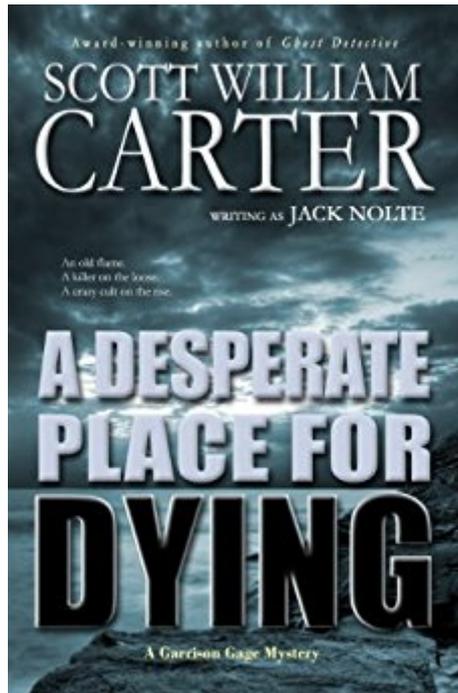


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A Desperate Place For Dying: An Oregon Coast Mystery (Garrison Gage Series Book 2)



Synopsis

An old flame. A killer on the loose. A crazy cult on the rise. Nearly a year has passed since Garrison Gage became the reluctant guardian of a troubled teenage girl, but neither fatherhood nor the intervening months has improved his mood. His right knee is still mostly worthless. He still prefers to drink his bourbon alone. And even with a certain blonde bombshell a persistent part of his life, he still can't be bothered to buy a cell phone. Or any phone, for that matter. Why? Then somebody might call him. But grumpy as Gage can be, he still finds that life on the Oregon Coast has settled into a comfortable if not happy routine -- until the man who murdered his wife shows up in town. That's just for starters. A desperate plea from an old flame -- his first love, in fact -- soon entangles Gage in a high profile case involving a famous and brazenly outspoken lecturer on evolution and atheism, a crazy fundamentalist cult that uses all means necessary to silence its critics, and a brutal local murder of a far more personal nature. Before the mystery can be unraveled, Gage's abilities and beliefs will be put to the ultimate test. And the man who claims he doesn't need anyone will discover he may just lose everything.

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Customer Reviews

It's not very often that I download a free book from Kindle and then go on to purchase the rest of the books in the series, but this was the exception. After downloading *The Gray and Guilty Sea* I was hooked on the main character, Garrison Gage. Gage is a wonderfully funny and irreverent character full of imperfections that enable you to identify with him on a human level. When you finally put the book down, you feel like you've spent the evening with a friend. While I'm a character driven reader, the stories in the series are compelling. The author tackles difficult subject matter such as atheism with a thoughtful and humorous approach. I went on to purchase *A Desperate Place for Dying* and also *The Lovely Wicked Rain* and highly recommend the series.

This is a series by Jack Nolte that in a way is related to and probably on purpose reflects the Travis McGee Series by John D MacDonald. The titles are similar but the main character is sort of an opposite to Travis. A crusty old retired private living in a remote part of Oregon and trying to avoid working at his trade. But the characters are interesting and the plots keep your attention. I have read both books and will buy the next one if it comes out.

I took a chance on *THE GRAY AND GUILTY SEA* on Kindle, then ordered *A DESPERATE PLACE FOR DYING* on Kindle, then ordered paper copies of both books. Garrison Gage is a terrific character: human, tough, uncertain, haunted by his past and yet trying to live a new life. With an interesting group of steady friends (of a sort) and associates, Gage makes his way through his adventures. I look forward to the next installment.

Maybe it's the characters or maybe it's the setting. Maybe it's the plot or the writing quality or the atmosphere. Perhaps it's Gage's growth through the stories, showing the courage it takes to change despite the pain of giving up what is comfortable and take on challenges because it's the right thing to do. I think I'm getting closer; I think it's doing what is right because not doing it is as bad as condoning all the wrongness. No, I'm wrong. It isn't any one of those things - it's all of them. I really like this author. He knows what he is doing, and he has avoided the kiss of death, that is, never letting his characters grow. You won't find characters that always trade the same quips in the same way with the same tone of voice or agonize endlessly over the same trauma without ever gaining insight or strength of character. You'll find real people, or maybe I mean characters like you wish real people could be more often. Even if it's inch by inch, there is personal growth. Even with his weaknesses, Gage is not a weakling; he's a man that won't give up when he knows he can make

something or someone better. Even Zoe, caught up in teen angst, grows, although she won't admit it openly. These are murder mysteries. There is blood and pain. There are really bad people. Good people suffer and die. Yet despite all of that, these stories give a whiff of oxygen to my nearly flatline hope for the future.

I love this writer and his character Gage in his books. This met my expectations and more. The story kept me guessing, trying to figure out who the killers were and the ending was a complete surprise. I put Carter up there with my other favorite writers of mysteries, John Sanford and Michael Connelly. I really enjoy books that has a main character that I can follow and feel like I actually get to know them. Gage is "real". He has a bum knee that he has to deal with, but I do wonder why he doesn't wear a brace on that knee. See I think of him as a real person! LOL Any way, I highly recommend this writer. His books also make me want to visit the Oregon Coast.

I really enjoyed the first book in the Garrison Gage series and was pleased that this second one in the series was just as captivating. The mystery kept you guessing and wondering but the real charm of the series is the character of Garrison Gage. Garrison's humor and take on life will make you laugh and ponder at the same time. I am on the third book of the series and hope there will be more to follow.

What could possibly be better than reading a book by Scott William Carter in one sitting? Easy - it's reading a second book by Scott William Carter in one setting! A Desperate Place for Dying is a great book to read and it is as good as his first book of the series, A Gray and Guilty Sea. Both are we incredibly well written and provoking.

I enjoy Mr. Carter's writing style and the setting and storyline of this book. This is the second Garrison Gage book I read and I was looking forward to reading this one. However, the author's bias against Fox news (mentioned several times in a negative way) and evangelical religion was a big disappointment to me. I'm OK with the fact that his beliefs differ from mine but why spoil a good story with such comments? Also, by the end of the book I wanted to take Garrison Gage, shake him and tell him to get over the cane! Deal with it, Gage.

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