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Peter Lovesey

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In the sixteenth entry of Peter Lovesey's timeless British detective series, Peter Diamond wrestles with his own moral compass, struggling to protect police prestige while debating what it means to do right by a serial killer.

Two police officers are about to head home after a long night shift when they receive one last call. En route to investigate, the patrol car spins off the road, killing one of the exhausted cops and leaving the other in critical condition.

Detective Peter Diamond is assigned to look into the case. His supervisor is desperately hoping Diamond will not discover the officers were at fault. Instead, Diamond discovers something even worse—a civilian on a motorized tricycle was involved in the crash and has been lying on the side of the road for hours. Diamond administers CPR, but the man's fate is unclear. Soon, though, Diamond becomes suspicious of the civilian victim and begins a private inquiry that leads to a trail of uninvestigated deaths. As the man lingers on life support, Diamond must wrestle with the fact that he may have saved the life of a serial killer.

Another One Goes Tonight Details

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From Reader Review Another One Goes Tonight for online ebook

John Lee says

When I read 'Down among the dead men' I thought that I had finished my series of Peter Diamond books. Then my wife discovered this one.

When you start a book in a series of which you have read so many, you start with high expectations as I did here. Again, I was not let down and in some ways I enjoyed this one more than some of the earlier ones.

I appreciated the move back to the Bath base and being able to look at the scene of that accident on StreetView gave me a better insight into the story. (It was also of interest to look for the Lido using the same method).

This story was different to most others of the genre that I have read in that it was not based on a known crime but only the changing suspicion of the detective.

Sometimes the reader is pulled towards those suspicions and then as quickly finds themselves siding with the doubts of the two members of the inner team that Diamond involves.

The level of reader interest is as high to find out what really happened as it usually is to find who did it. Here both is revealed at much the same time.

Did I get it? Well , No and Yes and No and definitely not.

Until I came across Peter Lovesey, my favourite detective series was the Charlie Priest series by the late Stuart Pawson. For me, these books were made by the subtle humour that crept into each book. My wife and I have both said how we have noticed this happening now in these novels (Ivor's cat and the changing names of the IPCC officials, to name but a couple).

TheRavenking says

I think it has been about 4 years ago that I discovered Peter Lovesey's Peter Diamond series. Since then I have read all the books about the choleric police detective from Bath, and he has quickly become one of my favourite fictional sleuths. This is his sixteenth outing, and as usual it involves a particularly complex crime.

It is difficult to keep a series fresh over several decades. And to Peter Lovesey's credit it must be said, that he tries coming up with something new in every instalment. This time the story takes us into the world of railway enthusiasts, people who collect train memorabilia.

The beginning is exciting enough: After a policeman is killed and another one heavily injured in a car accident Diamond is given the task of finding out what really happened. Was the elderly man found at the scene the cause of the accident? Peter Diamond has saved the man's life, but the more he finds out about Ivor Pellegrini the weirder the case seems to be getting. Not only was he carrying an urn containing human ashes in his backpack, but Diamond finds two other urns hidden in the man's home, raising questions about his character.

Pellegrini was a railway enthusiast and member of railway related clubs, in which mostly elderly people come together collecting pieces and equipment from classic trains and studying the history of old train lines. He seems like the epitome of an eccentric Englishman. However to Superintendent Peter Diamond there is something just not quite right.

Diamond is torn between the elation of saving a human life and his mounting suspicion that Pellegrini was a serial-killer, especially after coming across several printouts from websites debating the perfect murder method, which were stuffed into a drawer in the man's workshop. Is this enough evidence? Certainly not, but when Diamond finds out that quite a few of Ivor's friends and fellow train spotters died recently he starts feeling that he is on the right track.

With Pellegrini in hospital Diamond has to investigate without being able to question the main suspect.

