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Cold Fear



Synopsis

In the remote, rugged corner of Montana's Glacier National Park known as the Devil's Grasp, little Paige Baker of San Francisco disappears with her dog, Kobee, while on a camping trip with her family; or so her mother and father have told authorities. A multi-agency task force launches a massive search as Paige fights to survive in the wilderness. Time hammers against her and soon the nation is gripped by the life-and-death drama. Secretly, behind the scenes, the FBI grows suspicious of Paige's parents. Their recent history and disturbing evidence links them to a horrible secret from the past.

About the author: Rick Mofina is a former crime reporter and the award-winning author of several acclaimed thrillers. The International Thriller Writers, The Private Eye Writers of America and The Crime Writers of Canada have Rick Mofina's books as being among the best in the world. His titles have been published in some 20 countries and have been praised by James Patterson, Dean Koontz, Michael Connelly, Lee Child, Tess Gerritsen, Jeffery Deaver, Sandra Brown, James Rollins, Brad Thor, Nick Stone, David Morrell, Allison Brennan, Heather Graham, Linwood Barclay, Peter Robinson, Harlan Nesser and Kay Hooper.

Book Information

File Size: 1623 KB

Print Length: 448 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Carrick Publishing (December 8, 2012)

Publication Date: December 8, 2012

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00ALI9TSK

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #2,421 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #68 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Police Procedurals #76 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Police Procedurals #111 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Crime > Murder

Customer Reviews

I can tell that the author is talented, however, I found the book was way too long with too many details and too many characters, which I thought detracted from the story. About 30% into the book I found myself getting bored and wished the story would move along faster. There were also lots of spelling and grammatical errors.

This novel has an interesting plot. It is about a San Francisco family who goes camping in the far northern part of Glacier National Park in Montana far from civilization. It is an area that is difficult to hike in. Their daughter who is 10 years old has no camping experience and doesn't want to be there. Her mother wanted to go there, as she lived there in the early years of her life and is harboring a secret from those days that her therapist says she should confront. The girl gets lost and some law enforcement, primarily the FBI, think her father may have killed her even though there is no evidence that she is dead. There is another plot involving a death row inmate in the prison in Montana. Eventually it ties in with the above plot. As my title states, I liked the plot, but here are my problems: 1. There must be at least 100 typos, probably a lot more. It is as if the author's editing consisted solely of a spellchecker. The words are real words, but they make no sense. The author needs an editor or proofreader. 2. There are far too many characters. It is hard to keep them straight. There are reporters, various FBI agents, an investigator brought in from San Francisco, Search and Rescue teams, National Park personnel. I got a good feel for the parents and the girl, but there were too many law personnel to keep them straight. I'd keep having to go back to find out who the various names belonged to. Then there were family members of all these people. 3. There is no main narrator. There are many narrators: the mother, the father, the girl, the inmate, a lawyer, reporters, law enforcement agents, photographers, politicians, etc. 4. There are events that really strain credulity. I won't go into them, as I don't want to include spoilers.

I had the pleasure of meeting Rick Mofina when he autographed a copy of "If Angels Fall" for me, a book I found both gripping and suspenseful. When I heard of another Mofina book on its way, I waited with impatience, and snapped it up as soon as I could. The setup is tense: a husband, wife, and daughter go on a camping trip where the wife, suffering from some "monster" in her past, needs to face her fear and challenge it in the place where it began. With such emotional baggage hurting and hampering their marriage, the husband and wife fight, and when the daughter comes across her father alone, angrily chopping wood, and tries to speak to him, angry words and a misplaced swipe of the axe send the daughter racing off into the woods - and she is lost. While starting as a "Will the

child survive?" story, "Cold Fear" quickly moves into full thriller status when the "monster" in the wife's past reclaims centre stage, and the police place blame in the wrong direction. The return of characters from "If Angels Fall" is also a big thumbs-up, and leaves one quite satisfied with the continuity. The book is a nail-biter in places, keeping you guessing and worried for the characters, and as the pace continues to speed up, you'll find yourself making excuses to go find a quiet spot to read. Give this one a read, you won't regret it! Nathan

Someone mentioned that this was a page turner - I have to agree...it drags so much I turned, i.e. skipped, pages and then full chapters and didn't even feel I missed anything. This is the second book I've read from this author and once again typos are all over the place. It's not as bad as *When Angels Fall* (I think that's the correct name), but still there are way too many. Who knows, maybe that's what I missed by skipping pages and chapters - more typos. Anyway, I found it so slow that I ended up not caring about one single character or what happened to them in the end.

This book is much more cerebral than I expected. I had been reading more action packed books, and this was a change. It moves slowly, with a lot of attention paid to relationships between different law enforcement agencies, and between law enforcement and the media. However, it keeps your interest. You become very interested in the characters, and want to know what becomes of them.

The Baker family are San Francisco residents who go camping in an isolated part of Montana's Glacier National Park. However, Emily and Doug have a fight so she walks away to calm down. When their ten-year-old daughter Paige tries to talk to her father while he is cutting wood, he hurts his hand because of the distraction. He yells at Paige to go to her mother. A frightened Paige leaves accompanied by her dog Kobbie, but never finds her mom. Several hours pass before Emily and Doug realize that Paige is lost. A search proves futile and the next morning he races for help. The National Parks Service, the FBI, and surprisingly the San Francisco police join forces. The latter is invited because the national law enforcement officials think foul play is involved with the missing girl. As the window of safety ticks away, a "monster" from Emily's past when she grew up near here is also hunting Paige. *COLD FEAR* is a frightening tale that will chill the audience as the clock to save Paige's life seems much faster than normal to her parents and to the reader. The prime story line is superb though the addition of Emily's "monster" and a domestic incident back home detracts from a powerful gut wrenching thriller that seems very real because the key players feel genuine. The audience will care what happens to Paige because Rick Mofina makes her feel like everyone's

precious child. This is a strong story that hooks the reader from the start. Harriet Klausner

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