



## Dead Sleep (Mississippi #3)

*Greg Iles*

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They are called "The Sleeping Women." A series of unsettling paintings in which the nude female subjects appear to be not asleep, but dead. Photojournalist Jordan Glass has another reason to find the paintings disturbing...The face on one of the nudes is her own-or perhaps the face of her twin sister, who disappeared and is still missing. At the urging of the FBI, Jordan becomes both hunter and hunted in a search for the anonymous artist-an obsessed killer who seems to know more about Jordan and her family than she is prepared to face...

## Dead Sleep (Mississippi #3) Details

Date : Published (first published 2001)

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Author : Greg Iles

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## From Reader Review Dead Sleep (Mississippi #3) for online ebook

### James Thane says

While in Hong Kong, photojournalist Jordan Glass wanders into an exhibit of paintings called "The Sleeping Women," and is unable to imagine why her presence is causing such a stir among the patrons and staff of the museum. The paintings alone are unsettling, because it appears to her trained eye that the women are not merely sleeping but are, in fact, dead. And then Jordan gets the shock of her life when she sees her own mirror image staring lifelessly back at her from one of the paintings.

More than a year ago, Jordan's twin sister, Jane, was kidnapped near her home in New Orleans, one of a string of women to be abducted in the city. None of the women, Jane included, has ever been seen again and now the victims have surfaced in this series of paintings, which are selling for upwards of a million dollars apiece. But who is the artist, and what has become of the women he has abducted and used as his models?

Jordan's discovery is the first major break in the case, and the FBI suggests that they might use Jordan to bait the killer into revealing himself. Haunted by the memory of her lost sister, Jordan readily agrees and soon finds herself at the center of a complex and absorbing investigation.

This is, really, a first-rate, complex, psychological thriller that grabs you from the opening chapter and keeps you enthralled through the final sentence. The characters are well-imagined and expertly fleshed out. The plot is taut and gripping and the action is well staged. It's hard to imagine that any fan of crime fiction would not be immediately seduced by this book.

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### Patrice Hoffman says

I know there are so many things that can be talked about in this book but the ending for me was one of the best endings I've read in a long time. I enjoyed the ride it took to get to the end. I won't give anything away from the actual story or plot but... this author, Iles, has not disappointed me yet.

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### Tanja Berg says

Rating 3.4\* out of 5. I was surprised by how quickly this book took me in. I started to root for the main character almost immediately. She is Jordan, a photojournalist who suddenly finds herself facing a painted picture of her lost sister Jane. The painting is in a series called "sleeping women", but Jordan quickly senses that they are not sleeping, they are dead.

Jordan brings the news of the painting to the FBI and demands to be a part of the investigation. They let her. After the first 100 pages or so, there is a long interlude of many boring pages. The first twist was a "not again" eye-roller, the last twist actually took me by surprise. Nicely done.

Over all this book is very well written, the characters are interesting and the plotting is good. I have no

regrets and I will definitely be reading more novels by this author.

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### **Karen says**

Such a good book it will be on my "top reads of 2016 shelf." There were a few sidelines in the book I did not like much and the lead character did some stuff a few times that were really dumb: I found myself thinking, "What?" and "Why are you doing this?" I did not have much time to read upon starting this book, but the beginning hooked me from the start. I had a whole day to read this weekend though and could not put it down. I have found an author I will most likely read all his books. If you like David Baldacci I think you will like this author.

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### **Thomas Strömquist says**

Great thriller/mystery opening as Jordan Glass, photo journalist happens upon an exhibition in a Hong Kong museum, where she feels inexplicably unwelcome and noticed. The paintings - a series of 'Sleeping Women', in which the artist has gradually changed his style from the abstract to naturalism, is increasingly disturbing as in the later works, the feeling that the models are actually dead, rather than sleeping, creeps in. Jordan plunges from uneasiness to close panic, as one of the last paintings is of herself. Or rather, of her identical twin sister, missing for some months. She contacts the FBI, where the investigation into that disappearance has gone stale - but with the new development, it goes into full gear.

