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A San Francisco detective becomes entangled with a private intelligence agency as he investigates what appears to be a traceless form of murder

A couple meets in a seedy hotel room for an illicit affair, the rules of which are simple: no names, no personal details, the specifics of their lives off-limits. It's all very exciting to Lore Cha—the wife of a successful Silicon Valley entrepreneur—who thinks their forbidden meetings and taboo sexual encounters are exactly the escape she's been looking for: every single detail is as she imagined. But that's the problem. Phillip Krey anticipates every thought before she has it. He plays out her untold fantasies down to the last detail. His insights are beyond intuitive; they're invasive, even frightening. It's as if he has access into her mind. Across town, Elise Currin, wife to one of San Francisco's most powerful businessmen, is also seeing Krey, and is slowly being driven insane by his ability to tap in to her most private desires. When it's revealed that these women are also seeing the same therapist, a chilling scenario unfolds, and the quiet, plotting detective Marten Fane is called in.

Slowly Fane uncovers a plot that goes beyond Krey to reveal a powerful private sector, secret government involvement, and one of the most elaborate and monstrous psychological experiments imaginable: a traceless form of murder.

Pacific Heights Details

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From Reader Review Pacific Heights for online ebook

librarianh20 says

Enjoyable thriller with an interesting psychological twist. I would have liked to known more about the bad guy and his overall psychology-- it would have deepened the emotional content and ratcheted up the tension considerably.

Pertinent details--covert detective is approached by psychoanalyst to investigate breach of her secure files after realizing 2 clients are having an affair with the same man who appears to know things that are only in her files. Turns out the Lothario is an intelligence wonk doing research in the civilian world after driving several prisoners to suicide in Middle East facilities. He's got a contract with a big intelligence conglomerate to see if he can do this.

There were glimpses of depth to the characters, but in spite of some intimate details given out, you never get too attached to anyone, which I think is a shame.

Kay says

David Lindsay is now writing under the alias Paul Harper. It took some detective work on my part to find him [duh just go to his website--so you can see why I'm not in the detecting business!]. I was happy he finally wrote another book. And this one was good- not exactly like his past stuff [which was better] but good enough to look forward to another one. I probably would have given it 3 1/2 stars if possible.

Diego Martins says

Sabe quando uma história é boa? Quando você começa a xingar os personagens. E com esse livro, eu, dentro do ônibus, xinguei o vilão desse livro.

A história em volta dos personagens é interessante, mas eu estava mais preocupado com o que iria acontecer com os personagens do que onde a história estava me levando. A escrita do Paul Harper (David Lindsey) é boa, mas em alguns momento enche o saco ele descrevendo San Francisco e o clima, porque não faz diferença nenhuma para a história. Alguns desses capítulos, ele poderia ter usado para amarrar as pontas que ele deixou soltas.

Tammy says

couldnt get into this book. too much going on. lost interest fast. didnt finish reading it.

Les Gehman says

Pacific Heights: A Novel by Paul Harper a.k.a. David Lindsey is a wonderful psychological thriller. When a psychotherapist discovers that two of her patients are having affairs with the same man, and that man seems to be uncannily able to see into their innermost secrets, she looks to Martin Fane for help. Fane, a retired SID detective, soon uncovers a connection to deeply buried intelligence secrets. It results in a race against time as Fane rushes to head off the master manipulator.

Pacific Heights: A Novel is a fast-paced thriller that keeps the reader guessing as Fane unravels the mystery. Highly recommended for fans of psychological thrillers.

Thanks to LibraryThing's Early Reviewers for a chance to read this advance reader's edition.

A. S. says

"Pacific heights" starts out on an interesting idea: A mysterious guy called Ryan Kroll has intimate and psychologically manipulative relationships with two women--both Lore Cha and Elise Currin are wealthy wives who rarely see their millionaire husbands, and both use the same therapist, Vera List.

Before long, Vera contacts former intelligence officer Marten Fane, and confides that she thinks both of her clients are in a relationship with the same man--a stranger who goes by different names, and somehow has access to and uses Vera's notes on Lore and Elise, to manipulate them. Fane immediately adds security measures to Vera's office, and tries to find as much information about Kroll as possible.

Kroll, meanwhile, is close to getting Lore and Elise right where he wants them. Both victims are attracted to movie-handsome Kroll, but grow gradually frightened of his grip over them. But can they figure out what's happening, in time to save themselves? And what is Kroll's ultimate goal?

As I mentioned in the beginning of my review, the premise is certainly interesting. And, as a reader, that's the main criteria that I choose my books by. However, the story itself, tended to drag out. I kept reading only to find an explanation behind Kroll's actions, but found it to be a little too simple and not necessarily logical. I could think of at least one explanation which would have made a little more sense. The storyline could have used some more developments, to keep it from being fairly predictable. In the last forty pages or so, the story finally picked up, but this came too late to make a difference.

Sandy Pestill says

Terrific murder mysteries.

Denise says

What a great summer thrill ride -- and a fantastic debut for a new series featuring retired SID detective Marten Kane. Two wives of well-known San Francisco entrepreneurs are seeing a psychotherapist -- they don't know each other, but one man, Ryan Kroll, knows both of them -- very well. In fact, he knows their most intimate secrets, fantasies, hidden horrors and insecurities. AND he intends to use that knowledge against them in the most personal way possible. He seeks them out, contrives to meet them, and begins a

love affair with both Elise and Lore and uses the knowledge he has stolen from the therapist's office files to control and manipulate them. What is his goal? Enter Marten Kane -- the ultimate "fix it" man -- he has both the discretion and the intelligence to figure out what Ryan Kroll is doing and to try to stop him before he carries out his plans with the two women.

High recommend to all fans of the suspense thriller genre! I am eagerly looking forward to Paul Harper's (a pseudonym for David Lindsey) next installment in the Marten Kane series.

Ray D. Windsor says

Plot pace keeps interest, and character development and description done well.

.Liked detailed description of locations and behavior. Recommend to thriller, psychological readers. Need eight more words, so these are they. Very good, await more.

Claudio Valverde says

Empezó muy bien y terminó bastante flojo. Prometía más de lo que al final mostró. Se va diluyendo en la medida que avanza la trama. Una lástima

Estibaliz79 says

Pues no, no me apetece darle las dos estrellas de "vale, por lo menos es entretenido, por más que los thrillers no sean lo mío..."

Novela farragosa donde las haya, que no transmite el horror de los hechos que en ella se supone que se narran; con personajes vacíos a patadas (incluido el protagonista, que, si no entiendo mal, es la pieza central de toda una serie de novelas) y una motivación por completo carente de interés.

¡Siguiente!

Virginia Markhart says

First time reading this author. This was an easy book to read. Interesting. Perverted. Complicated. Good.

Becky says

4.5/5

It took me awhile to read this book. Not because it wasn't good but the beginning was not that engaging to

me.

The rest I could not put down. Highly recommend. Just get through the first 150 pages!

Suzanne says

I thought this plot was diabolically clever! And creepy to think it could happen. I really liked Marten Fane and his team - wish this was going to be a series.

Karen says

This book was quick moving - sometimes I found it difficult to keep up with who is whom in the characters.

But I feel a little frustrated with two parts in the book - I don't want to spoil it - but I feel that near the end we should have been told who was seen in the video cameras; and the second area was the actual ending... what?