Another One Goes Tonight does not quite have the freshness and relentless pace of the best entries in this series. The narrative seems to be running in circles for some time while Diamond and his colleagues are debating whether Ivor Pellegrini may or may not be a serial murderer. This idea might seem a bit far-fetched to some readers as might the fact that Another One Goes Tonight relies heavily on coincidence, but then so did many of the classic detective novels it tries to emulate. Peter Lovesey has always been great at bringing back the feeling of a classic Agatha Christie novel, indeed his best works might be up there with the finest from the Queen of Crime or the likes of John Dickson Carr. This time however he does not quite succeed.

Some say, that modern technology with its forensics and DNA analysis has killed the classic puzzle oriented detective mystery, but Lovesey has been coming up with inventive ways for bumping off people for years. Indeed one of the most important issues of Diamond's current investigation is whether such a thing as the perfect crime is still possible and how it can be achieved. In theory at least this might sound like pure gold for crime fiction fans, but for some reason Another One Goes Tonight just wasn't as much fun as it should have been.

Although the ending did spring one genuine surprise regarding the identity of the murderer, the downside is, that the killer here is almost a bit too well hidden. A Person from the side-lines suddenly steps into the spotlight and since we barely knew this character until then, there is a lot of information dumped on us in the last few pages making the finale seem a bit convoluted.

Another One Goes Tonight is a fun old-fashioned British detective novel. But compared to Lovesey's own stellar back catalogue it is just about solid.

Jill Meyer says

One of the delightful things for a reader of serial books is to return to old friends and catch up on their lives and loves since the previous book. British author Peter Lovesey makes that particularly interesting in his new book, "Another One Goes Tonight", which is the 16 book in his Peter Diamond series. Diamond is a Detective Superintendent with the Bath CID and returns in this book - along with his team - to investigate a police car accident that has claimed the life of one of the two men in the car. The other one was badly injured. A third man - clinging to life - was found a bit away and Diamond, who finds him, preforms CPR and gets a whiff of life back in the man. A man who had been riding an electric tricycle. A man, who it turns out, was out in the night looking for hops. Not beer "hops" but, supposedly, rabbit "hops". Need I tell you that things and people and situations are a bit "quirky" in a Peter Diamond novel? In fact, everything and

everybody is a bit off, except for Peter Diamond, who's the only non-quirky person in the bunch. (Though he does invent a cat...)

Lovesey's book can be called a police procedural because there are police and they are procedurally solving a crime. However, what exactly the crime is - possibly a serial killer - is not firmly established. Diamond wavers on and on about the case which he is charged with solving, though only he and his team members quite know what the possible crime is. We return to Bath and since a good novel teaches a bit as well as entertains, we learn a lot about railroads in that part of England. Most of the possible victims of the possible serial murderer were railroad aficionados and Lovesey takes us into their little world, as well as the world of 1920's dress designer Mariano Fortuny.

If you're the type of reader who enjoys quirky people and story lines and made up cats - and I am - you'll enjoy "Another One Goes Tonight". If not not, you might want to seek out a more conventional police procedural.

FM says

Another good one from Peter Lovesey. I like this series of police procedurals--the characters and settings are good, and he sprinkles enough clues throughout to make it interesting and enjoyable. British murder mysteries are my guilty pleasure!

Puzzle Doctor says

A little overlong but an enjoyable mystery. Full review at classicmystery.blog

Carin says

When I read this book I was expecting a fairly traditional British mystery, maybe quirky, maybe boring. I wasn't quite sure. I knew Lovesey was respected, but successful mystery writers can still vary a lot in quality in my experience. I was pleasantly surprised!

The premise is interesting: A cop is killed and his partner badly injured in an accident. While investigating, a detective assigned to the crash, Peter Diamond, accidentally finds a third victim, a civilian. This takes the whole investigation to a new level as it now seems the police might have hit and possibly killed an elderly man on a bicycle, which would be a terrible news story for the police, if it is true. So Diamond has to look into it thoroughly and fast. What he finds is bad. The civilian victim might himself be a killer. As he struggles to survive, Diamond and his colleague pry into the man's life, into his love of trains, and into his interest in how to kill without being detected. There do seem to be an awful lot of supposedly innocent deaths around the man.

