



Das Kind

Sebastian Fitzek, Simon Jäger (Narrator)

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Als Robert Stern diesem ungewöhnlichen Treffen zugestimmt hatte, wusste er nicht, dass er damit eine Verabredung mit dem Tod einging. Noch weniger ahnte er, dass der Tod etwa 1,43 m messen, Turnschuhe tragen und lächelnd auf einem gottverlassenen Industriegelände in sein Leben treten würde. Strafverteidiger Robert Stern ist wie vor den Kopf geschlagen, als er sieht, wer der geheimnisvolle Mandant ist, mit dem er sich auf einem abgelegenen und heruntergekommenen Industriegelände treffen soll: Simon, ein zehnjähriger Junge, zerbrechlich, todkrank - und fest überzeugt, in einem früheren Leben ein Mörder gewesen zu sein. Doch Robert Sterns Verblüffung wandelt sich in Entsetzen und Verwirrung, als er in jenem Keller, den Simon beschrieben hat, tatsächlich menschliche Überreste findet: ein Skelett, der Schädel mit einer Axt gespalten. Und dies ist erst der Anfang. Denn nicht nur berichtet Simon von weiteren, vor Jahren hingerichteten Opfern, schon bald wird auch die Gegenwart mörderisch...

Das Kind Details

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Andrew Smith says

This was my second experience of listening to an Audible Original Drama, and once again I was impressed by the quality of production. Having a whole cast of actors together with additional sound effects really does enrich the whole experience.

Again, this drama was based on a Sebastian Fitzek novel. The author, I'm fast discovering, is very adept at developing unusual and gripping plots that, although complex, are very cleverly constructed. In this tale, a ten year old boy claims he murdered a number of people in a previous life and is able to back up this assertion by successfully pointing out the whereabouts of an undiscovered body from a murder which occurred 15 years ago. Through a mutual friend, the boy reports this fact to a successful lawyer, who is himself haunted by the death of his son shortly after birth. How these elements interlinked and how the whole thing played out was fascinating.

I'm not quite sure how I feel about the concept of reincarnation – my logical mind screams 'no way' but another part of me whispers 'I hope so'. I'd urge any potential reader to just keep an open mind and go with the flow. As I've said, it's all very cleverly done.

Probably the only thing keeping me from rating this higher is the fact that the acting skills of the young boy weren't up to the very high standard of the rest of the cast, and the excellent narrator. But this aside, it's a gripping story that had me guessing until the very end.

Kayla Dawn says

3,5*

Wie immer bei Fitzek sind die ersten 3/4 super spannend und echt super, aber dann schreibt der Herr immer so eigenartige und überzogene Enden, dass ich mich nur darüber aufregen kann. Finde das sehr schade, weil ich seine Bücher sonst gerne lese... bis eben die große Auflösung kommt.. die, nachdem man ein paar Fitzeks gelesen hat, irgendwie vorhersehbar sind, da man inzwischen begreift, was sein Schema ist.

Werde noch die Fitzeks lesen, die ich zu Hause habe, aber ich denke das wars dann mit uns beiden :)

Becky_Schnecky says

Gänsehaut pur!
So ein krasses Thema - so gut geschrieben.
Danke Herr Fitzek für die zahlreichen Geschichten ❤

Steve says

This was my first Audible Dramatization, and if the rest are as poorly produced as this one, I think I'll skip the rest.

The production felt like it only acted out part of the book, and I had the feeling I was missing huge chunks of the story. It was very jerky, like watching bits and pieces of a movie and missing the logical steps and vital details. I haven't read the actual book, but I sure hope the book isn't like this, too.

The acting was okay, but the sound effects were terrible, and often overpowered the dialogue. This could have been an outstanding thriller (if you ignore the gaping holes in the plot), but overall it was very flat.

sue says

This book has been portrayed as **The Child is a darkly twisting, page-turning thriller that will make your heart pound with adrenaline** and I can verify that that statement is **correct!**

I have been sat intently absolutely oblivious of whatever has happened around me while I have had my nose between the pages of this book. I kid you not.

It starts out *Intriguing* which leads onto *exciting* which then leads onto *unputdownable* because you are literally glued to the spot.

There were several times I literally **JUMPED** off my seat, yes, my huge bottom left the seat like I was on an injector seat.

I was told I was reading with my mouth open....umm what? I know some people chew with their mouth open.

I was left gasping at the end over this awesome tale. Not read one that has made me feel like this in this genre for a month or two now, so I can honestly say, this book is a **MUST** read.

THE CHILD is unforgettable. The twist in this story is like no other I have read. I cannot rave about this enough.

