



Kindred Crimes

Janet Dawson

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When P.I. Jeri Howard takes on a missing-persons case, she's not the only person confused. The vanished woman's husband doesn't even know his wife's real name. But as Jeri digs deeper, she reveals long-buried secrets, old public scandals, and the real possibility that too much knowledge is a dangerous thing...

"A welcome addition to this tough genre."

THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

Kindred Crimes Details

Date : Published March 22nd 1992 by Fawcett (first published 1990)

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Author : Janet Dawson

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From Reader Review Kindred Crimes for online ebook

Audrey says

[(To be clear: the romance with Mark worked and was hot, but the Sid thing came from wicked far out of left field.) (hide spoiler)]

Michael Stewart says

So, so. Not too much of a mystery to this mystery. Simplistic.

Good reviews from Publishers' Weekly, among others, but it didn't really do it for me.

It was a freebee e-book, used as a marketing device. But I wasn't terribly engaged in the story all that much. Yes, I wanted to know 'who did it', and it was about 200 pages, so not too much time invested in it by me. But it's less than a day later, and I barely recall the who of the second whodunit. Figuring out who committed the patricidal murders from 15+ years ago was not a challenge. TELEGRAPHED early on. But the second murder seemed gratuitous and certainly not a surprise.

Sharon Michael says

Delighted to see a number of additional books in the series. This is the first book for me by this author, a free download, but won't be the last of this series for me.

A very entertaining and well written first novel with a taut plot line, polished writing style and solidly developed characters.

An interesting twist on a 'missing person' investigation, tied in to an old murder case. Overall, a very well crafted mystery with a main character that appears to have a great deal of potential as a series.

Karla Huebner says

This mystery held up well. While I guessed the big "twist" well in advance (or subconsciously remembered it from the first reading long ago?), that didn't impair the readability of the book overall. Given how many of the mysteries of twenty years ago show their flaws now, the fact that this one hasn't begun to look stupid or dated is quite a plus.

Tertia R Armstrong says

So many choices

The characters were so well drawn that the storyline could have gone in multiple directions. Up until the end my suspicions were not confirmed. Although prior events in Jeri's career shaped her, they weren't played up so much you felt you needed to read a prior book. Hope to see some of the same players in book 2.

Ginny says

I have been binging on Jeri Howard mysteries recently. I started with the second one, and immediately came back to read this one, since the case was referred to several times. It's well written and fairly well plotted; although I suspected some facts about the killer, they weren't confirmed until the end.

Philip Foster comes to Jeri because his wife Renee is missing. She left her baby with her mother-in-law, drew all the money out of their shared bank account, and vanished. At first, Philip wants her found. Then, after Jeri discovers Renee's real name and some other facts about her past, Philip's father leans on him hard enough that he fires Jeri. She persists, though; Renee's aunt hires her to continue the search. Along the way, we meet some interesting people who will show up in future books. As often happens in murder mysteries, too many people were killed before they could share their stories (I'm only remembering one right now, but even one is too many).

This book was originally published in 1990, and I found it on Kindle Unlimited. I'm glad I did, and I'd recommend it to anyone who loves a good mystery.

Amy says

Just re-read this one as I sit around recovering from gallbladder surgery. Love this series! Howard's details and well-structured story lines are enjoyable, and I love the accurate Bay Area descriptions - having lived there for 12 years I am transported right back in time. Happily, though the books date back to the early '90s, they hold up well 20 years later. I'll probably go ahead and revisit the whole series!

George Bowser says

A good convoluted mystery!

I really liked this book. Good plot that keeps you wondering even when you think you know what happened. My only issue is I had a hard time getting a mental picture of Jeri. I'm looking forward to reading other books in the series to see if I can get a better picture of Jeri.

chris piper says

Family drama

Private investigator gets caught up in dysfunctional family drama. Book starts with missing person who seems innocent oh caught up in the web of layered dysfunction. Good for reading over severe days.

Heidi says

A little bit predictable but I still enjoyed the book. I am glad that this book wasn't updated to go with modern times. Takes me back to when I was younger. Now I am off to book 2.

norma linza says

Very good mystery

I liked the twists and turns in this story. Following her as she follows each lead. Well thought out. Well developed characters in the story

I gave it a 4star instead of 5 star for one reason. The issue with the fake name and changing a couple numbers in the social security number wasn't believable. She worked a good job in silicon valley and then hubby had to file taxes every year claiming her on the taxes. It would not have worked. IRS receives the information from your work place, they'd inquire immediately,; and you can't give bogus information to the IRS or they'd notify you immediately and request accurate information. Medical insurance, she had a baby, you can't just do what the writer said she did. Make more sense if she legally changed her name and forget the bologna about changing a couple numbers of the ssn.

Wilma says

Another cop and detective story. Young man kills his mother and father and spends 12 years in prison. The detective falls for him while investigating a missing person. Well written, good characters. (You gotta love a guy falsely accused of murder.) Spoiler alert. I knew it all along.

I will definitely read another of her books.

Ann says

Interesting book . Keeps you on your toes trying to figure out the who really done it. I couldn't figure it out. Someone had committed a murder of a mother and father together. Their son was the one who went to prison for it. Years later he was released. A private investigator lady was hired to find a missing woman who was believed to have left suddenly leaving her small child and cleaned out her husbands bank account. Days later she was fired from the case and then days later was rehired by a relative of hers. What really happened that

someone didn't want her to find out about the murders.

Kathleen Quinn says

Fantastic Mystery

I could not put this book down. The plot was excellent and the characters and story exceptional. I didn't guess the ending and hope the 2 main characters get together again in another book.

Jill D Coffin says

Great First Book

Can't wait for book 2! Likeable, interesting and realistic chats combined with great storyline. I was hooked from page 1. For fans of the detective genre, I'd say this is somewhere between hardboiled and a cozy. The protagonist is tough and smart and there is nothing cutesy, but it wasn't gory either. Just right!
