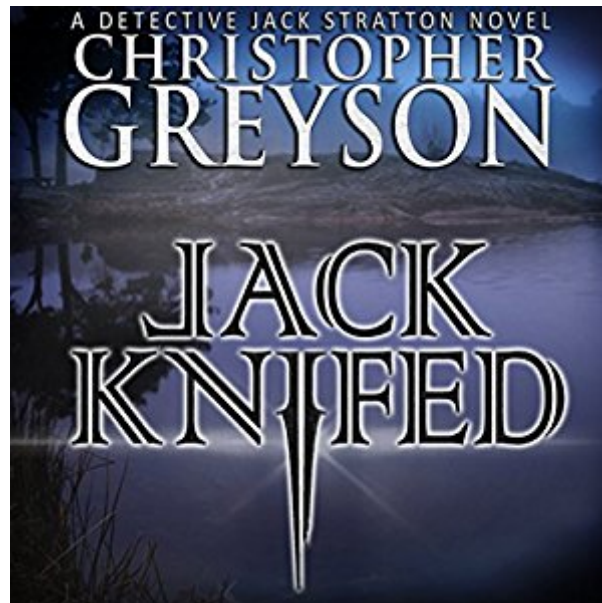


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Jack Knifed: Detective Jack Stratton Mystery-Thriller, Book 2



Synopsis

Jack felt the familiar burn of shame in his chest. Why do I keep doing this...thinking about her? It was so long ago, but I can't get what happened out of my head. I shouldn't let any of that junk define me, but I still do. I'm driving in circles, caught in some loop that I can't break out of. I want to know why she abandoned me...but some things, I guess, I'll never know.... Handsome police officer Jack Stratton is the "hometown hero cop with a heart of gold". Constant nightmares have forced him to seek answers about his rough childhood and the dark secrets hidden there. With Alice (aka Replacement) by his side, Jack travels to Hope Falls to solve a murder that occurred before he was born. Everyone in the small town remembers the unsolved murder of Steven Ritter, but after 27 years, no one thought that someone would look into it - but they don't know Jack. A heart-rending mystery-thriller about lost love, betrayal, and murder, Jack Knifed will keep you on the edge of your seat.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Greyson has a good thing going with his Jack Stratton series. I've read them all and I like them. The back story unfolds gradually, and the characters evolve into the kind of folks that might be found in a Travis McGee novel. Stratton is a short-fused and sometimes confused cop who has little use for authority figures and their rules when it goes against his strongly held belief system. His almost-sorta-foster sister is called Replacement, and she is a character worthy of her own series of books. Good stuff. .

This one was a super read. Jack is on leave for two weeks because his boss, Sheriff Collins, is dealing with the fallout from the college case Jack was involved in. The Sheriff is less than pleased and wants Jack out of Darrington and away from all the media. The Sheriff is also looking for ways to get rid of Jack. A Jack he sees as nothing but trouble for his department. A Jack who's a way better cop than the by the book Collins will ever be. Jack decides to go see his Mother who's finally surfaced in an institution. Of course Replacement makes sure she goes with him. Upon seeing his Mother he's flabbergasted that she looks so old and worn. She is suffering from dementia and years of drug abuse. Sometimes she makes sense and sometimes she's crazier than a hoot owl. Jack really wants to know about his Father. A man his Mother never mentioned. A man Jack really wants info on. His Mother loses it and screams about about someone named Terry, knife wounds and a death. Jack and Replacement start investigating and head for Hope Falls where his Mother used to live. Once on site Jack finds out that his Father, Steve Ritter, was murdered by a pond. He was beaten and viciously stabbed many times. He was seventeen years old. His Father was a kid everyone liked and his murder was never solved. The more Jack investigates the more he learns that his Father was an exceptional young man. A young man whom everyone had high praise for. He also learns that his Mother was considered the Town whore something that doesn't surprise him at all. He also meets his grandmother, Ritters Mother. A wonderful woman who is overjoyed to meet him, a grandson she never knew about. So begins one super read. This one has murder, attempted murder, Jack, Replacement, Jack's Grandmother, and assortment of people who knew more than they told the police at the time of Ritters murder, a mystery about police cars being on site before anyone notified the police of a murder, a dead Sheriff who thought the world of Steve Ritter, his living son who is now the Sheriff, a Mother who suffered sexual abuse, a grandfather who was a sexual deviant, diving for evidence, friends and one super mystery with a great ending. Just one super read and well worth those five stars.

Book 2 of the story of Jack Stratton picks up right where Book 1 left off. The story starts with a call from a mental hospital where Jack's mother Patricia Cole is a patient. She wants to see her son. Patty suffers from early Alzheimer's and according to her doctor has moments of lucid when she remembers. Having Jack visit her, Patty begins to reveal her life and who Jack's father was. Some of the clues don't make sense at all. Another mystery for Jack. Jack and Alice Campbell (Replacement) travel to Hope Falls to find the out if anything Patty said would lead to finding out more about Jack's father.

What Jack and Replacement do find is Steven was a well-liked young man with lots of potential. The night he was killed leads the reader on a well written and edge of your seat reading the rest of the book. As with many small towns there are lots of secrets and skeletons. Along with the flash backs of Iraq Jack is having; Replacement life was also a mystery together they overcome obstacles to find out who killed Steven Ritter. There is still mention of Chandler, Michelle and of course Aunt Hattie.

I just started reading this Stratton series and totally fell in love with the plot line and the characters. Jack Stratton is just such an interesting and multi-dimensional character that strong, determined, yet with a soft heart. Can't help but love him. His partner or girlfriend and I hope the author develops this more into some romance is really quirky but also endearing and she loves Jack so much. You can't help but embrace these character and the story line starts out like nothing but turns into these twists and turns that keep leading you deeper and deeper into the mystery. Highly recommend this.

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