Has this author written anymore like this?

I'm off to find out>

Before I do you **must** click and download this book to your kindle, or paperback, whatever format you read books in, you regret it.

My thanks go to *Little, Brown Book Group UK via Net galley* for my advanced copy to read and review

Franco Santos says

Ok, no entiendo nada.

Fitzek me volvió a dejar atónito con esta obra. Obviamente la trama nunca decae, tiene los típicos finales de capítulos que te imposibilitan a soltar el libro, está plagado de giros inesperados y **concluye con un final que te destruye el cerebro.**

Literalmente no entendí un carajo.

Anna McWeasley says

Ich muss ja eigentlich nichts mehr sagen. Fitzek ist ein Meister seines Genres!

Rob says

Is this far fetched? Yes!

Is this a page turner? You better believe it!

I have never read so many chapters that left me hanging, wondering what next.

Only one way to find out, read the next one, and the next one, etc, etc. Fortunately the chapters are short.

When Simon Sachs, a 10 year old boy, asks Robert Stern, an attorney, to be his lawyer, Robert Stern wants to know why. Why, because Simon believes he killed a bad person 15 years ago. He now needs legal representation.

“That’s not possible” Stern remarks “how could you have killed someone 15 years ago when you are only 10 years old now”.

When Simon takes Robert to the site of skeletal remains that indeed turn out to be 15 years old, Robert’s curiosity gets the better of him.

Robert decides to get to the bottom of this bizarre event.

Ten years ago Robert and his then wife had a baby boy that died two days after his birth. The death was put down to SIDS. This event was the cause of Robert and his wife getting divorced.

Now, Robert has just received a DVD, from an anonymous source, of his son’s death but hinting that his son might still be alive. To get further proof Robert has to follow these instructions. Find out who killed the 15 year old corpse. And not to involve the police. If he does people near to him will die.

Robert’s, and everybody’s life, that is close to him is about to be hanging by a thread.

The use of short chapters that constantly changes the POV from one character to the next really keeps you on your toes.

As I said at the start, the story is far fetched but I just couldn’t put it down.

I enjoyed the end as it gives the reader the chance to write it as they see fit.

Highly recommended for readers who like page turning, far fetched thrillers.

Phryynne says

The only problem with reading a German book in translation is that most of its reviews are in German so I cannot read them! But many of the ratings are 4 or even 5 stars so I know I am in good company.

The child of the title is just ten years old and he claims to have murdered someone 15 years ago. He even knows all the details. Strange indeed and it just gets stranger. As someone who is not convinced about reincarnation I had a few misgivings at this stage, but things rattled along at such a pace I just went with the flow.

And I am glad I did. It was a clever story, well told and with some very likable characters. I skimmed the chapter with the paedophile though. Definitely not a place I like to go in my fiction. The author left the subject of reincarnation open wide for the reader's own interpretation with a clever twist right at the end.

I liked it and will look out for more of this author's books.

Pat says

This is a strange and compelling book. Attorney Robert Stern is waiting at an abandon industrial park for his friend Carina to show up. She sounded desperate for his help. She finally arrives in an ambulance with a 10 year old boy, Simon Sachs. Simon requested a lawyer because he knows that in a previous life, he was a serial killer; and before he reveals where the bodies are buried, he wants legal help.

And so it begins. I read this book quickly because it is such a unique premise of past lives, regression, and reincarnation. I found it easy to suspend belief or disbelief because the mystery revolves around Simon and what he knows. A very fast paced thriller that I enjoyed. Recommend to those who want something "a little different".

Maxine (Booklover Catlady) says

This was one of those books where I was expecting one thing and got another, so my advice is to go into it with an open mind, a blank canvas. A child confesses to murder, okay I am in, let's go, page one...

This for me was a bit of a hybrid of crime and psychological thriller. The plot in itself sounded fascinating and was what drew me to the book in the first place.

My name is Simon. I'm 10 years old. I'm a serial killer. Robert Stern, a successful defence lawyer, doesn't know what lies in store for him when he agrees to meet a new client in a derelict estate on the outskirts of Berlin. To his astonishment, the defendant is a ten-year-old boy - Simon - a fragile child with a chronic illness who insists that he was a murderer in a former life.

Stern's surprise quickly turns to horror as he searches the cellar Simon has directed him to and discovers the skeletal remains of a man, the skull split with an axe - just as Simon told him he would. But this is only the beginning, as Simon tells Stern where to find even more victims whose bodies have lain undisturbed for years. Suddenly, the present feels murderously dangerous as well...The Child is a darkly twisting, page-turning thriller that will make your heart pound with adrenaline.

