



Cold as Ice

Lee Weeks

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There's a time to love, a time to hate, a time to heal . . . and a time to kill.

On a freezing cold winter's day, the body of a young woman is pulled from an icy canal in London. To D.I. Dan Carter it looks like a tragic accident rather than the work of a murderer. But D.C. Ebony Willis is not so sure. Why has the woman's face been painted with garish make-up and wrapped in a plastic bag?

Meanwhile cosmetics saleswoman Tracy Collins receives a phonecall. It's been twenty years since she gave up her daughter for adoption, so when Danielle gets in touch, she hesitantly begins to kindle a relationship with her and her grandson Jackson. But when Danielle suddenly disappears, Tracy is plunged into the middle of a living nightmare.

With the discovery of another body, it becomes clear that Danielle is in grave danger. There is no time to lose and Ebony Willis must take on the most challenging assignment of her career - to play the role of the killer's next victim.

From the author of the bestselling *Dead of Winter* comes a page-turning new thriller that will have you hooked from start to finish.

DC Ebony Willis must relive her own troubled past as she goes undercover to ensnare a ruthless and twisted killer

'By the end of this book I was literally gasping for breath! Totally gripping' Crimesquad.com

'A gritty and atmospheric read' Closer

Cold as Ice Details

Date : Published December 5th 2013 by Simon & Schuster UK (first published December 2013)

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Author : Lee Weeks

Format : Kindle Edition 358 pages

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From Reader Review Cold as Ice for online ebook

Lamees Alrasheed says

it's too dark for my taste .

Trevor Snape says

I really liked this book. the story revolves around a person who kidnaps young single mothers, tortures them and finally kills them. The task to capture and stop this person falls to the team of MIT 17 (major investigation team number 17) based in London. The story throws up a number of different subjects and the reader is kept guessing until near the end who this person is and then it is a race against time to save some of victims. A good read.

Lainy says

Time taken to read - 7 days (on and off)

Pages - 358

Publisher - Simon & Schuster

Blurb from Goodreads

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My Review

A young woman's body is found in a frozen loch, the police quickly ascertain that this isn't an accident and

the investigation kicks off. The woman's body has been terribly mutilated and over a lengthy period of time, is this the start of a deranged killer? We meet Danielle & little Jackson, Tracy gave Danielle up for adoption years ago, now Danielle is looking for her to meet her and her little boy. However Danielle soon disappears and Tracy is left to look after the little boy and soon a horrific nightmare.

I really like Lee Weeks writing, the story jumps from the investigation, to Tracy and Danielle and little insights to the killer. The chapters are short which I always like in a book, especially if you are working and only get limited time to read. The killer is twisted and some of what he does to the victims is horrific, more so if you have a good imagination and visualisation. The police enter into a bit of a cat and mouse game and realise just how clever and devious they are.

An action packed read that keeps the reader engaged right to the end, my only complaint is I figured the killer out really quickly for reasons I won't go into as I don't want to spoil it for any other readers. It isn't often I catch on and guess the killer so I was a wee bit disappointed, overall though it is a very clever and twisted story. 3/5 for me, I have read Weeks before and I will read her again.

Melinda Irvine says

A few weeks ago Simon and Schuster featured Lee Week's British 'DC Ebony Willis' crime series in one of their newsletters. The first book was free, and books 2-4 were heavily discounted — I bought them. Why not I thought, I like a good crime thriller. This review is about 'Cold as Ice' (book 2 in the series).

The first book (Dead as Winter) introduced us to DC Willis (a young detective with a troubled past) and her co-workers. The crime (a 13 year old cold case + a few additional murders) was solved and settled by the end, so there were no disgruntled serial killers stalking her into the next book. I liked it and had enough interest in the characters to read this next one (Cold as Ice).

In the second book the body of a young woman is pulled from under the top ice of a frozen canal. She has unusual wounds and the whole crime scene appears staged and controlled. We jump back into the lives of DC Willis and her 'guy' as they race against the clock (literally) to catch a serial killer (who is kidnapping and slowly torturing young single mothers).

It's a plot driven thriller so I'm not going to give away the story, and it's a fair read. The characters are believable and engaging, and the author uses their mini narratives and dialogue to move the story forward.

I was really getting into it (and it really did start out as a 4 star read) but by 3/4 in, was losing me as the story began complicating itself with exotic species of snakes and toxic spiders (also snakes don't 'pause to listen') as well as extremely gruesome descriptions and violence. The violence and gore didn't seem at all necessary, it just seemed to be added for the sake of it. Maybe to help 'Cold As Ice' enter the 'dark thriller genre'?

