



Nadie lo ha visto

Mari Jungstedt , Gemma Pecharromán (Translator)

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Swedish crime at its best—dark, atmospheric, and chilling.

The island of Gotland is in the middle of a busy tourist season and getting ready for Midsummer, the 4th of July of Swedish holidays, when a young woman and her dog are found brutally murdered. The dog has been beheaded and is missing a paw; the woman is naked, covered in gruesome axe wounds, and her panties have been stuffed in her mouth.

What looks like a crime committed by the victim's jealous husband keeps the local police force on their toes. Then a second victim is found. A serial killer terrorizes tourists and locals alike, and Inspector Anders Knutas has to face additional pressure from the media and local politicians who are worried about bad PR for the island.

In his quest for the murderer, he is aided by Johan Berg, an intrepid young journalist from Stockholm who has been sent to cover the incidents and who gets involved with Emma, one of the first victim's close friends. Three women die before Knutas and Berg, each approaching the case in their own way, finally close in on the killer, who has always, until now, been the one unseen by everybody.

Jungstedt has written an atmospheric and exciting first mystery in clear, unadorned prose, in the tradition of Henning Mankell, Håkan Nesser, and Karin Fossum.

Nadie lo ha visto Details

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From Reader Review Nadie lo ha visto for online ebook

SpookySoto says

Esta es otra novela negra nórdica que sigue unos asesinatos en serie en Gotland, Suecia.

Es una obra interesante, bien escrita, con buen ritmo, un buen asesino y un buen misterio.

Me gustó el inspector Knutas porque no es el típico policía amargado y solitario. Es una persona normal, con hijos y esposa (personaje que me encantó a pesar de que no sale mucho). Tiene el típico estrés que se espera por estar manejando un caso de alto relieve.

Mi problema con esta novela, y con las demás nórdicas que he leído, es que son muy frías. Se enfocan mucho en la cotidianidad de los casos y el día a día del trabajo policial, cosa que no me interesa en lo más mínimo. Siempre siento que les falta algo para hacer que me adentre cien por cien en la historia, que permanezca en mi mente mientras no estoy leyendo, que quiera volver a ella y que sea memorable. No me daba deseos de leerla, tenía muchas ganas de acabarla, *para salir de eso*; sin embargo, mientras la leía, no me resultaba pesada, aburrida ni me cansaba; al contrario, me parecía interesante y quería saber en que acabaría. Es un caso curioso que me sucede con este tipo de literatura, que es buena, no aburre, es interesante pero aun así no me atrapa del todo. No sé cuál es la razón de ello ni que es exactamente lo que le hace falta para que me emocione y atrape.

En cuanto al unsubs, lo descubrí bien temprano, pero no me parece que sea muy obvio. Me gustó la parte de escuchar sus pensamientos y motivaciones.

Odié el caso extremo de *instalove* de Jonah y Emma. (view spoiler)

Finalmente, éste es un misterio interesante y entretenido, pero sigue siendo uno más del montón, no tiene nada de único o extraordinario aunque sirve para pasar el rato. Es corto y se lee con mucha facilidad y rapidez. Podría leer otro de la saga solo porque me cayó bien Knutas, pero no creo que lo haga por ahora.

Recomendado para quienes disfrutan de las novelas negras nórdicas.

Ellie says

Unseen by Mari Jungstedt is a Swedish thriller. I really wanted to give it a 3.5 rating but rounded up. The plot is fairly routine but the book is so well-paced and crafted that it managed to rise above its own ordinariness and be entertaining.

The other attractions of the book include the detective Anders Knutas who, while not the most dynamic of the Scandinavian gallery of world weary police officers is quite attractive and the portrayal of Gotland, a popular vacation area of the coast of Sweden.

The first half of the book was the most intriguing which resulted in my hanging in through the second, more predictable, half. Despite its limitations, however, I found Unseen entertaining and exciting.

Cris says

Muy predecible, a la mitad del libro ya sabía quién era el asesino ?

Kajsa Byne says

With that, I guess I've just read my first crappy Swedish crim novel :P

N.P. Statham says

Review via Crime Beat by N. P. Statham.

Killers are made, not born. In **Unseen**, Mari Jungstedt explores the psyche of a killer. What is it that makes a seemingly normal person commit unspeakable acts of violence?