The red herrings were (to me) completely convincing. I didn't see the ending coming at all, but when it did, I could see the subtle set-ups that really worked. I liked Diamond, who was torn, after having saved the life of

this man who might turn out to be a serial killer, and who had to investigate him even if what he found out might make him regret having given him CPR. And the train nuts were fascinating and hilarious. This book kept me turning the pages!

LJ says

First sentence: Another one goes tonight.

A traffic accident involving two policemen, one fatally injured, results in Peter Diamond being assigned to investigate his fellow officers to find whether the policeman were at fault. At the site, Peter finds an elderly man seriously injured and saves his life. However, the investigation raises more questions than answers and causes Peter to wonder whether the man whose life he saved is, in fact, a serial killer.

Lovesey provides us a wonderful description of giving someone CPR, not just from a technical standpoint, but the emotional connection that is created.

The information on Railway fanatics, as well as for Courtney dresses, adds interest to the story, as we watch Diamond build the case, clue by clue, but not always by himself. He brainstorms with his seconds, Ingeborg and Hallawell; and with his friend, and sometimes lover, Paloma. Those things add veracity to the story, as well as watching Diamond have to change his perspective and beliefs in a person's innocence, while Halliwell raises the question as to whether what they believe has been murdered could, in fact, have been accidents or natural deaths

Diamond does like to play outside the rules just a bit, but one has to admire his philosophy--"One thing Diamond had learned in life was not to feel sorry for himself. Rage against the gods by all means, but don't have anything to do with self-pity. It's toxic." It is refreshing to have a detective admit his case isn't holding up "and you say there are problems with your original theory?" "Large holes."

For those who have not read the previous books about Peter's wife, it is nice to have a brief summary included. Details about the city of Bath provide a sense of history, local color, and a strong sense of place--"Bath has many amusing ironies. The best is the fact that thousands of tourists arrive because of the Jane Austen connection while the author herself could hardly wait to quit the place with "happy feelings of escape."

"Another One Goes Tonight" is a wonderfully complex mystery-- perhaps a bit too complex--with a killer one doesn't spot, and plenty of twists galore.

Another One Goes Tonight (Pol Proc-CDI Peter Lovesey-Bath, England-Cont) – G+
Lovesey, Peter – 16th in series
Soho crime - July 2016

Mr. Gottshalk says

This mystery has a lot going for it: crackling dialogue, interesting secondary characters, and crime that only

someone with a really vivid imagination could link together. And still I struggled to finish it. Admittedly, I am a Kurt Wallender fan from Henning Mankel's terrific mysteries, so fairly or not I am comparing detectives. I just could not get behind the inner voices of Detective Diamond's thoughts and emotions because there wasn't enough. If the detective is leading us through the story, shouldn't he also have a story to tell?

Ron Chicaferro says

I enjoyed 'Another One Goes Tonight' from Peter Lovesey - - This time, Detective Superintendent Peter Diamond has a different kind of case - An elderly local has been struck down by a police car and Diamond has been given the task of finding out what happened - - Accident investigation; not his usual cup of tea, but he's determined to do his best - - - the more he investigates the more he realizes that this case isn't what it appears to be - - this appears to be a serial murder case; but how can that be? There are lots of twists and turns in this story - even some British train history that becomes a part of the story - - - The story will keep the reader guessing to find out not just what happened but also are any of the characters to be believed. There is some very good energy in this, the 16th installment in the Peter Diamond series - - if you're already a fan then sit back and enjoy -

Kerrie says

Another intriguing read from a master story teller.

Peter Diamond is delegated to assist a Professional Standards team after a police car is involved in a serious accident just at the end of its shift. The station has received a call about a naked man and the squad car is on its way to investigate when the driver swerves to avoid hitting an object. It rolls, the young driver is killed, and his passenger seriously wounded. There are many other things that Diamond would rather be doing than investigating colleagues.