Also the author uses this weird 'point of view' of view technique where she chops and changes from one character to another in the flick of a sentence. One minute the story is narrating the actions of a cop, next sentence (without any real warning) you're in the head of the killer. It's a bit awkward at times because this crime series is touted as the 'DC Ebony Willis' books -- but there is so much 'narration' from her offside (the guy) DI Carter at times I wonder who the protagonist is actually supposed to be.

If I hadn't already bought books 3 and 4, I probably wouldn't continue reading this crime series.

3 stars from me.

Robert says

Couldn't finish this book. Just so brutal and far fetched. Second in series and last for me

Rosiemae Burton says

Action packed, great writing, fast-paced and I didn't work it out until the twists were revealed (which sometimes happens with me when reading crime novels). Took a little while to get into but I really enjoyed the novel.

Andrea Osborn-Evans says

This is a pacey thriller, which is quite chilling in places. Good characterisation and superb plot which keeps you guessing right up until you get to know who the killer is. The one you least suspect!

Chris Peace says

I loved the book, just my type. Kept my interest all the way. Everyone is a suspect but there's only one psycho?

Megan Colyer says

Really good book.

Between The Pages Book Club (Gemma M) says

On a cold winter's day a body of a young women is pulled out of an icy canal in London. D.I Dan Carter see's it as an accident not a murder, but D.C Ebony Willis is not so sure! Meanwhile Tracy Collins receives an unsuspecting phone call from her daughter who she put up for adoption twenty years ago. Tracy decides to kindle a relationship with her daughter and grandson. But when her daughter goes missing Tracy is plunged into her own nightmare. With the discovery of a new body being found it becomes obvious that Tracy's daughter could be in deep trouble! D.C. Ebony Willis takes on her toughest case yet and decides to play the role of the killer's next victim. But will Ebony survive what is about to come her way? Will she find out who the killer is? I would highly recommend you dive into this amazing, page turner thriller.

This is the first book I have read by Lee Weeks and it was the cover that caught my eye! I have a few of his

other books on my shelves and those that I don't are on my wishlist! Cold as ice is a gripping, easy to read and fast paced book for you all to enjoy. I personally raced through the last ten chapters as I had to know the outcome and fast! Yes, I was hooked! This is the perfect book for those who enjoy a great crime and thriller and I would highly recommend it to you all! I cannot wait to dive into more of his books and review them for you all.

Julie Price says

Great read couldn't put it down !!

Lorna says

Nothing special but I didn't get the killer til near the end so it scores on that!

Lynsey Brennan says

I received this copy from the publishers for an open and honest review.

Having recently completed a long run of Young Adult novels I was looking forward to reading another crime thriller, one of my favourite genres thanks to the likes of Linwood Barclay and Sophie Hannah.

This was my first taste of Lee Weeks' writing and I was certainly not let down. 'Cold As Ice' is a page turning thriller that had me gripped from start to finish.

Cold As Ice starts with a bang with the discovery of a young woman's body. As her remains are pulled from the icy canal it becomes clear that this was not an ordinary murder. Wrapped in a plastic bag, the woman's face had been meticulously painted with garish make-up. "Her face looked like something from a waxworks horror museum; bloated and blackened by the water." Lee Weeks includes quite a gruesome postmortem scene which in hindsight was probably not best for me to read on a packed London YouTube train (with an unsuspecting member of the public reading over my shoulder.) However, this scene served its purpose - to make the reader empathise emphatically with the murderer's victims.

Running alongside this, the reader is introduced to Tracy Collins who gave up her daughter Danielle for adoption twenty years ago. As they try to rekindle their relationship, Danielle mysteriously disappears leaving behind Jackson her young, disabled son. Again, Lee Weeks succeeds in making the reader empathise with the victims, this time through a heart wrenching moment with young Jackson. As Jeanie, a police officer working on the case, questions Jackson on what happened the night his mummy disappeared information is slowly drip fed to the reader and suspects begin to form. We are introduced to a mysterious, psychotic character who fantasises about killing, torturing and killing young women. It becomes clear that this is the guy - but who he is?

"That's the sound of your daughter trying to get out of her coffin.

It's my game and my rules and I will prepare for the arrival of another player."

Lee Weeks provides ample red herrings throughout making this a highly successful crime novel. I was

suitably shocked when I discovered the identity of the killer and the ending was in a word horrifying!
With it's thrilling, pacy ending that left me on the edge of my seat this is a crime triumph not to be missed!

Jody Wheeler says

Very good

Thoroughly enjoyed this book. Great story. I thought the first book was better but this one was still very good.

Diane says

This is the best book I've read in a while. So many red herrings that took me down a different path every time I thought I had worked everything out. Did manage to be right about some of it; but kept me hooked right until the end
