



The Corruptible

Mark Mynheir

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How much money would it take for you to betray the truth? Ex-homicide detective Ray Quinn never had glamorous thoughts of the life of a private investigator?but being cornered in a bathroom stall by the enraged philandering husband of a client? That?s something he could live without. Retired from homicide and living with a painful disability, Ray?s options are limited. Stick to the job, keep impetuous sidekick Crevis alive, and spend quiet evenings with trusted pal Jim Beam, that?s about the best he can hope for. As a new client emerges, Ray finds himself in an impossibly large boardroom holding a check with enough zeros to finally lift him from his financial pit. The job seems easy enough: find Logan Ramsey, an ex-cop turned security officer who?s taken off with sensitive corporate information. But few things are easy in Ray?s world, regardless of the amount of zeros in the check.

The Corruptible Details

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Author : Mark Mynheir

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From Reader Review The Corruptible for online ebook

Paul says

A great story.

Jill Elizabeth says

The Corruptible is the second book in a series about cop-turned-private-investigator Ray Quinn. Now, if I had noticed it was the second book in a series at the time I was choosing a book to review (I received The Corruptible for free from WaterBrook Multnomah Publishing Group for this review), I would not have selected it. I did not read the first, and have a fairly hard-and-fast rule about not going out of order in a series if I can at all help it, because I don't like feeling like I'm missing something from the get-go. I was somewhat reluctant to read/review this book at all because of that fact. But I figured I would give it a go and see how it went.

Turns out, I was able to follow the story just fine without reading the first book. Granted, there were some references to earlier events and backstory that I did not understand right away, and I'm sure there were some nuances and/or references that I missed as a result, but all in all I found the story to stand decently well on its own two feet – a positive in its favor, as far as I'm concerned.

The novel opens with Ray Quinn getting beaten up in a bathroom stall because of a client – a bigger issue than getting beaten up would normally represent because Quinn is still recuperating from the career-ending (and life-changing) injuries caused by activities in the first book. While lamenting the life he has wound up in, Quinn takes on a new client/case – investigating another ex-cop. Through a series of twists, turns, and misdirections (intentional and otherwise), Quinn finds himself pulled in multiple directions and at the end of his rope more than once.

With a cast of characters ranging from the predictable to the pretty random, the book moves at a steady pace with plenty of action. I found myself rooting for Quinn almost from the start, and for his assistant-cum-mentee Crevis as well. The story was an engaging one and the characters were well-developed – the good guys were sympathetic, the bad guys were dastardly, and the not sure-what-to-think-yet guys were appropriately sneaky and flip-floppy. The writing style was easy to follow and easy to get into; this is not high literature, but it was a fun read with occasional flashes from great one-liners in the form of descriptions and observations.

I won't lie, I'm not rushing out to read the first book. But I'm not the world's biggest detective/crime story buff. I would say this is a solidly entertaining book nonetheless, particularly if you are a fan of the genre. I give it a three out of five.

Lisa says

First off, let me start by saying that Orlando, Florida is less than an hour away from where I currently live, and I thought it was really cool that I recognized some of the street names and places that were mentioned in

the book. That made it easier for me to connect with the story on an even more personal level, because it was close to home, so to speak.

This is the first book I have read by Mr. Mynheir, and you can be sure that it will not be the last. The characters and storyline were realistic and believable, which can be difficult for a writer to accomplish sometimes. You can clearly tell from the writing that the author had been a police officer for some time, and that colored the writing in a very positive way.

I really liked the fact that, without having read the first book in this series, *The Night Watchman*, I was able to jump right into this one and not feel like I had missed anything. In fact, I only learned this was part of a series when I reached the end of the book! To me, that is the sign of an excellent writer. I felt as though I was experiencing everything with the characters and seeing what they were seeing. This is something that I strive to accomplish in my own writing, so to me, this is huge.

I kind of laughed at myself a little bit, because as I was reading, when they got to the medical examiner's office, I almost expected him to be talking to Dr. G from the show on Discovery Health.

