



## Living Death

*Graham Masterton*

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## Living Death Graham Masterton

Katie Maguire goes undercover in the new gripping and gruesome thriller from number one international bestseller Graham Masterton.

DS Katie Maguire is at a loss. Last year, she and her team destroyed the biggest drug trafficker in Cork. So how is the city's drug trade at an all-time high? Meanwhile, a spate of violent attacks which leave victims severely disabled has brought confidence in the Garda to an all-time low.

As Katie investigates, she realises that the two cases might be connected. Someone is using brain-damaged victims to smuggle drugs into the country. And the only way to find out more is to go in undercover...

## Living Death Details

Date : Published June 1st 2016 by Head of Zeus

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Author : Graham Masterton

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## From Reader Review Living Death for online ebook

### **Kay\*FindMeInThePages\* says**

This is the first book I've read in the Katie Maguire series and also the first book by Graham Masterson. This book read well as a standalone, but there were tie-ins to previous books, such as an ex-boyfriend. I picked this book up as a crime thriller and while it was that, there was also a good bit of gory horror and animal cruelty which I skimmed. In this story Katie deals with dognappers, a missing child and an influx of drugs while her boss works to destroy her career. At times the Irish slang was hard to understand, but necessary as the story was set in Cork, Ireland. I enjoyed the plot but could have done without the detailed horror aspects.

\*ARC provided via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review\*

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### **Bookread2day says**

A well written tough and gritty thriller. It's Halloween and people of Cork are out partying. A young girl leaves a club crying, she calls for a taxi to take her home. A young boy who she doesn't even know offers her a lift to her house. She is not driven home, but dropped off at St Giles Clinic. The driver of the car slowly edge the rear wheel over her legs. The young girl wakes up in the clinic, but everything about clinic doesn't seem good. Another part of this exciting thriller is a gang are stealing dogs in the city. The gang terrorises a dog kennel owner in Cork. The dognappers rapes the owners wife. When the gang go to take the owners dogs, the owner takes his revenge and shoots one of them. DS Katie Maguire and her team are flat out trying to find the dognappers and the missing young girl. With questions being asked what really happened at the kennel when the owner shot one of the gang.

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### **Edward Smith says**

May be arguably the best Katie Maguire to date. A bit on the gory side but Masterson brought his horror self deep into the details of this story wrapped in dognapping, dog fighting, kidnapping, betrayal & drug smuggling as well as a cast of smug, antisocial criminals.

Graham also finds a unique way to end one romantic relationship and start another.

Graham Masterson still retains his go to status for me.

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### **Joe Geesin says**

Two stories, one of dognapping, one of kidnap and mutilation of people, that become interlinked. One of the better plots and better written of the story so far, the only detraction the time spent on the intimacy of Katie's love life. But def better than the previous one, and some parts move on from there, others lead to the next.

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## **Rodrigo Acuna says**

"Crime Thriller That's Not for the Faint-Hearted"

The Katie Maguire series is entering the realm of sadism and medical horror and just to make it more brutal animal torture all rolled into what would be a good story without the hipper depravities, her character for the most part is very interesting and logical, but in the romance department Masterton has decided to give this poor women a lobotomy that goes against her normal nature, she can not enjoy the company of men without becoming a discombobulated teenager, and that ruins the story.

I did enjoy the plot and the characters but the gore and violence are making it less likely that I will read the next book; some of the passages were stomach churning, even exaggerated to a ridiculous degree, why he feels this is needed I do not get it because he has a very good style, and his plots would not suffer if he toned the violence down.

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## **Carol says**

The plot was very good and I loved the story. DS Katie Maguire and her team are over worked, trying to find the dognappers, an influx of drugs, and a missing young girl. Also her Ex boyfriend John is back, now recovering from his legs being amputated due to injuries in the previous book 'Buried' and he wants her back. Her boss dislikes her and tries to set her up. The characters were very interesting, and the story moved at a good pace. There was lots of action and suspense that lasted to the very end. However, I feel the medical horror was to much and the brutal animal torture made me not only sad but nauseated as well. It was a lot of unnecessary gory detail that was so disturbing it ruined the read for me. Other than this, I really like this series so I hope the next one will not have the horror.

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## **Kelly Braybrook says**

### **Excellent**

Absolutely brilliant but every book in this series is brilliant. Go and buy this book or start from the beginning you won't be disappointed.

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## **Joe Stamber says**

Graham Masterton has enjoyed a fine and varied career as an author, penning horror novels, thrillers and even the odd sex manual. Now that he's turned his hand to the excellent crime series featuring Katie Maguire, he draws on the skills he learned in other genres to make her escapades as hard-hitting as possible. Whether he's writing about some unfortunate victim coming to a nasty end or Katie Maguire enjoying a

bedroom scene, Masterton leaves little to the imagination. I enjoy Masterton's style and the authentic Irish setting of this series. The novels weave together Maguire's professional and personal life to create a fascinating tale of her struggle to balance them both. Living Dead is a multi-threaded crime thriller that kept my interest from start to finish, starting with a horrific attack on a young woman that turns out to be part of a master plan to control the County Cork drug trade. Maguire is not a particularly pleasant character who makes mistakes and some questionable decisions, often making trouble for herself both personally and professionally. Living Death has some eye-rolling moments, but overall it's a great read, gritty and gruesome and definitely not for the faint-hearted, but more of the same for Graham Masterton fans.

