



The Daylight Thief

Alan Williams

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As the second half of the 19th Century dawns, Jack Follows, a Nottingham-born son of a shoemaker, yearns to drag himself out of the torpor of his lower-class life.

A sensuous encounter with irresistible aristocrat Freda Deverick and the chance discovery of his artistic talent seem to present him with a life line out. But as his infatuation descends into obsession, Jack sets off on an ill-fated twenty-year quest through Victorian England over which all his achievements will slowly begin to unravel.

A century later Simon Smith's life has hit rock bottom. By chance he discovers Jack's meticulously kept journal.

As parallels between their lives emerge he is compelled to embark on his own quest in search of Jack, Freda and a personal redemption that could only be written by the past.

Inspired by actual events, *The Daylight Thief* is the debut novel from author Alan Williams, which lays bare the thin line between hope and obsession. Absorbing, tender and wry, it is tumultuous journey through time and the human condition that proves that our dreams are never out of reach.

The Daylight Thief Details

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Author : Alan Williams

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From Reader Review The Daylight Thief for online ebook

Sam says

This was our book club read for February, we try and read books that have been written by people from the same organisation as us, after all they have made the incredible effort to write a book in the first place.

I found the storytelling a little stilted at first and maybe this was because some of the language struck me as a little odd and the little bits where it's written in Jack etc's accent - something that always irritates me, but as the story developed the writing became smoother and the story flowed better.

It's a fairly simple story, and it was pretty obvious where it was going, but that didn't stop it from being enjoyable and it had a ring of reality to it. Anyone can find an old diary and find themselves drawn into their ancestry and the story of the people who helped to make us who we are.

Good luck to Alan in his writing career, when's the next one coming out?

Tracy Lowe says

I read this after it was recommended by Nottingham magazine, Left Lion. Pleased I did. Great little story spanning the years, peppered with familiar Nottingham landmarks and local history (even a mention for little old Eakring!) Great stuff !

Melanie says

I won this book in a giveaway here on Goodreads. I was excited to get this book and start it. The writing is really good and I found myself drawn into the story and not wanting to put it down until I was done with it. The descriptive language in this story is unmatched. I felt like I was in the scene with the characters. Very well written. I hope that you will give this book a chance because you will not be disappointed!! Thanks so much for the giveaway!

Amber says

The Daylight Thief was the first book that I won & received in a giveaway from goodreads. I have always loved to read but have honestly not read an entire book since the birth of my son 4 years ago. I started this book not knowing anything about the plot or reading reviews but could not put it down. It has become the 1st book that I have read in 4 years & I am recommending it to everyone. I would nap at night & get up just to read more. The writing style allowed me to picture every scene & made me feel like I was present in every conversation. I learned a lot about photography in the old days & found parts of this book to be funny and amusing. The correlation between the past & current day was beautifully done. I hope that others will consider reading this book & I promise that you won't be able to put it down. I hope to read more from this author & he should be commended on a job well done. I'm a new fan.

Joanna says

A terrific debut novel, it had me totally engrossed and unable to put it down.

Two stories running in parallel but interlinked, reflecting superbly those eras, with evocative descriptions, sympathetic treatment & a romantic thread which was understated but crucial to the whole story line.

Covering elements of local history, genealogy, art & photography it is well researched, very interesting and humorous at times.

I finished it eager to share it with others so this author gets the publicity and readership the book so deserves.