Overall, I found the story enjoyable and easy to read. I really was not able to find much of anything negative to say. If I had to pinpoint a negative, I would say that maybe the chapters should not have been broken up into such tiny bits. Every time the scenery changed, the author changed chapters. Some view this as a good thing and some will not.

Overall, I give this book a 4.5 star rating, and thoroughly enjoyed reading it and am very glad that I took a chance on it. I hope you will feel the same way.

****DISCLAIMER**** I received this book for free from WaterBrook Multnomah Publishing Group for this review. I was not compensated in any way or swayed in any manner to provide a positive review, and the opinions expressed above are my own.

Sela says

How much money would it take for you to betray the truth?

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As a new client emerges, Ray finds himself in an impossibly large boardroom holding a check with enough zeros to finally lift him from his financial pit. The job seems easy enough: find Logan Ramsey, an ex-cop turned security officer who's taken off with sensitive corporate information. But few things are easy in Ray's world, regardless of the amount of zeros in the check.

In what should be an open-and-shut case, Ray stumbles across Logan Ramsey in a seedy motel room. Only Ray wasn't the first to find him. Now Logan's dead, the client's information is nowhere to be found, and Ray's employer is less than forthcoming with the details. Suddenly the line between the good guys and bad guys isn't so clear. With a foot in both worlds and an illuminating look at an unhappy ending that could well be his own, which will Ray choose?

When I started this book, I really wasn't sure I was going to like it. It took awhile for me to get into it honestly. It's written in the first person, which is a departure from most books that I read. However, I kept reading, and I'm glad I did. The second half of the book picked up speed and was much better.

It's a basic old fashion gumshoe novel, unraveling more than one problem one thread at a time. I thoroughly enjoyed the ending and the character development. So much so that I plan on reading more of his books, especially the first Ray Quinn novel, *The Night Watchman*.

If you like mysteries without romance, read this one!

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from WaterBrook Multnomah as part of their book review bloggers program. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own.

Jade Eby says

Originally published at my blog *Chasing Empty Pavements*

Ex-homicide detective turned Private Investigator, Ray Quinn is on the mission to find out who stole his client's important information but when Quinn and his side kick Crevis (yes, like the crack in rocks) are thrown for a loop with a mysterious murder, the importance of finding out who did it is imperative. When Quinn and Crevis come up against some shady characters like a drug-dealing-biker-gang...will they be able to solve the crime?

The Good: Ray Quinn is actually kind of funny. I found myself laughing out loud to some of his cheesy, but clever one-liners. Also, the law enforcement side of the novel is very accurate (the author used to work in law enforcement so that helps, and I used to work in law enforcement so I also know what feels authentic and what doesn't). The novel itself wasn't bad, the plot was there, some interesting characters were there and surprisingly it held my attention from beginning to end. The biggest thing though was that it hit me only after I downloaded the ebook format of this novel that it was considered a "Christian" Fiction. Usually I am not a fan of Christian fiction but I have to admit that there was very minimal mention of God or religion. There were a few drops here and there but nothing like I expected from a Christian novel.

That being said however...

The Bad: The novel was pretty much squeaky clean. Even the murder scene was clean-no blood. I certainly appreciate Christian authors going for a different sort of novel, but if Mynheir wanted to go for a more authentic feeling novel, a little dirtiness should have been added. No cuss words, a clean but subtle hint at romance and even the "bad" guys weren't all that bad. The novel would be going along and then when something big would happen, it would happen with such cleanliness that I was jolted out of my reading experience and reminded that it was written by a Christian author and intended for a Christian audience. My other biggest complaint was the editing. Again, I'd be going along just fine and then there would be several sentences that just struck me as unedited and totally first draft-ish. I thought the editing job could have been done a little better.

So overall, I thought this novel was good but could have used lots of improvement. It was much better than I

expected.

