



In This Bright Future

Peter Grainger

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Two weeks of rest and recuperation – that’s what the doctor ordered. Detective Sergeant DC Smith could listen to some music, make some of his own and maybe even catch up on his reading; he is almost looking forward to it. And then there is a knock on the door. It’s only his next-door neighbour but it is the beginning of a sequence of events that will bring him face to face with some of the darkest episodes and the most dangerous people from his own past. This is Smith’s fifth investigation but this time it’s personal.

In This Bright Future Details

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From Reader Review In This Bright Future for online ebook

Paula Brandle says

Wit, allusions, and murder- of course.

I loved this book. Character development is ongoing-we call it world building in sci-fi. Some history is added and geography as well. The detective is complex but not noir-the joy for life is present. One of the best mysteries in kindle prime.

Gary Van Cott says

Overall I thought this book was good. It is set mostly in Northern Ireland and is not your standard murder mystery. My concerns are that the book references cases in the earlier books, which even though I read them not along ago, I can't recall the details. Also the author tends to hint at something at the end of the book without spelling it out. I think most readers will figure it out but I prefer more explicit explanations.

David says

Love this book and the series. Hinted about in prior books in the series, many details about D C Smith's past are revealed in this story. More suspenseful than prior books. D C Smith's exceptional detecting skills and insight are evidenced. If a TV series or movie is made of this book or any others in the series, Michael Kitchen should play D C Smith as the skills and demeanor of Christopher Foyle are much like those of D C Smith. The series should be read in order because there references are made to prior books.

Mainer207 says

This was so good!

Detective Sergeant Smith's past comes back to haunt him when he's asked to go back to Northern Ireland to help find one of the "disappeared" - the brother of his former lover.

This is very different from previous books but still absolutely fantastic! This series does keep getting better. I want more.

Michele says

This is an excellent series. I wonder why it's not more widely available. The actor who reads them for audiobook is hilarious. Is IS DC Smith. I hope Grainger continues creating DC Smith mysteries.

Brenda Funk says

Really enjoyed this book as DC Smith is taken back to his long ago time in Ireland, where he did undercover work during the 'troubles'. Adds a lot more depth to the character. Well done.

Connie says

I have really enjoyed this series, and am surprised that I haven't heard of Grainger before. I don't know why he doesn't have a publisher. These are nicely written, have well-developed characters, and slightly off beat plots. Way above average.

The series focuses on David Smith, a Detective Constable in the Norfolk area. Smith heads a group of detectives, is a widower, plays guitar, and contemplates life. He is late middle age, and is, among other things, looking at the end of his working life. Grainger handles this very well, with each book revealing more layers to the characters. I should say that the books are not gloomy; contemplative might be the best word, but there is plenty of wit in his writing and action in the stories. Probably best read in order, due to the character development, but I didn't read them in order and found each book enjoyable on its own.

Carlin says

I just can't believe this 5th book is the best of the series (so far). Each one has been 5*..... this one should be 5 1/2! Each book in the series has given us more of DC Smith's back story. We've known from the beginning that as a young man he had been undercover for the British military during the "Troubles" in Northern Ireland. That history comes back in full force when Diarmod Kelly comes to see him in England to ask for help in finding out what happened to his Uncle Brann thirty years before. Thus began a series of events taking place in Belfast as DC's past involvement with an Irish Republican family comes full circle into the present. Having been to Belfast I could appreciate the changes that have taken place since the peace agreement but also how the divisions in the country are never far from view (the gates may be open now but the barbed wire is still on top of the walls, and the gates are firmly closed when the "Orange" marchers are on parade). What I hadn't learned on that visit was about the continuing search for the "disappeared"....to find out what happened to the over 1,000 still missing since the troubles began, and where they might be buried so that families can finally get a sense of closure. As always the writing, character and plot development are beautifully accomplished by the author.

Although the mystery of why DC has been demoted to Sergeant and is now under the supervision of a former mentee has yet to be answered, I have no doubt we will learn the answer in a future installment. In the meantime I can't wait to start #6!

Debbie says

Excellent fifth book in the DC Smith series.

I have always really liked DC. He is a good man who has had more than his share of tragedies in his life.

This book sends DC back to confront his past and we see the true horrors he has experienced and how brave he has been and still is. I felt more sorry for him than ever before at the end; we get to see how very lonely he really is.

I can't wait for the next book, mostly because I want him to have the elusive happiness finally.

Micah Burke says

Wow! The best of the D.C. Smith series so far. I love the way the author allows parts of the story to be hidden until the end, changing impressions of what came before. This was an emotional story, and the ending even more so. All the D.C. Smith books refer to events in the prior books - and while one wouldn't have to read them all before, it would be helpful. Highly recommend this series, and especially this book.

Joanne Talbott says

Very informative

I knew little of what it was like during that time and place. I feel the story was well told and made you feel like you were there. I recommend reading this story.

Betty says

For me, this was the best D.C. Smith novel that I have read so far. It's definitely worth 5 stars.

It is a very interesting look at the "Irish Troubles," both at an event involving Smith during that black period as well as the results now in the aftermath of so-called peace. Smith receives a visitor who leaves him with the need to go back to the emerald isle and try and undo some of the damage he unknowingly incurred on one Irish family. The story gives us a great deal of insight into David's personality as we know him today.

One thing that Author Grainger does is leave small hints here and there which sometimes one is apt to miss or ignore. So I'm advising you to pick up on even seemingly unimportant actions in the narrative because it becomes very apparent in the final chapter, just how important one of those occurrences was.

Bebe (Sarah) Brechner says

Another amazingly brilliant story

The D.C. Smith series takes a turn into the past - Northern Ireland and Smith's history there 30 years ago as a young, undercover agent in military intelligence. Over the series' books, we've gotten glimpses of this history, and now, in this new story, Smith decides to go back to Belfast on a surprising, personal quest. Readers will thoroughly enjoy this deeply rich, layered story that reaches back into pivotal events that forever shaped the Smith of today. Very rewarding, beautifully written.

Kathy says

I started this series of a skeptical mind and am now wondering why this series did not find a home with a publishing house. This book was successful on many levels, and it is clear the author had a precise and detailed vision of how he would reveal the layers of character that made D.C. Smith who he is. I have tears in my eyes having just finished this one, though I am launching into the next book without detour. Smith had his knee surgery, and instead of rest and rehabilitation he takes the long ferry ride over to Belfast where he served 30 years earlier as a British Intelligence undercover plant. The Troubles were personal, and this is where he puts himself in danger yet again because of the tie to one Irish lass.

Kaye Stambaugh says

The DC Smith series by Peter Grainger is excellent, and *In This Bright Future* is outstanding. In each book, the reader has learned a little more about Smith, making the character more interesting and complex. Here, Smith is taking off a couple of weeks to recuperate from knee surgery but answers a call for assistance in Belfast. We know from previous books that Smith was involved during his younger years in the IRA "troubles", and has had attempts on his life made because of this. Little by little, we learn why Smith would literally risk his life to return to Belfast. I loved the insight into Belfast today, and the impact of its history. Smith continues to be one of the most interesting literary 'coppers' in England. I listened to the Audible version of this book and the narrator, Gildart Jackson is perfect.
