



Road Closed

Leigh Russell

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Following *Cut Short*, another thrilling case features Detective Inspector Geraldine Steel

When a man dies in a gas explosion, the police suspect arson. The Murder Investigation Team are called in to investigate, but the case takes on a new and terrible twist when a local villain is viciously attacked. As the police enquiries lead from the expensive Harchester Hill estate to the local brothel, a witness dies in a hit-and-run. Was it coincidence—or cold-blooded murder? The Murder Investigation Team has problems of its own—and so does Geraldine Steel. A shocking revelation threatens her peace of mind as the investigation races towards its dramatic climax.

Road Closed Details

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Author : Leigh Russell

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From Reader Review Road Closed for online ebook

Chris Stanley says

Knowing the killer right from the start is a little odd, but I enjoyed the "procedural" element. Sophie was not a credible character and her storyline was the reason for the 3 star rating not 4 as the previous book.

Patriciagoodwin says

In my opinion the book started with quite a tame storyline/crime but I was soon gripped. The characters were all very believable. I wouldn't call it chilling or thrilling but realistic which is just as good. Very well written & certainly a very good read. Will be reading more by this author.

Nerys Roberts says

A man is killed in a gas explosion - at first the wife is the prime suspect but then evidence is found that the gas was left on by burglars. There has been a spate of burglaries in the area in recent weeks. DI Geraldine Steel and her team investigate the death and subsequent attacks and burglaries that occur.

Really good read.

Nicki Southwell says

The second DI Geraldine Steel in the series. As ever, brilliantly written. I love this author.

Alan Cotterell says

Excellent story again.

Finally got to read this book after reading the rest of the series. Fills in the gaps. Struggled with it at first, seemed to be just plodding. But soon picked up and developed into an excellent story.

John says

Ok police procedural - quite good at showing hoe cases are solved by hard slog and at stressing the hard life of a police detective. The plot is reasonable, but the characters are at not wooden. Probably will give up on this series now.

Lili says

A slow moving crime novel that does however contain a number of killings. The author's portrayal of DI Geraldine Steel lacks character and the plot is poorly executed.

Best Crime Books & More says

When I read Leigh Russell's first book Cut Short, I enjoyed it but felt like the reader didn't get to know enough about the characters. This was my main gripe with an otherwise really enjoyable debut novel. I had high hopes for the second instalment and thankfully I wasn't disappointed. Having said that I think we have yet to see Leigh Russell's finest work and next year I think book 3 will show that. It almost feels like with each book you read you are building up to the bigger picture of Geraldine's life.

Initially I felt like again we weren't seeing the real Geraldine and I was getting frustrated. However, by the time I finished this book I realised that this is perfect character building. She is a far from perfect person but is dedicated to her job. We see a lot more of her personal life in this book and it has given Leigh Russell a great platform for book three with a shock twist from Geraldine's past. I realised by the end that this type of writing just made me want to pick up another book and read more about her, perfect tactics Ms Russell!

The story itself is paced well and we get to see the people committing the burglaries from the very beginning. Although we know who is committing certain crimes, as the story progresses there are other threads that begin to intertwine and as a reader you end up coming to different conclusions with each thread brought in. It is cleverly written and I liked the fact that although we see the criminals, you also get to see what I consider 'real' police work being done. We don't see the lead character break all the rules and go it alone, only to solve the case miraculously with no help whatsoever...refreshing!

We again see her colleague Ian Peterson from the first book as they work together on the case in hand. We do get to see a bit more of him which I liked, but I can't help but feel there is so much more to him than meets the eye and I would love to see him a lot more in book 3.

In addition to Geraldine, Ian and the criminals we also get to see some of the victims of the crime brought into the story. This added another element to the story and enabled the plots to cross over ending in a very good story overall.

I read this book in no time at all and although maybe not the perfect 10, I really do feel that Leigh Russell is well on her way to creating a very successful series of books featuring DI Steel. I can't wait for the next one and would recommend that you read both books in succession.