****I received a complimentary copy of *The Corruptible* by Mark Mynheir as a member of the Waterbrook Multnomah Publishers Book Review Team. Visit www.WaterBrookMultnomah.com/BloggingF... to learn more about the Book Review Team and other novels available through Waterbrook Multnomah Publishers.

Crystal Starr Light says

A sequel that lives up to the first!

NOTE: I received this book from the Amazon Vine Program

Ray Quinn is now working as a PI for his Night Watch Man Detective Agency with Crevis, a young man trying hard to become a cop, and Pam, part-time administrative assistant. After a rough tumble in a men's bathroom, Ray gets an offer from Mayer Holdings to find some information that Logan, a former employee & "bad cop" stole. But as Ray digs, he learns this case gets weirder and weirder.

Night Watch Man was an incredible book. It totally broke the mold of most Christian fiction and had a protagonist that was sarcastic, rude, belligerent, and broken and who did NOT convert immediately at the end of the book. Not to mention, the story was interesting, and I liked the writing style. But at the end of the novel, I couldn't help but feel cheated out at the set-up for the sequel. Could Mynheir write a decent sequel or would it degenerate into stereotypical Christian fiction?

The Corruptible pretty much picks up not long after *Night Watch Man*. Ray Quinn has been doing odd jobs and escaping angry, cheating husbands. Crevis is trying to study for a test to become a cop. And then a wealthy man reaches out for Ray's help. It seems this request is just your standard corporate scam with shamed undercover cop, Logan, at its heart, but we learn really quickly a few things. A) Logan had a lot of enemies and B) things aren't always as they appear.

Ray Quinn, again, is the star of the series. He is basically Dr. House (for those of you who watch the TV series) for a Christian mystery story. He is flawed, he is rude, and he is somehow still likeable. I heartily enjoyed his antics, particularly the Mr. Nomvete scam (I only hope to God that it doesn't end up tying into the case Ray was working on--the ending is pretty shaky about that, and I hate such shameful deus ex machina coincidences like that). If I have any complaint about him it is that his alcoholism isn't shown to be more of a problem until now, it's a problem. It's like, people harp on him for drinking a shot or two (well, primarily Pam and she is a known teetotaler), and we rarely see Ray absolutely drunk out of his mind. It was hard for me to see why it was so important that he quit. Also, it seemed weird how alcohol numbed his pain much the same way Vicodin numbs House's.

Crevis was a charming character in the last book, but in this book, I felt he was nearly invisible. I love the relationship between Ray and Crevis, but I really wish that Crevis had a more active role. He has always been a quirky character, but he is so honest and good of heart. His desire to be a cop was charming, as was his dedication to studying to pass the test. Hopefully, he become more prominent in future books.

On the other hand, one character I would have loved to see less of was Pam. She was your stereotypical Christian character, though, to her credit, she didn't punch religion down the readers' throats (this is a huge departure for the Christian Fiction genre). I don't see how Ray can let her get away with so much nagging at

him (he says she more than earned it, but I don't recall her earning THAT much), and I cringe thinking that these two will end up being romantic interests (it's pretty obvious to me that once Ray cleans up a bit, he and Pam will be an ideal Christian item). One good thing about Pam, though, was her bit of backstory. Definitely not 100% goody-two-shoes Christian.

The other characters, however, are constructed of the most blazingly obvious cardboard. The character's description is a benchmark towards whether the character is pro- or anti- Ray. Take the Internal Affairs guy. Fat, with a messy desk, and ill-fitting clothes. Anti-Ray. Compare to Oscar. Neat desk, trim, greying hair. Pro-Ray. Mongrel. Fat, dirty, tattooed. Anti-Ray. Jason. Neat, good job, kind to kids. Pro-Ray. It's a little cheesy and way too easy to spot the baddies.

