



Trespasser

Paul Doiron

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In Paul Doiron's riveting follow-up to his Edgar Award-nominated novel, *The Poacher's Son*, Maine game warden Mike Bowditch's quest to find a missing woman leads him through a forest of lies in search of a killer who may have gotten away with murder once before.

While on patrol one foggy March evening, Bowditch receives a call for help. A woman has reportedly struck a deer on a lonely coast road. When the game warden arrives on the scene, he finds blood in the road—but both the driver and the deer have vanished. And the state trooper assigned to the accident appears strangely unconcerned.

The details of the disappearance seem eerily familiar. Seven years earlier, a jury convicted lobsterman Erland Jefferts of the rape and murder of a wealthy college student and sentenced him to life in prison. For all but his most fanatical defenders, justice was served. But when the missing woman is found brutalized in a manner that suggests Jefferts may have been framed, Bowditch receives an ominous warning from state prosecutors to stop asking questions.

For Bowditch, whose own life was recently shattered by a horrific act of violence, doing nothing is not an option. His clandestine investigation reopens old wounds between Maine locals and rich summer residents and puts both his own life and that of the woman he loves in jeopardy. As he closes in on his quarry, he suddenly discovers how dangerous his opponents are, and how far they will go to prevent him from bringing a killer to justice.

Trespasser Details

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From Reader Review Trespasser for online ebook

Roxanne says

I am really liking this series.

Shelly says

I haven't read the Poacher's Son so this was my first book by Doiron and it was an excellent read! I did not feel like I was jumping into the middle of a series so it can be a stand-alone novel.

Doiron's writing style is quite easy to slip into. You jump into the story and race to the end. I loved the suspense and was actually so involved in different aspects of the story that I didn't solve the case until the author tied it together for me. That's rare for me, an avid reader.

I loved the secondary characters. I really could see these people from Maine. While many of the situations are quite funny and provide a rich backdrop to the storyline, Doiron also shows you an impoverished side of Maine most of us don't usually think about.

I definitely recommend Trespasser and will read more by this author. I loved the freshness of Doiron's writing, characters, and storyline.

Thank you for the Firstreads giveaway!

Michael says

I liked this a lot, but maybe I am biased from being a Maine resident, so I'll put out a cautious 3 star rating. This is the second of three mysteries featuring game warden Mike Bowditch. It's alluring to me to have an opportunity to explore a new writer who portrays the Maine environment and its odd mix of poor hardscrabble natives and wealthy people from away. The Maine way of life, geography, and seasonal changes become a character in this tale.

Called to a deer collision at a remote site, Mike finds nothing but an abandoned car. His conscientiousness leads him to pursue both the missing person and missing deer, leading to conflicts with sloppy law enforcement officers and redneck trailer trash clans. His investigations uncover a vicious rape/murder, which has similarities to another case almost a decade before, closed by conviction of a local man all his friends claim was a travesty of justice. Like C.J. Box's game warden hero, Joe Pickett, Bowditch is sensitive and not much of a warrior, yet is courageous in stubbornly working on solving a mystery despite all the dangerous characters he stirs up and authorities pissed off from his meddling.

Time will tell if I come to like Doiron's work as much as Box's. The wry, self-deprecating humor of his hero is almost as good, but missing for me is a focus on revealing the forces of destructive greed among individuals and corporations that exploit environmental resources.

Paul says

I'm obviously biased!

Mark Stevens says

Mike Bowditch is not a happy camper. We learned in "The Poacher's Son" that sadness is a "perpetual condition." Bowditch doesn't de-gloom in "Trespasser." There's a "gnawing uncertainty" to his world. But he understands his job: "Ultimately, my job wasn't about animals at all. It was about people--and the cruelties they will commit when no one is watching."

Much of "Trespasser" revolves around a years-old murder investigation in Maine and this allows Bowditch to dive back through an old case--with few looking over his shoulder--and look for similarities and conflicts with the central crime. Bowditch plunges through the trial transcript of the old case and picks up a trail of inconsistencies and then goes back to the scene where the earlier "culprit" was apprehended to find the two cases do, indeed, overlap.

It turns out the years-old crime has a passionate cult of followers who believe the wrong guy is in prison. This troupe includes some surprising characters and they play a critical role in keeping Bowditch on track and fired-up, making for some good twists at the end.

I wish I felt more compelled to get in his corner and root for Bowditch. I stopped caring because Bowditch didn't seem like he wanted to help himself. Next time out, I wouldn't mind if Bowditch found a way to dump the dark clouds and bear down on human cruelties, no brooding involved.

Cindy says

Finely edged plot. Like the series - not always the main characters "end wrap-up". But, hey! It's fiction! Light profanity, some sexual situations. Another officer with no belief in God. (I may have to change genres ... Or authors).

Eric_W says

A friend mentioned that Paul Doiron, who writes a series with a game warden as hero much as does CJ Box, is wildly popular in Maine where this series takes place. So what the hell, I'll try virtually anything. It's pretty good once you get past the hunter vs the rest of us cultural baggage. Hunters apparently develop a certain paranoia for the rest of society whom they believe regard them as bambi killers so we are de rigueur treated to an explanation of why it's important to have hunting so as to keep the populations reasonable and prevent starvation and road accidents. OK, I get it. Get over it.

Doiron's hero is Mike Bowditch who develops a guilt complex after he failed to assist a young woman along the road who later is found dead. Whether it's this crisis of conscience (not very well developed, I might add) or his relationship with his criminal father.