In the tradition of the best European crime writers, Unseens opens with a gruesome murder scene. A young woman and her faithful watchdog are killed in a foggy morning, on a deserted beach in Gotland. The body is found nude, with several cuts and wounds. But the most appalling touch is the pair of panties stuffed on the victim's mouth.

Soon the police is alerted and not long after the media is on the case. The brutal and sensational murder creates panic among the population in Gotland, who are both in fear for their lives, and also concerned that the upcoming tourist season might be ruined.

The investigative team under Inspector Anders Knutas is under pressure to find the killer before the tourist season starts in earnest, and in the meantime more bodies keep piling up. But is there a connection between the victims? And what's the meaning of the panties?

Unseen is the first book from Mari Jungstedt I've read, and it's a solid example of the psychological mystery so characteristic of European writers. At the same time that our characters fight to solve the crime at hand, they also must face their own inner demons and conflicts, which can be just as engaging and dramatic.

The setting in the beautiful and idyllic holiday island of Gotland gives this procedural novel a touch of the cozy mystery. We're guided through a series of tightly interwoven lives and dramatic backgrounds while slowly unravelling the underlying plot under the gentle but firm guiding hand of the writer.

An added bonus for me was reading about so many familiar locations in my own adopted homeland of Gotland, which Mari Jungstedt describes to perfection, from the foggy mornings, to the beauty of the historical town and the windy evenings.

If you appreciate a slow paced mystery and psychological drama, I recommend Unseen, by Mari Jungstedt.

Mary Torres says

Me hubiera gustado ponerle un 4.5 de puntuación. El libro me gustó muchísimo y engancha bastante. Incluso he pensado en seguir leyendo la colección (aunque son muchísimos y no sé yo si en una isla tan pequeña como Gotland pueda dar tanto juego, pero eso es otro tema). Lo que más me gustó del libro es que no se centra exclusivamente en el misterio, sino que da mucha importancia a todo lo que pasa alrededor. Son muchos personajes y muchas tramas que se entrelazan. Eso me encanta.

La pega que podría ponerle es que el final me pareció demasiado rápido. Me gustó muchísimo, sin embargo, cómo la autora trata con el asesino y nos deja en ascuas hasta muy avanzada la historia. Yo tenía varios sospechosos en mente y al final, claro, acerté. Pero me equivoqué en algunos detalles. Me gustó mucho la forma en la que la autora trata las relaciones entre pareja o familia y que cada uno de los personajes tenga sus propios dilemas internos.

Vamos, que es un libro súper recomendable y que sin duda quiero seguir leyendo los demás.

Sofia says

Lo mejor de este libro sin dudas fue el comienzo, tiene una introducción muy llamativa. La forma en que esta esquematizado el libro me gusta, va por fecha; martes 12, jueves 14. Puede que resulte un poco largo en ocasiones porque es entendible que habrá días super cargados y otros sin apenas contenido, pero me parece original. Tenemos varios puntos de vista, detective knutas, un periodista, las mismas victimas, entre otros. Ahora vamos con lo que no me gustó. El libro deja de ser agil desde que finaliza el primer tercio de historia, se vuelve mucho mas pesado, no investigan realmente, me molesta mucho esto ultimo. Era un caso facil de resolver y no porque yo sea la lectora y tenga todos los puntos de vista, sino porque compartimos escenario con los detectives y FACILMENTE PUDO haber visto las pistas que yo vi. Les juro que es super obvio lo que pasa, pero bueno. Por un momento creí que iban a terminar tirandole el muerto a otro X que era obvio no era y me asusté, prefiero este final que le dieron. Otra cosa que no se, me resultó rara fue Emma, toda la historia que se da en torno a ella... si esto no continua me va a molestar mucho y así mismo me va a molestar que su historia siga, porque eso afecta todo. Me gusta que en las series se cierre todo en el libro que corresponde, eso entonces me molesta. Ademas de que veo de mas los romances en este tipo de libros, aunque no fue insoportable.

¿Recomiendo este libro? Sí, es una serie y los casos por lo que vi se vuelven mas complejos, espero eso y les voy a ir avisando. Ademas le tengo fe a los protagonistas.

Sonia De la rosa says

Me ha parecido un libro entretenido que engancha y que es fácil de leer; pero me parecido bastante flojillo. A mi me gusta las tramas que me sorprenda, y ver como los policías van encontrando las pistas para llegar a la solución del caso, en esta novela la policía se encuentra con la resolución de los asesinatos casi por casualidad.