Since we are on the topic of spotting baddies, let's talk about the story. The story itself was interesting. A dirty cop? One who is basically hunted by almost everyone? Yeah, that's cool. But the weird point is how the story unravels. While a lot of the steps that Ray and Crevis take make sense (starting with the people Logan imprisoned, then going to his girlfriend, then his phone records), there were many times when they conveniently forgot a key clue until the very end. For example, they don't bother searching for Savannah Breeze's identity, but I would have thought they would have started looking for her immediately. Instead Ray and Crevis hunt after the Rebel Soldiers, which turns out to be a complete red herring and have no impact into their case whatsoever. Ray should also have been doing more research into Mayor Holdings, and he would have learned more. And also, it seemed very strange how basically almost all the suspects ended up being guilty of some part of Logan's death by the end (including the one guy brought up for one scene in the beginning).

Oh and random remark: the text messages were terrible. About the only difference they bore to emails was occasionally inserting "u" instead of "you". No "l8r" or "ur" or other textspeak. From Ray, maybe understandable, but Megan and Crevis? Not likely...

I know, looking at this review, it seems I have a lot of complaints and not a long nice to say about it. So I must rate it low, like a 2 or 3 stars, right? Actually, no, even with my complaints, I still liked the book quite a bit. It was more than enjoyable to read. I liked Ray Quinn and how he solves his mysteries (for the most part). There was a lot of neat information into how a crime was solved, and it is obvious that Mynheir has years of experience in this stuff. And the stuff I didn't like wasn't annoying enough for me to mark down, but it was easy to pinpoint and easier to discuss than to go on and on about the things I did like.

Although this is technically a Christian mystery, I think even general mystery lovers will want to take a look at this. What makes a mystery novel great is the protagonist, the "Sherlock Holmes" of the novel, and Ray Quinn is as interesting as they get. I enjoyed reading this and heartily recommend round two.

Ronald Roseborough says

Ray Quinn, currently a Private Investigator, is an ex-homicide detective formerly with the Orlando Police Department. He retired from the OPD after being shot in the leg while tracking down a murderer. Now he has to rely on a cane and a bottle of Jim Beam to get him through the pain everyday. In addition to his friends on the force, his support staff consists of his partner-in-training, Crevis, who provides the muscle, while learning the ropes. Also, helping is Pam Winters, whose murdered brother's case was solved by Ray in his last investigation. Pam, the steadying factor in this rocking boat, is now helping Crevis study for the entrance exam to the police academy, which he has failed twice. Ray is hired by the wealthy head of an

investment firm to recover a computer hard drive that contains sensitive information on the firm's clients. Quinn was picked for the job because of his close connections with the OPD and the fact that the suspected thief was an ex-cop named Logan Ramsey. The client doesn't want the police involved, but thinks Ray's connections could be useful. Logan was an undercover cop, a bit of a loose cannon, who inadvertently leaked information that resulted in putting some of his fellow policeman in danger. Ramsey, an old acquaintance of Ray's from the OPD, turns up murdered and the case starts to develop a bad smell. It will take more than the client's fat paycheck to keep Ray from using every means at his disposal to find the killer and the truth behind the missing hard drive. This is a solidly written, good P. I. mystery with a touch of the police procedural, but it lacks the spark or quirkiness to make it a standout. Provided for review by the well read folks at Library Thing and Multnomah Books.

Glen says

Ray Quinn has a permanent injury from getting shot up, so he's retired from the police force, and gets a few extra shekels working as a PI.

A mysterious client hires him and pays him way too much money to find a former policeman, drummed out of the force for corruption among other things. Finding the man isn't hard, he's dead in a seedy hotel room, but that's where the case really begins.

Somewhat cliched, but readable.

Bookmom says

Ray Quinn had been a Homicide Detective when he and his co-worker/fiancé were gunned down. The doctors patched up his hip and leg as best they could, but it's painful and he relies heavily on a cane, as well as his good friend Jim Bean. His fiancé didn't survive. He creates the Night Watchman Detective Agency after solving what turned into a high profile case that the police thought had been a murder suicide, while working as a night watchman in the building the murder took place; the first book in the series. He's now got consultant status with his old police unit.

