



The Other Woman

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When reporter Melissa Whitworth places an ad seeking to interview women whose men belong to someone else for a feature article, she never dreams that she will find herself face to face with her own husband's mistress. Nor that the young woman, Sharon Smith, will be murdered within hours of their interview. Now Chief Inspector Lloyd and his partner, Judy Hill, find that murder is just one thread in a web of police brutality, blackmail, rape, fraud and more murder.

The Other Woman Details

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Author : Jill McGown

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Jim says

This was a nice little mystery. Both the plot and the characters were interesting, the various subplots worked well together and the writing was solid. I did not care much for the resolution. I thought the villain acted way out of character so that good could prevail and the loose ends could be tied up.

Damaskcat says

A local property developer, Jake Parker, is hosting a reception at a football match to show off his new sports complex which is partially completed. A fight breaks out and he spends a few hours at the police station.

Later that night a young woman is found murdered in the car park on the site. Melissa Fletcher is researching a newspaper feature about what it feels like to be 'the other woman'. A particularly vicious rapist is operating in the area and DCI Lloyd and DI Judy Hill are involved in trying to track him down.

Several apparently random events which seem to be completely unconnected are woven into a satisfying plot which certainly kept me guessing. I thought I had worked out very early on who the rapist was but I got it completely wrong about the murderer. This is a well plotted police procedural crime novel with interesting characters.

This is book five in the Lloyd and Hill series but it could be read as a standalone novel as there is enough background information about the main characters to keep the reader informed. If you like crime novels without graphic violence and bad language then try this series.

Cindy says

A case of mistaken identity!

Nikki says

Oddly, uses a similar plot device to one in her first book. But for me, the interest in Lloyd and Hill's relationship makes up for any plot deficiency.

Roberta says

Not too crazy about Lloyd but I did like her writing.

Kendall says

I had no clue who was responsible. Really well structured mystery. Love this author.

Jenn says

I found this book in the series rather difficult to read. It was dull, took forever for a body to happen and had so many indistinguishable characters that I was well and truly lost through most of it. Made me feel a bit like a simpleton. There was little consistency in the usage of first names and last was what made it difficult to follow. In one sentence he was Jake, in the next he was Evans. But I was never sure if it was the same person or they'd switched characters again.

When a second body was found I was excited. But the story just became more convoluted. The theories of the murderer and the reasonings never made much sense. All in all, I don't think I'd attempt any others in this series. Unless I felt the need to read half a book, then throw it at the wall in disgust or in sheer boredom.

Kirsty Darbyshire says

Another episode of Lloyd and Hill which set aside some of my worries about the continuing series. It had seemed that the professional connection between the two detectives was going to get ever more tenuous with each book but the author wisely brings them back to working together in this story. It looks like one of the story lines in this book carries on into a future book from the trailer at the end of the book but it's not the next book in the series. I'm interested to see what happens. Good stuff in general, everytime I have a bit of a believability problem with this series the author seems to be a step ahead of me, which is pretty cool.

Kate says

"Holyoak's favorite tactic was to kick people when they were down, then pick them up and kick them again. Now the great man himself was down -- brutally stabbed to death in his pent-house apartment.

"Detective Chief Inspector Lloyd felt a creepy sense of deja vu. For though certain he'd never seen Holyoak's scarred and bearded face before, he remembered one very like it -- somewhere in the past. Hunting for answers drew Lloyd and his lover, Inspector Judy Hill, deep into the lives of those in the dead man's dangerous orbit: his terrified stepdaughter, her playboy husband, a broken cop, an ambitious hooker, all desperate souls with plausible motives. Yet in the end, Lloyd and Hill would solve two baffling mysteries -- one now, one then, both deadly ...

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Another intricately plotted, double and triple bluff games, and multiple bodies plot liberally laced with a good deal of tension. As always, the submotif is the "are they or aren't they? or one step forward, one step back" Lloyd & Hill relationship. This one was so intricate, master-minded by the killer, that it was hard to know who's on first, or any other base for that matter. And also as always, beautifully written.

Gary Van Cott says

Since the author passed away in 2007, critiquing her writing style has no point other than alerting future readers. I thought there were too many characters in this story, many who were unnecessary and could have been easily eliminated. The author is also in the habit of referring to characters sometimes by their first names and other times by their last names. That and her occasional use of ambiguous pronouns makes this book confusing.

Margaret says

An excellent book. One you really have to pay attention to, not just read along. Wonderful dry humor as well.

Good enough that I was eagerly looking forward to ordering a number of her other books through library interloans.

None were available. Perhaps because the books are so "old," 25 years or so?

Libraries suffering budget cuts is possibly a factor.

Anyway I will be on the lookout for more books by this author.

Jane says

Best in the series so far. McGown has settled in to the relationship between Lloyd and Hill and their characters, and the solving of the mystery was good, lots of detail on the thought processes of the officers.
