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Winter Wind

WINTER WIND

a novel

BESTSELLING AUTHOR

J.R. RAIN

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Five years ago, Lee Jordan was nearly killed on the job. Now deaf, blind, and mute, he’s recovered enough to live a routine but silent life. However, now, the LAPD needs him back...When the cases of many missing persons are tied together with the same M.O., Lee Jordan is called in to help locate people who seemingly walked away from their everyday lives. But did they? Lee’s only assets are his guide dog, fourteen years of experience as a homicide detective and an intriguing American Sign Language translator named Rachel. Just as Lee begins to discover something remarkable about himself, he must engage in a battle of wits with a murderer he can’t see or hear. With no weapons but his own mind and a guide dog with a heart of gold he sets off alone in Los Angeles to investigate the disappearances. It’s only a matter of time before more people may die under nefarious circumstances. And the manner of death could put the entire city at risk from...something even more dangerous. Lee Jordan knows there is more to fighting crime than meets the eye, or ear, or voice. But will he survive his courageous solo pursuit of a twisted killer on the mean streets of L.A.? And can he really stop a madman by himself?

ABOUT WINTER WIND

WINTER WIND is a suspenseful and poignant crime thriller by bestselling author J.R. Rain, whose repertoire includes novels and stories in many genres. He has captivated millions of readers with standalone novels such as the acclaimed smash hit and ghost mystery, THE BODY DEPARTED, and SILENT ECHO, starring a detective whose death is imminent. As well, J.R. Rain has authored many mystery and urban fantasy series, with and without paranormal twists, such as VAMPIRE FOR HIRE and JIM KNIGHTHORSE. Readers are in for a heart-pounding treat in WINTER WIND, which takes readers into the brilliant mind of a detective whose surface weaknesses become his inner strengths.

WINTER WIND is the first standalone novel from J.R. Rain since his mystery thriller, SILENT ECHO, hit #1 over all on Kindle. WINTER WIND continues to establish Rain’s standard for unique mysteries and thrillers, richly-layered characters, exciting plots, big questions and even bigger answers—answers that keep readers thinking long after the final page.

Book Information

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I'm going to start by saying that I wasn’t sure how interesting this story would be. After all the main character is deaf, blind, and mute. I was very wrong. This book was very good. I had a hard time putting it down until I finished. I enjoyed getting to know Lee and Betsie, and seeing the struggle that he goes through everyday with his faithful companion by his side. I liked that there were some appearances and mentions of some of his other characters and works. I loved that we get to see Lee finally seeing that he is still able to work a case even when he thought it impossible. I also loved that he found Rachel! All in all a great book, I hope to see more of these characters.

J.R. Rain has done it again. If you haven’t read any of his prior stuff that’s alright, you can jump in with this book. Lee is a great new character, and I love his relationship with his dog, Bessie. This is a great mystery, with a nice pace. I definitely recommend this book. It is a novel also, not a short story. This is a good book to settle down with and get comfortable!

Former police detective Lee Jordan has been asked to help with a missing person case that’s got the LAPD baffled. People are disappearing, presumably just going out for a stroll, never returning, not a sign or a body being found. What makes this a peculiar request is that Lee can’t hear, see or speak anymore. Years ago, while working on a case, Lee was in a tragic accident that took his biggest senses. Because of his abilities to see what other detectives can’t, his former Captain asks for his help with this strange case. With the help of a sign language interpreter named Rachel, Lee is able to help piece the case together. JR Rain’s books always have a wonderful enlightened feel to them and this is no different. Although this is a mystery, that is not the main
subject of this book. Most of this book takes place in Lee's head, which only makes sense because his is a dark world without sight or sound. Obviously missing is the fun interaction of dialogue you get in most books. There is some, but because it is almost all through sign language, it is brief back and forth. I understand that is the way it has to be but I wasn't a fan all the time. I really did miss that interaction between the characters. It ended up feeling like a personal journal than a mystery book. What I did like was the way Lee was able to come to a better understanding of himself and the universe, bringing himself to a higher level and the way he found his way there. The mystery was a good one too and it finally picked up the final quarter of the book, which is where I didn't want to put the book down again until I finished- I had to find out what had happened to these missing people. Rain always is an entertaining author and this is no different. If you're looking for a straight mystery, you might be disappointed, but the personal growth of Lee as a character is a wonderful part of this book also.

This book grabs you from the first page and wraps you up in Winter Wind. J.R. Rain introduces yet another wonderful character, weaves in characters from his other books and leaves you wanting more. Do yourself a favor and let Lee, a disabled ex-homicide detective, and his guide dog Betsie lead you through a fantastic adventure. If you love mystery, mystical and a little bit of woo woo this book is for you.

I did a bad thing - I read the sample of this book Tuesday night and then put it in my wishlist. But I kept thinking about it. So while at work yesterday morning, I bought it on my Kindle app. I managed to read half of it before I went home. (Hey, I had to work too!) I had my phone on my desk and kept looking at it, reading a few pages, then doing work, then a few pages, then work. I finished it before I got to sleep last night. Lee Jordan is a former homicide cop whose last call was to an explosion. It robbed him of his eyes, his hearing, and his larynx. He is blind, deaf, and mute. His sense of smell is iffy at best. He can communicate through sign language (the interpreter spells into his hand), but he mostly lives inside his own head. Despite this, it's not a boring book! You would think that kind of extreme navel gazing would get dull after a while, but a) it doesn't, and b) things change a bit over the course of the book. I don't want to give much away, but there is a hint of the paranormal to this book. (And Spinoza, from the Spinoza Trilogy is mentioned, so that's the kind of universe it's in.) There is Betsie, Lee's guide dog, and Rachel, Lee's interpreter. There's Detective Hammer (who I think is in the Spinoza books too) who Lee used to work with. The case is a Missing Persons case, but about a dozen people have gone missing. Their motivation for missing is actually the weakest
part of the book, but as long as you don't think too hard about that, it doesn't detract from the story. You'll be thinking about Lee and the things he has to do to just make it through the day anyway, so the minor plot wobble isn't a big deal. I'm really looking forward to the next books!

Mr. Rain has again supplied his readers with another fantastic read! I just do not know how he continues to come up with such great characters that get you so sucked in with their lives, and Lee is just such a character. A man that is able to overcome horrible circumstances that were thrust upon him and still manages to not only survive but to be your hero. This truly is a great read. Buy it, you will not be disappointed.

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