

Booklover's Café
Nov. 24, 2017

Magpie Murders

by Anthony Horowitz

It is absolutely fascinating. The first four pages are in the author's voice, talking about this interesting book that he read that is going to be published as part of this book. Then the next pages are like the beginning of the book. Eight chapters of a well-done Victorian style murder mystery, but the last three chapters are gone. Then the editor takes over - she's got to find the chapters and figure out what happens! The story continues in a different type style, and she's trying to figure out what happened, it gets more and more intense. Totally unexpected! Well written, highly recommended.

Moriarty

By Anthony Horowitz

Set after the "demise" of Moriarty and Holmes over the Reichenbach Falls. It's a complicated and fascinating thing. It's a series of mysterious and Sherlockian things, which are resolved in the last chapter.

Jane Austen Project

by Kathleen A Flynn

Referred to as historical fiction on the back, but since it involves time travel it seems more like science fiction. Animals have died off, food is made in 3D printers. It is decided that someone should go back and find out why Austen died so early and her lost manuscript, the Watsons, as well as letters to her sister. The two people who are sent back, one is an actor who will play the part of a doctor during the Regency Period, and a real doctor who is supposed to pose as his spinster sister. They are trained and prepared with forged currency and documents. Their cover story is that they inherited a coffee plantation, closed it and freed the slaves. Kind of an interesting story, but ---- first of all, there are some very awkwardly handled sex scenes, and how they dealt with the whole- what to do when you've gone into the past and messed things up. The aura of the era came off well. It was really difficult for the doctor character to adjust to the social straits of the time.

Native Tongue

By Carl Hiaasen

He develops some really unconventional characters, takes place in south Florida, his character is the former governor of Florida who was elected on a platform of rooting out corruption in government, but as soon as he was in office all the vested interests circled the wagons and decided they weren't going to cooperate, so he resigned in frustration.

The Age of Battles

by Russel Weigley

Several paragraphs in the intro that really bring out an issue that is not usually dealt with - dramatic epitome of war is part of the enduring fascination of military history - nobody really talks about how people are fascinated by war, even if they say they're reading it for palliative reasons to end war, but they aren't really. A guy he knew was in Vietnam and Desert Storm, I

said to him I've never been in action myself, but from what I've read there's a fascination people have with going into battle. The friend said that yes, especially for an adrenalin freak like me. It really hits at a key element of who humans are. Battles don't really resolve themselves in a decisive way. Wars elimination in the immediate future is unlikely. Still about ideology. Emotion is what it's about - even people who aren't involved want to experience things vicariously. We are not creatures of reason except in our own eyes. It's an aspect of human behavior that nobody talks about it.

I Know a Secret

By Tess Gerritsen

A new Rizzoli and Isles, a fascinating mystery where they try to figure out what's going on with a group of kids who grew up together and went to not a very nice day care center. One of them has disappeared rather early. She's really good, you're being fed information and you don't even know it.