I would have rooted for Mike more had he not done so many brain-dead things like driving while under the influence of Vicodin prescribed for a hand injury and then stopping for a beer along the way even as his long-suffering girlfriend pleaded with him not to and to come right home. I suppose one could argue his foolish actions resulted from the Vicodin; nevertheless, it struck me as horribly irresponsible.

The lone hero, unappreciated and thwarted at every turn by his superiors, who manages to solve the puzzle despite rather than with-the-assistance-of-fellow-law-enforcement seems to be a formula that is beginning to wear a little thin. If you've read much CJ Box you will feel right at home.

Beth says

Boy, I think this is going to be a very good mystery series, and I'm looking forward to reading the rest. I don't know what took me so long to discover Doiron. With that said, though, I did have some reservations with the first book. I felt young Mike was impulsive to a destructive degree. He seemed to have a lot of trouble with measured responses to provocations, whether that meant he unwisely shot off his mouth to the wrong people, telegraphed his suspicions to the really wrong people, or pissed off and/or ignored the worst people to do that to (his superiors). So he had a lot to learn and even way into this one, I wasn't sure he'd learned anything since his last case. Mike Bowditch is a heck of an detective, but it takes him nearly to the end of this book (where he ends up solving a really tough case) before he realizes he does indeed need to work on his personal issues and the psychological trauma from his past that is continuing to derail his present and future. The characters Paul Doiron has created for this series are rounded and interesting. Like all good authors he makes the reader care about what happens to them. Likewise, his villains are, if not fully formed, not one-dimensional either. If he has any weakness as an author (and I'm no authority--I couldn't write a book to save my life) I wish he'd take a little more care with some of the dialogue. Sometimes a line or two from a character seems off or unlike something someone would really say. Also, he has used dialogue to reveal a bit too much too early about the true nature of the character. I'm all in favor of foreshadowing, but at least in the case of one character, it was a bit heavy handed. But still, a big thumbs up on this one.

Lee says

No sophomore slump here, for Mr. Doiron's second Bowditch tale. A well plotted mystery, with secondary characters, you could meet anywhere, in any small town. This is a great outdoor mystery series.

Carol says

The Hook - Felt a hankering to visit Maine but wish it had been in warmer weather in this second book of The Mike Bowditch, Game Warden series.

The Line - *"Son, you should always buy a woman flowers."*

The Sinker - Going to keep this quick and dirty, well, quick and clean.

Trespasser was a nice diversion from these soggy days of August and the genealogy books I'm reading. I'm getting to know a bit about Mike Bowditch and his duties as Game Warden in the environs of Maine. It was an easy read, lots of action, mysteries to solve, killers to bring to justice. I got what I expected and not unhappy about that. I'm not certain if I care about Mike yet but think Book 3 will make it to my hands one day.

Karen says

Thanks a bunch to Goodreads First-Reads for this free book I won through their giveaway. It is one of the best books I have read this year and Paul Doiron is my new favorite author.

Trespasser was an intense whodunit set on the coast of Maine and is the second book in the Mike Bowditch series. Doiron's first book, The Poacher's Son, was also a great book. Trespasser kept me guessing until the very end. I especially enjoyed the friendship between Mike, the young game warden, and Charley, the older pilot. I also wouldn't mind trying one of Dot's molasses donuts. :) I look forward to reading more of Doiron's books in the near future.

Stacy says

First, let me admit that I started skipping pages about 2/3 through through book. I simply couldn't take the main character's idiocy any longer. The game warden consistently made the worst decision any time he was faced with an option. Often, Doiron would include Bowditch's thoughts, which included the agreement that it was a bad decision. His drinking, his stupidity, his denial...I finally reached the point where I couldn't stand it and just had to get through the ending. Bottom line: It was okay. If no other books are available, read it. If you are faced with this and an old, battered physics text book, read this. Otherwise, choose something else.

Steve says

This is the second book in the series and better than the first in my opinion. Great story that has ties to a real life Maine mystery. You only find this out in the note after reading the book. Well written as the 1st in the series and keep you in suspense until the last few pages...and leaves you wondering about Warden Bowditch's future. That's all you'll get from me, you'll have to read it yourself!

Cyndi says

Deep in the Maine woods the dead body of a young woman is found, horribly brutalized. A charming young man is convicted and sentenced for the murder.

Seven years later our hero finds a young woman murdered the same way. Is it a copy cat or did they imprison the wrong guy?

While trying to catch poachers our hero is searching for a killer.

Good book!

Kathy says

I have been waiting with great anticipation for the latest installment of the Warden Mike Bowditch series from author Paul Doiron. His debut novel, *The Poacher's Son*, which was released last year was a fabulous thriller. *Trespasser* is just as good if not better. I love the character Mike Bowditch. He stumbles through life, a bit of a rebel, not really sure how to handle his relationship with his girl, but with a great need to do his job properly. His instincts are always dead on...he knew he should have tried harder to find the missing driver in the opening pages.

This fast paced adventure thriller keeps you turning the pages! Doiron portrays the real Maine...the poverty of many of the citizens along side of the ocean-side summer homes of the wealthy. The obsession with ATVs that has gripped rural America and the new problems they've created. The characters in Doiron's Maine are realistic portrayals of its people. You don't have to have read *The Poacher's Son* to follow the story in *Trespasser* but a smart reader would read it first and would read it because it is an excellent book!

Trespasser is highly recommended by this blogger!