He's just barely getting by when given a large check by Armon Mayer of Mayer Holdings to find Logan, an ex-cop who had been working for him in the security department. Logan is accused of breaking through a firewall and downloading private information about their very high profile clients and leaving the building with the hard drive in a satchel. They'll pay anything to get it back. Ray works with the police when Logan is found murdered in a hotel room. The mystery takes a number of directions and there are plenty of layers for Ray and the police to wade through.

The author, a retired detective, keeps the story interesting with the 'hows and whys' of police procedure and interviewing without bogging us down in technicalities. Even though the mystery has complex layers, the story flows at a good pace and I consider it an easy enjoyable read. Much of the outcome took me by surprise. Ray's issues with mental and physical pain don't in anyway hijack the story or his abilities to do his job.

The one thing that bugged me is that we don't know a whole lot about the two people closest to Ray who he

met in the first book. Crevis had been working as a night watchman along with Ray and helped on that case. He's now working for Ray while living on his couch for the past six months. The other person, Pam, is the sister of the minister whose name Ray cleared. But Ray has kept himself emotionally apart from everyone since his shooting, and apparently we don't know much because Ray doesn't. That seems to be changing as the story progresses. We still have a great deal to learn about Ray.

I was lucky enough to read the ARC of *The Night Watchman* and had planned on purchasing this second book. So I was thrilled when the ARC for this book became available to me. After reading this second book I've just purchased all three books in his *Truth Chasers* series.

Note: One character is obviously Christian, but it's only a very small part of the story and there is no preaching.

Read as an ARC for Amazon Vine Voice

H.A. Titus says

Back cover: How much money would it take for you to betray the truth?

Ex-homicide detective Ray Quinn never had glamorous thoughts of the life of a private investigator—but being cornered in a bathroom stall by the enraged philandering husband of a client? That's something he could live without. Retired from homicide and living with a painful disability, Ray's options are limited. Stick to the job, keep impetuous sidekick Crevis alive, and spend quiet evenings with trusted pal Jim Beam, that's about the best he can hope for.

As a new client emerges, Ray finds himself in an impossibly large boardroom holding a check with enough zeros to finally lift him from his financial pit. The job seems easy enough: find Logan Ramsey, an ex-cop turned security officer who's taken off with sensitive corporate information. But few things are easy in Ray's world, regardless of the amount of zeros in the check.

In what should be an open-and-shut case, Ray stumbles across Logan Ramsey in a seedy motel room. Only Ray wasn't the first to find him. Now Logan's dead, the client's information is nowhere to be found, and Ray's employer is less than forthcoming with the details. Suddenly the line between the good guys and bad guys isn't so clear. With a foot in both worlds and an illuminating look at an unhappy ending that could well be his own, which will Ray choose?

My Thoughts:

Let's look at the cons first:

Ray Quinn drinks. A LOT. But it's not shown in nearly as much of a glamorous light as in *The Maltese Falcon*, nor is it even shown to be funny like it often is in the *Thin Man* series. Ray pays the prices for drinking and he knows he has a problem.

I think there was one or two mild cuss words in the book.

And, this is a detective story. It's full of nasty people doing nasty things like cheating and taking drugs, and there are suggestions of boyfriends/girlfriends living together/sleeping together. However, it doesn't show any of these things nor dwell on them, unless a detective is speculating about how someone had the opportunity to kill someone else. Nothing in it made me squirm.

Now the pros:

This book reminds me of an old detective movie like *The Maltese Falcon* or one of the *Thin Man* movies. And honestly, I love love love the old detective genre. So I really enjoyed this book and I bet anyone who likes Agatha Christie, Dashiell Hammett, or even a more modern book like Randy Alcorn's *Deception*, would love this book.

The characters are well-drawn. We have the stereotypes of the story (of course) like the grouchy old codger detective, the bumbling, over-eager assistant, and two beautiful women. But since you can't really have a hard-boiled detective story without some variation of these stereotypes, it didn't bother me at all.

