets his team the challenge of looking into the real life cases of dozens of missing girls. Are they teenage runaways, or victims of a killer or killers? One officer in the group comes up with a solid but shocking theory the others can’t accept.

But what if it’s true?

The Wire in the Blood - named from a T.S. Eliot quote – is the second novel featuring Scottish crime writer Val McDermid’s now famous characters Detective Inspector Carol Jordan and Dr. Tony Hill, stars of the hit British television series of the same name. Dr. Hill and D.I. Jordan are both students of human nature’s darkest depths, and their complicated professional and personal relationship adds a necessary and compelling human factor to this series.

The Wire in the Blood opens with a chilling glimpse into the mind of a serial killer and never once eases off from the intensity of those first few pages, demonstrating why McDermid is so often mentioned in the same breath as Thomas Harris – author of The Silence of the Lambs. Her ability to convincingly enter the mind of a sadistic killer is chilling. It’s an unsettling ability she shares with Dr. Hill.

Watch my interview with Val McDermid for 13th Street: <http://www.13thstreetuniversal.com.au...>

Brenda says

Two separate crimes are showcased in this book. One shows how profiling can eliminate the psychological aspect of a crime spree, and the other shows the benefit profiling can be to identifying and capturing a serial killer.

Tony Hill has set up his task force and is training four junior officers with practice cases when seven victims are found to have several things in common. The local police forces are skeptical that profiling is an advantage, and this is the wall that Tony Hill must break through to have his task force accepted.

The book is well written, but has a slow methodical pace to developing the storylines. The details of the crimes are not grisly described. Mistakes are made along the way to solving the crimes, but the book doesn’t follow up on the consequences Carol Jordan must face for her divided loyalty or the repercussions for the local police ignoring the task force.

I will definitely be reading the third book of the series soon.

Ana says

Odli?an triler, uživala sam u svakoj stranici. Drži pažnju od po?etka do kraja. Meni prva knjiga od ove autorice i sigurno ne zadnja.

Neide Parafitas says

Este livro é bom... mas nada que se pareça com "O Canto das Sereias"!

Saber quem era o assassino desde o início do livro não ajudou! Contudo, recomendo aos amantes dos policiais que, se não considerarem este aspecto relevante, irão com certeza adorar! :)

Maddy says

PROTAGONISTS: Psychologist Tony Hill and DCI Carol Jordan

SERIES: #2

RATING: 3.75

WHY: A new profiling unit has just been set up and is headed by psychologist Tony Hill who proved his mettle in a previous harrowing case. His team is green; he needs to make profilers out of them in a short period of time while sorting out their ability to do the job. As an exercise, he has them look at the case of a possible serial killer who abducts teenaged girls. One of the squad, Shaz Bowman, goes all out for the assignment. She names a well-known TV entertainer as the perp, which everyone finds ludicrous. But after she is brutally murdered, their opinions change. Aided at times by his previous partner, DCI Carol Jordan, Hill and 3 team members chase the clues. They find an extremely intelligent, manipulative villain who pushes all of them to the limit. The psychological impact on each of the characters is immense. At times, the graphic details threatened to overwhelm, but they were never exploitive.

William says

Super mystery with a believable plot and believable characters.

Mike says

The second in the Tony/Carol series finds Tony's newly-formed profilers traveling upcountry to refine their skills in a training environment. Shazz is an overachiever, and particularly intuitive, and finds an otherwise unknown serial offender that has been disappearing 14-15 year old females for several years. She shares her profile with the others, and is poo-pooed. Her alternative - confront the baddie herself.

Engaging storylines, with a serial arsonist confounding Carol's police group. What I didn't like was being made to like one of our protagonists, and then having to grieve afterward.

Brenda says

Between 4 & 4.5 stars

Christine says

I am so happy to have finally given Val McDermid's stellar Tony Hill/Carol Jordan series a go. What a terrific writer Ms. McDermid is!

I think what I like most is how much I learn from her, especially about profiling, even though these earlier books were written in the mid to later 1990s. Forensic psychology is a fascinating topic, and it is clear the author has deep knowledge of the subject. It is almost incomprehensible to me that she has no practical (that I am aware of) experience in the field, yet writes about it as if she were a world expert.

In this outing, Tony and Carol, along with a group of young cops working to become profilers, team up without the blessing of any police force in an effort to bring down a serial killer. Carol is also involved in trying to break a string of fires by arson. I love the way Ms. McDermid has these two characters working together so that readers get emphasis on both policing and profiling, two of my favorite things to read about. We continue to learn about both Tony and Carol in this installment, and I am liking them more and more. I thought the author did a great job in introducing us to six other cops, bringing out the individuality of each. I never once used the search button to remind me who was who.

The plot deals with two major threads and is fabulous. The story is chock full of suspense and intrigue and there are plenty of downright nail-biting moments. And let me say that Ms. McDermid is not shy about tossing in some major shockwaves. I hated putting this book down.

I am delighted that there are at least 8 more books (and counting) in this series for me. I have discovered some great old gems this year (including books by Tana French, Stuart MacBride, and Elizabeth George) and am eager to find even more, especially as I observe the current generation of writers trending too much toward me-too territory.

I highly recommend the Tony Hill/Carol Jordan series to every crime fiction/thriller fan with one warning. Her books can be quite dark, so you may want to tread lightly if you prefer to avoid heavy doses of pure evil.

I'm loving you, Val!

Damaskcat says

I came across this book mentioned in a television programme and decided to read it even though it is the second book in a series and I haven't read the first one. It was published long before the revelations in recent years about such celebrities as Jimmy Saville and has an alarmingly prophetic quality about it. Dr Tony Hill is gradually recovering from his experiences in a traumatic case described in 'The Mermaids Singing' and is involved in setting up a new task force to provide offender profiling services to the police.

DCI Carol Jordan - who worked closely with Hill on that case - has also started a new job but it seems she is destined to be thrown together with Hill whether she wants to see him or not. Hill's students are given a paper exercise to do to try and find patterns in a series of apparently random killings. When one of his best students is murdered in a particularly gruesome way, the task to find a ruthless killer becomes personal and a race against time for everyone involved.

I found some of the descriptions in this book rather too graphic for my taste though I was totally gripped by the story and thought it was very well written. The characters of Hill and Jordan are well drawn and definitely three dimensional. I would recognise them if I met them. I think the author captures the infighting which goes on in any big organisation extremely well and I was forcibly reminded of my own experiences when involved in new projects within a totally different large organisation.

This book could be read as standalone novel or as part of a series. I haven't read the first book in the series yet though I shall definitely go on to read the next book.