Me ha faltado también que la autora profundizará un poco más en los personajes, no he llegado a empatizar con ninguno.

Se me ha hecho raro los diálogos, todos los personajes se tutean, me daban la sensación que se conocían de antes cuando en realidad se acababan de conocer. Sobre todo en el trato con la policía, no me parece normal que el comisario vaya a entrevistarse con los padres de una de las víctimas y desde el primer segundo les hablarán de "tú", no sé si es problema de traducción o al igual en los países nórdicos es la forma habitual de comportarse, pero a mi se me ha hecho muy raro y a veces me ha sacado del libro.

Lo que si me ha gustado y me ha parecido interesante es la forma en que la autora nos ha permitido ir conociendo al malo, a través de pequeños fragmentos no ha ido explicando las motivaciones del asesino, y el por qué de matar precisamente a esas mujeres.

Es una buena novela para pasar el rato, me esperaba un poco más por la fama de la autora. La experiencia no ha sido mala y volveré a repetir cuando busqué un libro sencillo, fácil de leer, que me enganchara.

Mi valoración esta entre las dos y media y las tres estrellas...

Carolien says

I have mostly avoided Scandinavian noir over the years as I don't particularly enjoy the violence and torture that tend to form part of noir as a genre. This book was a pleasant surprise. It's well-written, set on beautiful Gotland island and the violence at a level appropriate to support the plot. The translation reads easily and the characters interesting. I'll be reading more of the series.

Wanda says

I enjoyed this novel and found it to be quite gripping. The suspense is well maintained and I didn't guess who the murderer was until about the same time that the main characters were figuring it out. My only disappointment was a teeny bit of moralizing at the end (i.e. people should take better care of their children). But it was only one or two sentences so I will be willing to try more of this authors' work.

Rachel Hall says

3.5 stars

Whitsuntide sees the return of former local resident Helena Hillerström to the sparsely furnished cabin that her family still own on the island of Gotland with her boyfriend of six years, Per Bergdal. Now living in Stockholm for the past fifteen-years after a stressful and hectic spring, thirty-four-year old Helena and thirty-eight-year old Per begin their break with a gathering of Helena's childhood friends on June, 4th. As alcohol is liberally served and spirits raised, Per's jealousy is triggered when eternal bachelor, Kristian Nordström, flirts with Helena and the evening ends with a vicious feud between Helena and Per. Awakening with a splitting headache and the remnants of a hangover, Helena takes her beloved and watchful retriever, Spencer, for an invigorating walk on the beach at Fröjel on the west coast of the island. As she reaches the path down to the beach she is enveloped in a dense fog which leaves little visibility of the horizon and she is filled with a creeping sense of unease. Just hours later an elderly pensioner comes across the dog murdered in the most macabre way, with a paw hacked off and its head almost completely severed from its body. Just yards away, the shocked witness sees the trail of blood from the beach into the grove and is confronted by the body of a

naked woman, savaged with what looks to be deep stab wounds delivered by an axe and with her knickers stuffed into her mouth. The victim is quickly identified as Helena and boyfriend Per seen as having an obvious motive.

Visby police HQ under the supervision of Detective Superintendent Anders Knutas leads the investigation, with the added benefit of working alongside his close ally thirty-seven-year-old Detective Inspector Karin Jacobsson. Married to long-suffering wife and part-time midwife, Lina, he is a family man with twins. Such a serious case entails a medical examiner from the mainland being summoned to the body and the assistance of colleagues from the National Criminal Police in Stockholm. Lead investigator, Knutas does not make much of a memorable impression and is a fairly straightforward man lacking in dynamism. His surprisingly direct line of questioning certainly lacks guile, notably early on he asks one man why he does not have a girlfriend and if he is gay so bluntly that it is both insensitive and rude. At the same time, Johan Berg, crime correspondent for Regional News, Swedish TV is the first to hear a well-informed tip-off and editor Max Grenfors takes full advantage and sends him on location. Johan's contact somehow manages to continue furnishing him with prescient details and it is no surprise when he lands a series of scoops, delivering added colour and atmosphere and managing to strike up a connection with the best friend of Helena, Emma Winarve. Much of the investigative impetuosity comes courtesy of reporter Berg, whether that is due to his burgeoning relationship with local resident Emma or his drive for his work, and therefore I was rather surprised that the lead character is the rather unprepossessing Detective Superintendent Anders Knutas.