The story is well-written and had quite a few twists and turns. I guessed the culprit correctly, but not too much before the end of the book.

Conclusion:

I'd definitely recommend this book to people 16 and up, not because there's necessarily anything bad in it (besides the mild cuss words), but because of the intensity of the book. If you like detective stories, buy *The Corruptible* and look for other Ray Quinn novels.

Chrystal says

If you haven't already heard, Mark Mynheir author of *The Watchman* has written a new Ray Quinn Mystery Novel. And although this is an excellent follow-up to *The Night Watchman*, make no mistakes about it; ***The Corruptible*** truly stands fully on its own, as a first rate detective novel from a real detective.

In *The Corruptible*, we find Ray Quinn an ex-Orlando Police Department-homicide detective being hired by, Armon Mayer, a Germophobic and the wealthy head of an investment firm - to recover a 300-gig computer hard drive that contains sensitive information on the firm's clients - a relatively simple case of property retrieval. But, when Ray Quinn starts his investigation, he finds himself in the middle of a murder investigation, with too many suspects.

Oh, did I mention that Ray retired from the OPD after being shot and he now relies on a cane and a bottle of Jim Beam to get him through the pain everyday - because by his own admission, he "drinks Jim Beam in place of pain killers because they numb him and mess with his head, but at least with Jim he can function."

The Corruptible allows its readers to discover and root for a flawed hero who at times is funny, and deeply human, most of all, readers will get engrossed in a story of what appears to be a simple open and shut case of murder, if there is such a thing, but once Ray discovers the body of the suspected hard drive thief, ex-cop Logan Ramsey in a seedy motel room, it spirals into so much more.

And unfortunately for Ray, the brown satchel with his client's information is nowhere to be found. To add to the intensity Ray's employer is less than forthcoming with the details, and suddenly the line between the good guys and bad guys isn't so clear. It will take more than the client's fat paycheck to keep Ray from using every means at his disposal to find the killer and the truth behind the missing hard drive, or will it?

In addition to his friends still on the force, Ray's support staff consists of his Fedora wearing partner-in-training, Crevis Creighton, who happens to be Dyslexic, provides the muscle - while learning the ropes. And Pam Winters, a teacher at a private school, whose brother's death was initially ruled a murder-suicide until Ray's investigation proved otherwise and cleared the Pastor's name - this back-story is from in *The Night Watchman* - Pam does some part time work for Ray, She is also helping Crevis prepare for the written test for the police academy - which Crevis managed to fail at least twice already.

The Corruptible is a compelling read that has appeal for intermediate and adult readers, alike. Interestingly, Mark Mynheir provides an actual insider's viewpoint about the grainy world of private investigator, Ray Quinn - as he investigates, murder and money in Orlando, Florida. It begins smooth and subtle, then explodes into an action-packed story with strong characters, crisp dialogue, and viable suspects that will literally have you guessing until the arrest is made, right up to the bitter end.

Do you have the detective skills to solve this complicated mystery before it's too late - dive into the pages of *The Corruptible*....and find out.

I don't know how many Ray Quinn Mystery installments Mynheir has in store, but I would definitely enjoy reading another.

I received an ARC of this book from the publisher.

Patricia says

In "investigating" this book 2 in the Ray Quinn series, I came across a comment by the author that this is the last book in the Quinn series. So thankful that I could go in to this preparing myself for the series to end. Otherwise, I might be more bereft than I already am. :) I loved book one and loved this book two/too. Frankly, from the ending, I would have thought Mynheir had set the perfect framework for a third book, so I am glad to have been forewarned.

I am going on to read more books by this author--I am going to work my way through all of them.

Any who, I loved this story and Ray Quinn, onrey as he is. It is such a change in Christian books to have someone like Quinn who is flawed but loveable, outwardly agnostic but inwardly not as bullet-proof, and not have the book taken up with preaching and conversion, etc., ad nauseam, until the character does a 180. This is far more subtle and therefore (for me) likable and believable.

