



Tregunna

Carla Vermaat

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In a farmhouse on the Camel estuary in Cornwall, a 5-year old girl finds her parents brutally murdered.

Fifteen years later the house is deserted and the killing still remains a mystery.

Then the body of a 50-year old woman is found on a cliff edge in Newquay. DI Andy Tregunna is faced with the task of leading the investigation, but soon personal matters force him to step back.

On compassionate leave and with little else to do than fight his own demons the unsolved case becomes more and more an obsession to him. As he is drawn deeper into a dark world of secrets, lies and revenge, his private investigation collides with his personal life.

The truth is even more sinister than can be imagined...

Tregunna Details

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From Reader Review Tregunna for online ebook

Ms Kathryn Pizar says

An interesting start to what will hopefully be a good series

As the author admits that English is not her first language there are a few mistakes, but nothing that can't be ironed out with careful editing.

I love that the story is set mostly by the sea in Cornwall. It makes a change from the usual gritty inner city murders.

I don't usually like books written in the first person, but in this one I found it fitted quite well. It also took a bit of time to get used to the plot jumping back and forth between two different months. One being the investigation and the other with Tregunna in hospital. But that worked out OK too.

Tregunna is unwell, and has had major surgery, but still manages to be involved in a serious murder investigation. In reality I suspect he would've been on sick leave for a lot longer. Also his sleeping with a witness and breaking & entering a witness's home, although it never came to light, should be a no no for any policeman.

The plot was intriguing, and although there wasn't a lot of action it did gather pace quite well, and I did enjoy it. I will read the next in this series, and hope that there will be more.

June Finnigan says

Book one in the Incredible Tregunna detective series

I accidentally read book three first and then book two! But no matter, I have still thoroughly enjoyed the whole series. In this first introduction to Andy Tregunna, we learn quickly that he is unwell and is facing a life threatening operation. We cannot help but feel sorry for him as he forges on with his need to find a woman's killer, despite his being on sick leave. The plot involves a number of fascinating characters and we are kept guessing right up to the traumatic ending. Very good.

June Finnigan - Writer

Crystal Toller says

DI Tregunna

This is the story of a DI in Cornwall. DI Tregunna gets his first murder case when Jane Croft is murdered. Tregunna is diagnosed with bowel cancer and has to go on sick leave when he has an operation to remove the tumor. The mystery was very good and it took me quite a while to put it all together. This book kept me interested all the way through and was a great read. Highly recommend this series and this book.

Tony Berry says

Some quality descriptive writing but these intensely detailed passages read like a stream of writing workshop exercises loosely connected by the mystery-solving theme. Much of the pleasure of reading was diluted by the numerous typos and general errors and inconsistencies that should have been erased or corrected at the editing stage. For example, Tregunna smells coffee being brewed in the kitchen ... and the woman serves him tea. Apostrophes are missed or misplaced (the plural of drama is dramas, not drama's, and the plural of photo is photos, not photo's). Stationary would be standing still, not the paperwork intended. There is water that leeks rather than leaks. And how does "a single drop forbode a shower"? Then there is "Cornish born and bread" - presumably buying a loaf.

It was all too much and disruptive to the reading. A pity, as there's an reasonable story against a pleasurable backdrop waiting to be enjoyed, although DI Tregunna is a bit of a wimp for a man in his position. Sensitive new age guy and all that is one thing, but this is rather too much. Let's hope the sequel (now available) underwent more rigorous treatment.

Irene says

Suspenseful and cleverly written

I finished the book in just a few days, I really liked the writing style and the description of the characters and surroundings and landscape of Cornwall. The storyline was intriguing and kept me wanting to continue reading. The main character is vulnerable and sometimes his actions are not the smartest. But he doesn't let go and is determined to solve the case. Enjoy reading this book!

David says

The story line was good enough, I just thought it was presented in the wrong way. The beginning got quite confusing, was Tregunna in hospital or at work.?

S.M.Eves says

Murder extreme

This is book 1. I started with book 2. It worked out ok. What an exciting book to read. It was murder hard and cruel but it was filled with how abused girls suffer for life. I am one, my brother abused me from 10 years of age. When I was 12 I had a miscarriage, I thought it was a heavy period, it was not until I married and miscarried my baby did I realised what that period was. Both my parents knew about my brother's abuse but did nothing about it. My heart went out to the sister/mother. Just read this book and see how you feel as it ends.

Carla Vermaat is an excellent writer and I trust that she will write many more books as touching as this one.

william burree says

Unusual story

It is a story that I never . Thought I read as he was telling about hi as self as well . As the fiction story

charles whitehead says

Not for me

A plodding and unnecessarily complicated book and not a book I enjoyed. Also as a resident in the county itneeded more research on Cornwall.