The book's a real page turner, and as long as you're willing to suspend disbelief - some - you will have a good time. I had some small troubles with the picturing of Jordan, I like the character, but some of her traits and reasoning feels an awful lot of male picturing of female sexuality (for example). And, as far sexuality goes, I had more than a little troubles with the strange and contradictory view on homosexuality. It feels a lot more abundant in this quite small cast of characters when compared to society as a whole and it is prescribed an awful lot of significance. Add that one of the characters 'became' gay due to sexual abuse in her youth and that another (male) is described as having 'sea-green eyes' "in a shade I have previously only seen in a woman".

I was undecided about the ending - the good part is that it wasn't outrageously unprobable given the information we had. On the other hand, it is kind of far-fetched in any other respect.

Borderline 4, it will work fine on the beach or in the hammock, but you have to silence some objections along the way.

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### **Bev Taylor says**

jordan, 40, is a photo journalist following in the footsteps of her father who was killed in cambodia

on a visit to hong kong she is recommended to visit a museum who r showing some artistic pieces but she finds that people r staring at her. deciding to leave she happens upon a showing of paintings called the sleeping women, previously dead women. then she is face to face with one portrait. it is her hence the stares

but it is her identical twin and this leads her to new orleans where 12 women have disappeared w/o trace, including her twin sister. but the paintings r 18 in number

with the fbi, jordan becomes the hunter and the hunted for this unknown artist and his possible accomplice. an obsessed killer who seems to know more about her and her family than she is prepared to accept

a gripping and suspenseful novel very well told with great characterisation and psychological detail

i think the only thing that spoilt it for me was that she seemed rater a superwoman and it was way too coincidental that she happened upon this showing

also i had never heard or really understood the condition arising at the end

4.5 stars

bev

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### **Noni Fro (Janon) says**

My first Iles book - and it won't be my last. I've heard about this author for years, not sure why it took me so long to pick up one of his books.

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### **joyce g says**

A superb thriller that had you enthralled to the last page.

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### **Yvonne says**

What an intriguing concept. Jordan Glass comes across a series of paintings taking the artworld by storm in Hong Kong. They are paintings depicting nude women in repose, asleep or are they possibly dead? Jordan is stunned to discover that one of the paintings features a woman that looks exactly like her. Could it be her twin sister who's been missing for over a year? Is she dead or alive.

Jordan immediately reconnects with the FBI to try to unravel this mystery. The story is well paced in general. We are introduced to various agent characters who give Jordan, a civilian photojournalist, lots of opportunities to get involved. Realistic? Probably not. Still it was an enjoyable ride to read. I kind of liked the ending even if it was a little flat.

I read this as a standalone book and didn't feel I was missing too much from the first couple of books in this series. But I did sense that some of the prior characters had a history together. The characters kind of reminded me a little of Brockmann's troubleshooter series. I think that may be why some of this felt a little formulaic especially the sneaked in romance. Overall though this is a solid story that mystery lovers are sure to enjoy.

3.5 Stars rounded up.

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## Donnelle says

Others have already gone over the finer points of the story in their reviews, so I'll concentrate on the writing itself. Iles definitely knows how to create unique crimes and the characters who commit them - the methods and scenarios he utilized for the villain(s) of the piece were unlike any that I had read about before.

Iles' weakness, then, isn't in the overall story-telling in this case, but lies in the fact that at times, he telegraphs his punches too much - the foreshadowing used in some scenes had all the subtlety of an anvil falling from the sky and hitting a cartoon character on the head.

Then, too, the romance element in the story felt, at times, entirely too rushed, not nearly developed enough, and even somewhat not-in-keeping with the main character and what she'd gone through. My last quibble is with the fact that Iles' main character - a photographer - was allowed to outsmart the entire FBI many different times throughout the book, and that she was basically given free reign to participate in (and even take over, at times) the entire investigation.

That said, those points ultimately took a backseat to the fact that the story itself is incredibly interesting, and is full of twists. It incorporates family drama, the long-term effects of war, terminal illness, psychological disorders, the art world, murder, and the list goes on and on. Iles successfully managed to juggle each of those elements, and wove them into a coherent, (mostly) well-plotted, intelligent thriller.

The book is not perfect, but it is intriguing, and most readers should find the reading of it to be time well spent.