Vera Godley says

This is not typically the genre book I normally seek out - it is more of a "man's book." I do enjoy a good mystery, though, so that aspect grabbed me at the start. And yet, from the get-go, the author, Mark Mynheir,

cloaks the Protagonist, Private Investigator Ray Quinn, with crisp dialogue that marks him as a former policeman, narcotics and homicide cop, and member of the elite group of defenders of society. They live in a world vastly different from law abiding citizens. They rub shoulders with baser elements of society and speak a lingo that is man-ish, cop-ish, and definitely geared for this type of story line. I loved the colorful phrases. And could Ray Quinn turn a phrase with play on words and events! His wit just keeps coming out.

PI Ray Quinn owns The Night Watchman Detective Service. He is now a PI because in the previous book he was badly wounded and now has a permanent limp necessitating the use of a cane and his "friend" Jim Beam (whiskey).

Ray Quinn is not a Christian. But his very good friend Pam is and she is praying. Ray struggles with God and faith and alcoholism.

The story line takes Ray Quinn to the world of big finance to track down some stolen client data. Leads to murder. Does some bashing drug dealing motorcycle gang thugs.

An enjoyable read that even "Southern ladies" can get into. I would recommend it for a good, clean read for anyone 16 and older who enjoys a good detective story. It is an intense story and the plot twists and turns and will keep the reader on his/her toes. Ray Quinn struggles with his alcoholism and with what awaits him after death. His secretary, Pam, witnesses to him of God and Christianity in a believable manner. The Corruptible is well written and the characters are very well developed and likeable or deserving of hate.

Sometimes the first casualty...is the truth.

Click here to download chapter one of [The Corruptible](#). 1st Chapter to download

Ray Quinn is a tough, quick-witted former-detective-turned-PI hired to find a corporate security officer who's made off with confidential client information. Or so he's told. When Ray finds the officer dead in a motel he begins to wonder who the good guys really are—and at what price his soul can be bought.(from publisher's website)

About the Author: Mark Mynheir is the author of the Christy Award nominated The Night Watchman, the first Ray Quinn mystery. He has worked undercover as a narcotics agent, as a SWAT team member, and now investigates violent crimes as a detective with the Criminal Investigations Unit in central Florida, where he lives with his wife and three children.

DISCLOSURE: I was provided a complimentary copy of The Corruptible by the publisher, Multnomah, in order to render my review. I was under no obligation to provide a positive review.

Dan Cooley says

What do you get when you combine a Christian Marine with a SWAT Cop with a Dyslexic Detective?
Answer: One multifaceted author.

A story more engaging than The Corruptible is that of the life of its author. If you plan on reading anything by Mark Mynheir, it's worth taking a trip to his website at <http://www.copwriter.com>.

That being said, let's take a look at The Corruptible – The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly.

The Good

I read this book without having read the first in the Ray Quinn Series, The Night Watchman. The back story was woven in well so it wasn't a problem. I may pick it up now, as this was a good read and the reviews say the first book was even better.

I started reading The Corruptible one night, and quit after the second chapter. On July 4 I picked it up again and read the rest of the book through in one sitting.

The author's background makes the book informative as well as believable and interesting. The ending made sense and wasn't the let-down I've felt when finishing other mysteries. As a Christian Published book, it's more of a clean mystery (no sex or foul language) than a mystery with a Christian message.

The Bad

Nothing is more fun than getting wrapped up in a good book and forgetting what day, time and decade it is. Few things are more frustrating than coming back down to earth before you are ready. There were three things in this book that consistently reminded me I was reading, and brought me back to earth.

1 – The Editing: I'd get into the story and then a series of poorly written paragraphs – sentences that should be split, unnecessary words, etc. would remind me it was only a story. Like restoring a Ferrari and finishing with a coat of brushed-on house paint this book deserves better. It wouldn't bug me so much if the rest of the book wasn't so good. This was especially noticeable in the first few chapters. Either it got better or I was so wrapped up in the story I didn't notice anymore.