When an axe covered in the blood of the victim is found by two young children out playing and the fingerprints of Per Bergdal are found on the handle, everything points to the fiery temper of her boyfriend. Friends of Helena doubt Per's supposed guilt and even for Knutas his every instinct tells him that this is not the man he is after and it is no surprise that almost two weeks later Per remains vociferous in his protestations of innocence. That the axe was the property of Helena's family and Per had utilised it before holds no weight and with the tourist season on the horizon and the acknowledged dependency on the prosperity of the area a rapid response is required.

Unusually cold for the time of year with a ferocious wind blowing a gale at the start of June, the island of Gotland are preparing for the hordes of tourists who descend on the idyllic landscape in what has previously been a relatively murder free region, with only twenty incidents committed on the island since 1950 and a resident population of fifty-eight thousand. Under increasing pressure from the local authorities to restore calm to the region and thus not hinder the tourist trade, the media make merry from the scare story of a serial killer roaming the peaceful island of Gotland. As things return to normality on the island, less than two weeks later another young woman, thirty-five-year-old Frida Lindh is murdered and again the body is found with her knickers stuffed into her mouth. As Per is released, Frida's friends tell of the man she chatted to for over an hour in the bar they visited. Flirty, sociable and attractive this second victim shares much common ground with Helena. Then on the day of Midsummer Eve another murder victim is discovered... Three homicides in less than three weeks. As Knutas faces the prospect of a serial killer in their midst, his colleagues desperately struggle to find a connection between the three victims, but as pressure mounts they are engaged in a race against time to uncover the perpetrator before he strikes again.

Marked by italicised text throughout the entirety of the novel are chilling extracts from the mind of the vicious predator that sends shivers down the spine and offers up the rationale behind these murders and their poignancy leaves a feeling of pity for both the perpetrator and the victims of this sorry tale. *Unseen* is solid if unspectacular fare, but does lack a certain dynamism and the tension throughout is minimal. Much of the novel's relevance pertains to its exploration of a largely closed community paralysed by the fear of a serial killer at large, under the competing pressures of an economy dependent on the tourist industry and a media keen to capitalise on the news value. Brooding and atmospheric, this is a well executed tale told with

sensitivity. Unseen is translated into American English by Tiina Nunnally.

Gisela Hafezparast says

Probably more of a 3.5, but a great story to a new series. The story is based in Gotland, which is a part of Sweden which I had no knowledge of before and which you start to get to know through the events of the story. Good characterisation with characters which can be of further interest for future books. For once, a happily married detective and his co-workers also seem pretty balanced for now. The story and the background to the murders was well explained and although I guessed who the murderer was about three-quarter through the book, I wasn't 100% sure till right at the end. Definitely going to read the next book in the series.

✿ Deni says

[why does Hangman kill the first three women without them even have time to react but keeps the fourth one as a hostage?, and why did nobody realised they all went to the same school until the last few pages? I'm sure real police

Laura says

Bastante entretenido, y mantiene la intriga, a pesar de que adiviné al asesino...

Filipa says

"Ninguém viu" é um livro pequenino mas muito bem estruturado e com uma história que desde logo agarra o leitor.

Assassinatos com uma particularidade que vai dar a volta aos investigadores ao tentarem perceber o porquê de tal característica. . .

Um jornalista insistente que tenta fazer o seu trabalho e tentando respeitar ao mesmo tempo o trabalho da polícia para não comprometer a investigação e que consegue algumas informações que irão ajudar no caso. .
. uma grande ajuda. . .

Assassino da história. . . alguns suspeitos. . . suspeitos esses que não contam pormenores quando são interrogados que podem ser cruciais para o avanço da solução dos crimes. . .

Assassino da história. . . as suas razões para cometer tais actos. . . terão a ver com acontecimentos correntes ou passados?! O que aconteceu na sua vida para despoletar tal raiva e dar início à saga de assassinios??

Também temos vida pessoal e familiar que dão o seu quê de normalidade quando a cidade é assolada pelas mortes e que mostram que os polícias também têm a sua vida própria, o que eu gosto de ler por vezes.

Que venha a leitura de "Ninguém quis saber".