Fiona Wilson says

I enjoyed it but it took me longer than usual to read it as I was only reading it on the bus and when I had a

week not riding the bus I didn't read it so I found it harder to follow but I do enjoy this author as she makes it more realistic in how the police capture the suspect

Nick Davies says

Several of the comments on the cover/inlay of this book made reference to this being a solid and quick read, and I don't disagree with that. However for me this police procedural was heavy on the procedural, even heavier on the meaningless personal circumstances of the characters, and somewhat light on aspects which might've made it more memorable. It ended up feeling like it had been written in a slightly formulaic fashion - all of the necessary constituents of a crime thriller but none of the things that engaged me. Heroes and villains I couldn't get excited about or stay that interested in, a slightly thin plot plumped up with 'he said, she said' fluff not completely hiding some implausible factors, and a plain writing style that did relatively little to elevate this author in a crowded field.

Vivian says

I'm baffled by the mostly positive reviews that this book has generated. Second in the series, I liked it even less than the first, and I didn't care for that one either. You know from the get go who the perpetrators are. Where's the fun or challenge in that? The subsequent investigation to identify and arrest the guilty is boring. Mediocre plot, mediocre writing and unlikeable characters. I have the next in the series on my Kindle, but I doubt that I'll bother to read it. Not much to recommend here.

Colin Mitchell says

This book starts out well with DI Steel rushing to join a team forming to investigate a series of burglaries and a body found in one house. This quickly escalates with a fire and another body. Unfortunately we then have the book seemingly padded out with her private life and the wine drinking which places her in the alcoholic bracket and more often than not above the drink driving limit. The story then becomes somewhat predictable with a split and inconclusive ending.

Wisteriouswoman says

The book is at first interesting because each chapter introduces you to a different character that will play a part in the total mystery. I don't know why I kept reading it though. I never liked any of the characters. The main character, Geraldine is a workaholic detective in England that feels sorry for herself because she doesn't have any important people in her personal life. I can see why, I couldn't stand her either! It seems that all the policemen and women spend a great deal of time in the local pub after work. That doesn't make for a very stimulating read. Geraldine also spends way too much time sitting home alone drinking wine and doing paperwork. I had most of the mystery figured out so it wasn't as intellectually challenging as some.

Julie says

Road Closed by Leigh Russell is a William Morrow/ Witness Impulse publication. This book has been re-issued in digital format. I was provided a copy of this book by the publisher and Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

Geraldine is dealing with the death of her mother and the guilt she feels at not having been as close to her as she could have and for not feeling the same level of grief as her sister. She is also seeing a guy, but things aren't going so well, her job of course being the issue.

Geraldine does have her hands full right now. A string of burglaries have resulted in the death of an elderly woman who surprised the thieves. In short order another person dies as a result of a break in, leaving behind a wife that is taking the death really hard. A few other attacks lead the team to a couple of real losers with little or no conscience. The problem is all the suspects seem to have the most convenient alibis.

This British police procedural is the second in the series. Geraldine will learn some shocking truths about her past, deal with several relationship issues, one involving a co-worker and one involving her best friend, Hannah. She is also dealing with her sister, and with her own issues of trying to balance work and a personal life.

Geraldine is complex character. Her work is in first place in her life. This is a problem many face in this occupation. Everyone close to her, or who wish to be closer, have complained about her job. Geraldine also finds she is turning to the company of red wine in the evenings. One wonders if this is going to become a bigger problem for her in the future.

The story gives us the third person perspective of Geraldine, and we see the point of view of the criminals as well. We also get insight into the victims thoughts and the thoughts of other characters with whom Geraldine has a relationship, whether personal or professional. So, the story is well rounded. The plot is a basic crime drama, but we see the results of these crimes on the victims and on those responsible for catching them. I loved the darker atmosphere in this book. The story was gritty and real without being overly dependent on graphic violence. The novel is very absorbing and well plotted. I have a few other Leigh Russell novels in my TBR and I am really looking forward to digging into them. Overall this one gets an A.

jeannette allerston says

Brilliant read

Really enjoying this series, can not wait for the next book, downloading now, Loved the character of Geraldine there is more going on in her life which I think Will be revealed in this series 10/10 Leigh Russell , and great narration with this book, can not recommend this series enough ? ? ? ? ?