2 – The Dart Gun. You will know it if you read it. Like Jar-Jar Binks in Star Wars you want to hit fast-forward whenever it shows up. But, what mostly reminded me I was reading was...

3 – The Ugly

The Ugly

This book needed some ugly.

In the story the protagonist Ray a non-Christian ex-cop struggling with the death of his police partner. He's been injured by the same creeps who killed his partner and can't walk without excruciating pain. He's a bitter man using alcohol to dull his demons.

But then, the bad guys come calling. Ray has his chance. He takes off after them. But, due to his earlier injury, Ray falls down some steps and belly-flops on the concrete below. In a fit of anger and frustration he screams...

Nothing bad.

I'm no expert but I've ridden with cops on duty. If I'm supposed to believe in a bitter, addicted ex-cop he needs to have a dark side. Shoot, even a normal side.

It was hard to hate the bad guys as well. They too needed more ugly.

Yes, I know it was written by a Christian and is published by a Christian Publisher. But surely it can still be emotionally accurate. Shoot, I'm a pastor and I wanted more reality. This squeaked so clean I sometimes found it fake.

Recommendation

If you like a good detective mystery you will enjoy this book. The author knows his stuff. If I read chapters three to the end in one setting, it must have been good. With a fresh coat of good paint and some ugly added it could have been great. I'm sticking by Mark. Someday soon he will finish his Ferrari with style, and I don't want to miss it.

WaterBrook Multnomah Publishing Group sent me this book free for this review. You have to pay \$10 for yours. That means I made, like, \$3 an hour for this review. Use your time more wisely and order yours online.

DanielCooley.com

Sheri Salatin says

What do you get when you cross a crotchety retired police officer with a learning disabled assistant and a Christian secretary? A book full of larger than life characters and a story that will hold your interest until the end.

Ray Quinn is a private investigator. After working for the Police department as a homicide detective for over 20 years, he is now his own boss. This book begins his journey on his second biggest case. Written from first person perspective, Ray journals his thoughts and steps to solving a case that is quite baffling to everyone involved.

Realistic. If I were asked to give one word to describe this book, this is it. Ray Quinn is a very well-developed character. His problems are real, not sugar-coated and reading the story from first person made me feel as though I was privy to his most private thoughts. His character was consistent. Mynheir should definitely get 5 stars on writing convincing real-life people.

The story gives the reader a real glimpse into the life of a private investigator and the homicide detectives too. The way that Ray thinks and the decisions he makes are part of this very captivating story. I was also fascinated by the method and procedures that homicide detectives follow while solving a case. The pacing of this book was another part of lending to its reality. While many times, fiction books will be sped up for thrill, this book did not do that. I have to admit that at times I was frustrated by the slowness in the pacing. However, after reading through and finishing the whole story, I realize that the gait of this book was another crucial element lending to the credibility of a non-fiction feel. Also, the who-dunnit was surprising to me, which was a huge plus!

I was pleased to learn that Mark Mynheir was a law enforcement officer for twenty-three years. No wonder

he was able to write such a realistic, well-thought out, evenly paced, suspenseful mystery.

As far as the Christian message in this book? Don't read it for that. It will disappoint you. Ray Quinn is not a believer, nor is he even searching. His Christian secretary is a breath of fresh air for those of us who love the Savior. Still, nothing in the story was so offensive (even with Ray's alcoholic tendencies) that I couldn't move past it.

My rating: I'm going to have to give this book 3 stars, which to me means that it was a nice one-time read, though I had a few personal problems with it. However, I have to admit that Mynheir deserves a higher rating just for the realistic elements here. So though I'm going to keep my rating at 3 stars, I will jump at the chance to read more books by this author.

I hope this review helps you to make your decision on whether or not to read this book. I think that it all boils down to personal preference.

Many thanks to WaterBrook Multnomah Publishers for a review copy of this book.