Lesley says

I stuck with it, which is fairly unusual when a book keeps going back and forth, these days. So it was definitely good enough to keep my attention.

Whether it was because of the murders (I had guessed part of the conclusion long before getting there), or whether it was the story of his bowel cancer running alongside, I'm not sure.

I'll go on to the second book in the series, that's for sure.

Kendra says

A compelling and swift read with many interesting components to it.

"I sit down, leaning a bit forward, hoping that my sweater covers the bulge on my belly. I don't know if anyone told her that I am wearing a stoma bag. It's not something I can easily ask her."

The story is set against the beautiful, dramatic scenery of Cornwall. It opens with a five-year-old girl discovering that her parents have been brutally murdered. This murder is one of many in the area which has gone unsolved over the years. Meanwhile, back in the present-day, Inspector Andy Tregunna has just taken on his first murder investigation. The body of a woman has been discovered in a car park by two ten-year-old twin boys. Figuring out the identity of this woman and piecing together the various components of her life is hard enough, but Tregunna must also learn how and where she died and, most importantly, who would want to kill her.

Unfortunately, Tregunna's progress is slow and his increasing stomach pain and worries about his health only make matters worse. When he's forced off the case due to an emergency operation to remove a cancerous tumour from his colon, he not only has to contend with unsympathetic colleagues while also trying to get to grips with a stoma, but he also realises that the body in the car park is linked to other deaths and

disappearances in the area. In order to solve the murders, Tregunna will have to break all the rules and work his sick leave, if his body will allow him.

Inspector Tregunna is a refreshing change from the usual hard-boiled and, sometimes, insensitive male detective. When we first meet him he's reflecting on how difficult it was to see his first body, that of a young man who'd been hit by a lorry. Later we see him struggling to come to terms with his new disability and the possibility that the doctors may not have been able to remove all of the tumour, meaning he'll have to undergo further disruptive, complicating and potentially painful treatments. Despite all of this, Tregunna continues his investigation of the case, with some help from a sympathetic and astute female colleague.

I enjoyed this novel and look forward to reading book two in the series.

Mike Tibbles says

Really, really good book this one...A very well told story, you don't want to put it down. She has the ability to 'paint a picture with words' I really recommend this book and personally I can't wait for the next one...

Clare says

I won this book in a good reads giveaway. Set in beautiful Cornwall a 5 year old girl finds her parents brutally murdered. Fifteen years later a woman's body is found on a cliff edge discovered by a young mother and her two boys. DI Andy Tregunna leads the investigation digging deeper and deeper into the dark past of relations to the victim and those connected to her ; therefore revealing a sinister secret totally sickening beyond belief. In the meantime DI Tregunna has his own demons to contend with fighting a life threatening illness whilst not being able to switch his mind off from the investigation. Also unbeknown to him he puts himself in danger almost becoming a victim himself.

Carla Vermaat says

TREGUNNA - CUSTOMER REVIEW by Sarah Dahl
Average rating 5 / 5 1 rating

Original approaches and emotional depth

I absolutely enjoyed this book and couldn't put it down until I finished after three long reading sessions. Not only is it a solid crime story with many likeable and realistic protagonists, there are many different layers to this story that make it unique and drew me in so that now I want to read more. Carla Vermaat uses the lovely, rugged setting of Cornwall, its beaches, pubs and people, to give the reader a realistic insight into life (and death) there. Her people are original and the characters full of depth and emotional realism. You will come to like inspector Tregunna a lot, and the subplot of what he has to go through in his private life is as fascinating and interesting as the murder investigation itself. Even when he only narrates from his hospital bed I found myself hooked and rooting for him. Carla Vermaat manages to easily make the reader connect with her characters and feel for them, there is no black-and-white painting of good and evil, everything is

highly realistic and believable/plausible. Technically, I was at first wary of her intersecting of time-frames, but she pulled it off nicely so that Tregunna's investigational time-frame and his (later, then again present) private life were set against each other, keeping things interesting and giving insights bit by bit. Jumping back and forth in time can be tricky, but in this instance it made the read even better, fresher. I found myself looking forward to the hospital scenes, even though those aren't cheerful, but Vermaat's realism and character-depth drew me in and kept me hooked until the end. I just hope that what she hinted at at the very end will come true, in a later sequel with Tregunna, who then hopefully will have an easier time, I kept to like this investigator a lot and can't wait to read more of this author. This is a crime story that can easily keep up with the "big" players in the field and Vermaat is at eye-level with most authors of the genre I enjoy.