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### **Cats of Ulthar says**

Review: LIVING DEATH by Graham Masterton

Author Graham Masterton is noted for his prolific output, his devotion to imaginative horror, and to his immense talent and ability to engross readers. In the Katie Maguire Series, he applies that talent to crime--specifically in Cork, Ireland. In this seventh in the series, Detective Superintendent Katie Maguire copes with an influx of stultifyingly dangerous imported narcotics, a rash of dognapping, kidnapping, and a new beau. She also welcomes into her home an ex-lover, a double amputee, who still carries a torch Katie can't return. Meanwhile behind the scenes, an enemy of Katie's goes to great lengths to destroy her career, and a madman creates "living deaths."

LIVING DEATH is rife with the entitlement of self, expressed through several different individuals. It is also rampant with extremes of violence and not recommended for the faint of stomach or heart. This was a story throughout which I rooted for the bad guys' comeuppance.

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### **Melissa says**

This series is one of the most disturbing series I've read. It's gruesome, graphic, and it can be very sexual at times. However, this book bothered me more than the other 6 strictly because of the dog fighting. I was brought to tears over the dog fighting. That part bothered me the most. There was one chapter that I skimmed because the animal abuse bothered me so much.

Other than that, another amazing book. I can't wait until the next one.

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### **CL says**

Another great DS Katie Maguire story. Her ex-boyfriend is back and wants to reconcile. Meanwhile the team is trying to find a missing girl, a dognapping ring and find where all the drugs in the local community are coming from. Great read. I would like to thank the Publisher and Net Galley for the chance to read this ARC.

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## **Maggie Kiely says**

I have read and enjoyed all the Katie Maguire books.

WARNING: If you want a 'true to life' 'down to earth' 'realistic' read then this series should be avoided. Each one is more unrealistic than the one before but I enjoy that and laugh at the madness. Nothing is set in stone with people dying in one book and alive again in the next.

Katie Maguire is a Garda Superintendent. She employs no risk assessment or management and sends her Guards into the most dangerous and precarious of situations with no thought for their or the bad fellas wellbeing.

We are constantly told that she does not sleep or sleeps badly. She often does not eat as she is too stressed with the job. Despite this she has an uncontrollable sexual appetite and will have sex with mostly anyone within a short time of meeting.

Katie has little to no moral compass or accountability. She does what she wants and takes no responsibility for the lives she destroys in the process

In this book there is a very strange mix of stories. There is a dognapping group in the area who are violent in their attempt to steal the dogs. They want them for fighting. The other story is about a health clinic purposely disabling people for a weird reason once revealed.

Katie's old love interest John is back and now recovering from injuries he sustained in previous book 'Buried'. He comes to live with Katie and she hires a carer for him. I am so surprised she did not give him over to her sister who seems to take on all of her strays!

The story is high on gore but the madness and unreality gave me a good laugh. I would recommend it I will await the next book.

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## **Steph says**

Another fantastic instalment in the Katie McGuire series. Always great plots that tell a great story with lots of sub plots interweaving. With a whole host of characters with stories and plots of their own always give the reader plenty to think and summarise about. Like I've said before you generally know who the culprits are from early on so it's not a mystery but it's how with the Garda find them out and when. It's this non stop action and pure drama that make me love it so.

I must say though that the only negative I have and it's only came about with reading so many of them, but Katie is always getting involved with some man or another and she seems to jump into bed with them as quick as she can blink. That's about the only thing I don't like about her and I really don't get this whole relationship/friendship with Kyna, it's so chaste and innocent with lines like 'Katie went to Kyna and she hugged her and then they kissed' either let her be attracted to purely women or men as this innocent love with Kyna is making me cringe.

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## **Ruth Bernardez says**

I love these books but must say I am starting to dislike the character. So her fiance lost his legs in part because of her and after her rocky relationship and how much she loved him, she suddenly stopped doing so. Then she meets a man, goes to bed hours after meeting him and next day she is already thinking in a live with him, marriage and even children. This from a resolute professional with intelligence enough to tackle the most vicious criminals. The sex scenes are as cringey as ever

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**Trina says**

I received this arc from Netgalley.

If you have a problem dealing with the abuse of animals (as I do), don't read this. I skipped the parts that contained animal abuse. The rest of this book was gruesome but I didn't have a problem with that. Katie, the main character, will make you want to smack her. Absolutely hated the way she treated John. The way that the book ended was kind of a cliffhanger.

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