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## Bárbara says

### 4 estrellas

¡Al fin lo terminé! Déjenme celebrar xD

La vida se interpuso en mi camino y no me dejaba avanzar en este magnífico libro. Que sí, que no es la joya del siglo, pero me sorprendió gratamente. La protagonista es una mujer muy fuerte y desde el principio hasta el final lo demuestra una y otra vez. Y bueno, eso de que el autor juega con medias verdades es lo mejor. Quizá la participación de De Becque es la más incongruente; su aporte final es un poco forzado. Recomendado para quienes gusten de casos policiales sin resolver ;)

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## Kyra says

I am in a bad financial place where I am stuck reading books from my (very small) local public library. I am only going to write one review but I have galloped through everything this library has by Greg Iles. Quintessential airplane reading, these fast-moving suspense novels always seem to feature nasty doctors (and a couple of good ones) getting up to nasty murderous doings in either Mississippi or Louisiana, Iles' home turf. The plots are INSANELY ludicrous....BUT Iles writes very very well indeed and one is never bored. So if one can swallow the concept of a mad pathologist injecting uber-wealthy divorce candidates with a retrovirus which causes cancer to save their spouses a hefty divorce settlement or a famous painter with

multiple personality disorder who kills women so he can paint them naked in a bath tub and sell the resulting paintings for millions of \$\$ to wealthy Japanese businessmen, etc etc. - hey these are fun. :) But omg there are a lot of serial killers in Mississippi/Louisiana. And is the FBI **really** that horribly incompetent? So high tech and yet so...dumb. And as an occasional taxpayer, I sort of resent the FBI's careless use of Lear jets for non-essential errands. Heh heh.

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### **Bill says**

Greg Iles has spoiled me with Mortal Fear.

Every novel I read by him now has the unenviable task of having to measure up to what I consider his best work. Regardless of whether it stands up in the face of this scrutiny, He can't seem to write a bad novel. He is as good if not better than any of the "masters of suspense" diluting the market today. Dead Sleep is a clever thriller in which a world class photojournalist (a woman, written in the first person) who is haunted both by the disappearance of her father in Cambodia, and the recent abduction of her twin sister.

The Sleeping Women is the name of a series of paintings depicting nude women who appear either asleep or dead. When she inadvertently discovers the series at an exhibit, she is shocked at the mirror image of herself in one of them. Welcome to the first 10 pages.

Iles pulls us through the investigation at a good pace towards the inevitable climax, but there was something with this story I really didn't buy into. I can't really see a civilian being so privy to an FBI investigation much less being permitted access into a dangerous situation to grab a set of car keys. Nonetheless, Dead Sleep is standard fare in the sea of suspense-thrillers, and even if it didn't have the little snippets of brilliance that stopped me in Mortal Fear, it's never a waste of time to read this guy.

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### **Judy says**

This is my first Greg Iles book - how did I miss his work? A great thriller and I loved the premise of the story set in the art world around a group of paintings of nude women, exhibited in Hong Kong, that everyone is trying to decide whether the women are alive or dead. The paintings are by an anonymous artist and are commanding huge sums of money. I really enjoyed it.

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### **David says**

I wish I could give this one three and a half stars, because for me it only misses the four star mark by a small margin! Primarily because of its extremely contrived and silly stuff that follows the main resolution. Sorry, he just took it a step too far.

Still, the remainder of the novel has some really neat Hannibal Lectorish moments, some artsy fartsy characters, and enough suspects to confuse even the most careful reader.

The story begins when photographer Jordan Glass enters an art museum in Asia only to create a stir when she is a dead ringer for one of the figures in a series of pictures called "The Sleeping Women" in which a nude woman is in repose and it is uncertain whether she is dead or alive. Of course, Jordan knows she is not the model for the picture, but more likely, her kidnapped sister, missing for more than a year. Soon, she is intertwined with a number of FBI agents and odd characters, many of whom are suspects in the serial kidnappings and probably murder of these women.

Iles builds the suspense well and does a fantastic job of painting Jordan and Jane's twin relationship in both bright and dark colors. Jordan has done some things to her twin sister that bring shame and avenging her murder becomes priority for her. The characterization of most of the characters in this novel is very, very, good.

The one thing I didn't like was the explicit sexual relationship between Jordan and the FBI agent.. It just felt very contrived and out of place. For them to be thrown together and fall in love is one thing, the torrid sexual affair just seemed poorly constructed and thrown together to add page count.

The psychology of the suspects is very interesting and when the bad guy is revealed the reader is treated to a background story that is shocking and sad, explaining the evil the man is involved in.

A good story, with the exception of the after-resolution resolution.

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