However near the scene he discovers an elderly man, also seriously injured, presumably hit by the police car, and he begins to take a personal interest. But what was he doing out at that hour of the morning? The more Diamond and his team investigate, the more intriguing it becomes, especially after they work out that a number of elderly people have met untimely ends, albeit from supposedly natural causes.

The narration by Peter Wickham is particularly adept, with good distinguishing between characters.

I've been following this prolific British crime fiction author since 1972 when I was hooked by his debut novel WOBBLE TO DEATH. Check him out on Wikipedia.

John Bohnert says

I've now read all sixteen novels in this police procedural series set in Bath, England.

This book was engrossing all the way to the very last page. I was totally engaged in trying to figure it out along with Peter Diamond. Wow, I love this crime fiction book.

Midwest Geek says

I've previously listened only to Book #3 in this series, but since this Book #16 carried a rating of 4.4, I thought I would give it a try. I can't say I disliked it, but I didn't enjoy it enough to want to read others.

It is a kind of plodding police procedural. The mystery is initially interesting but it unfolds very slowly. Even though it is not inordinately long (11 hrs and 16 mins), I really got tired of all the dead ends and misdirections. The denouement was less demonstrated by action but rather explained by Diamond to his colleagues through his remarkable inductive leaps. In case the reader didn't appreciate Peter's brilliance, the author has his subordinates remind us through thoughts unspoken.

Altogether it got to be a bit much, and once again, I probably wouldn't have finished it except for the extraordinary narration by Simon Prebble (5-stars). Peculiarly, I generally have great patience with police procedurals but this particular series is not for me. Ironically, the series might make a good TV series, since, to be dramatically successful and conform to a reasonable length of time, the screenplay for each episode would likely have to move along more rapidly and contain more action than the book.

LLNYC says

Not honestly my favorite of his, but I'll happily read his worst against most writers' best.

Julie says

I really enjoyed the unravelling of this intriguing mystery. The author must have quite and inventive imagination and an insatiable curiosity to come up with all the different scenarios he has written about throughout this wonderful series. It also comes across that he researches his subjects deeply. Narration is by one of my favorites, Simon Prebble.

Larry says

Superintendent Peter Diamond is a more polished version of Andy Dalziel, the late Reginald Hill's loud, fat, crude, and very clever police superintendent. They're not interchangeable specimens, and both characters have been around for a long time, but they come from the same end of the police spectrum. Dalziel is funnier, just as Hill was cleverer, but Diamond is a good cop and an interesting person to read about.

The current case is a bit outside Diamond's usual murder inquiries. He, and two of his team, are asked to investigate the professional behavior of two police officers. Out on patrol, toward the end of their shift, the driver had lost control of his vehicle, which rolled, killing him and badly injuring his partner. Of course, with the reluctant Diamond on the case, it's not long before murder becomes part of the scenario, for it turns out that the squad car ran over a civilian bicyclist, injuring him gravely. The scene-of-the-crime personnel (headed by a magnificently smug young man) missed the body. Diamond not only finds the body, but keeps

it alive via artificial respiration. So, while the surviving cop languishes in the hospital (soon to be minus a leg), Diamond and his crew investigate how the police came to hit the civilian, who appears to have been the proximate cause of the crash. Diamond, being Diamond, investigates the civilian, who appears to be a classic near-doddering case of refusal to age gracefully. (The bike he was riding isn't a bike, as such, but a propelled bike-like vehicle protected by some kind of do-gooder social legislation that the English specialise in.) Upon closer examination, he turns out to be a much darker piece of work, and may be (have been) a serial murderer. Did Peter Diamond breathe life into a murderer of long standing?

How Diamond resolves the case makes for fairly interesting reading. As usual, his crew are simultaneously impressed by and resentful of, Diamond's somewhat undisciplined ways, and his assistant constable and chief tormentor remains a major pain.