A 10 year old serial killer - What the?.. oh bring it on!

Hard to review this book without a lot of spoilers, what I can share is that the pace ramps up from the start and continues to do so as the book goes on. If you are looking for very realistic fiction, this is not it, this is one of those books where it's just fun to be part of the author really stretching their imagination.

This book becomes a game of cat and mouse, the lawyer and the police are all trying to establish truth from what a child is telling them. Some believe, some don't. It's hard to know the truth yourself as the reader. It's just one of those books where you have to read it to find out for yourself.

It's a 3.5-4.0 star read for me. I did find it easy to read, was happily turning pages and read it really quickly, that's always a good sign. As I said earlier on, go into this one with no expectations and enjoy!

For more of my reviews please come and see me at:

<https://www.facebook.com/BookloverCat...>

Many thanks to the publisher for a copy of this book in exchange for a review via NetGalley.

Sunshineandbooks1410 says

Während alle das neue Fitzek Buch lesen, lese ich die alten Büchern von ihm. ?
Anfangs kam ich leider mit dem Buch kaum zurecht, vllt lag es einfach daran das ich kaum Zeit hatte oder es war nicht die richtige Zeit.
Nun hatte es mich in der Mitte gepackt. Für mich packt Fitzek hier ein sehr sensibles Thema an. Denn als hier genauer beschrieben wurde was passieren wird, schaltet sich das Kopfkino an und einem wird schlecht. Für mich ein Buch was sehr grenzwertig ist. Dennoch sehr spannend.

Brenda says

When defence lawyer, Robert Stern agreed to meet a client away from the office, he didn't expect his ex-girlfriend, Carina to arrive with a ten-year-old boy – in an ambulance. Simon Sachs was chronically ill and Carina was his nurse. But strange events had begun to occur after Simon had been hypnotized on his birthday. When he told Robert that he'd murdered a person fifteen years prior – and he WAS only ten – then explained where the body of that victim would be, Robert was baffled. He definitely didn't believe in

reincarnation – so what was going on? It was when the body was there, exactly as Simon had explained it would be, that things rapidly got out of hand...

As danger accelerated and went from bad to very bad – to worse – Robert had no idea what the end result would be. There was no way he could foresee what would happen...

The Child is set in Berlin, and is my first by author Sebastian Fitzek and wow! What a ride! Heart-stoppingly intense, the twists were shocking – the events were horrific; the evil was monstrous! And I thoroughly enjoyed it! I'll definitely look for more from this author – psychological thriller at its best! Recommended.

Linda Strong says

Robert and his ex-wife I lost a baby to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome 10 years ago. Robert is depressed and still grieving while Sophie has moved on, remarried and is now mother to twin girls.

An ax-girlfriend who works at a local hospital contacts Robert one evening, sounding frantic. She demands that he meet her ... she has a client for him and its imperative that he see this client NOW.

Much to his surprise, the client turns out to be Simon Sachs he's 10 years old and he says that he killed a man 15 years ago. Simon is also dying and wants a lawyer to find the body of who he killed so that he can die in peace.

And then things get really bizarre!

There is more than one body just waiting to be discovered.. and most of them were killed before Simon was born. So how does Simon know where these bodies are and exactly how they were killed? Do you believe in reincarnation? Or is this some kind of major hoax?

This is a fascinating read. So many twists and turns leave the reader questioning everything. Simon is such a great little boy ...he's full of wonder and awe at the world and he's like this little adult in a boy's skin. Robert is very cleverly written, portrayed so well as a grieving parent who gets caught up in things that seem impossible to him.

Throw in a bad cop a group of pedophiles a religious fanatic and you're in for a roller coaster ride you won't forget.

Highly recommended to anyone who likes a really good mystery or psychological thriller.

5 Stars for keeping me turning pages and reading as fast as I can!

Liz Barnsley says

Blimey this is a bit of a rollercoaster read, a book that grips you from the first lines and just simply won't let

go. A dastardly, twisty turny tale that will leave your head spinning.

Robert Stern is a defence attorney, highly successful but with a huge loss in his past that drives him to work excessively and not think too much about anything else. When an ex girlfriend asks him to help a dying child who believes he was a killer in another life, Robert is sceptical. But when the bodies start piling up and Simon seems to have a strange predilection for knowing what's going to happen, he finds himself involved in a race against time and discovers he has more to lose than he thought...

This was a strange, unpredictable and insanely mad reading experience, this author knows how to mess with your head and keep you on your toes whilst playing with your emotions and making you question everything. It flows along with no breathing space, locking you into the characters lives and experiences and sending you off into wild flights of fancy about what might actually be going on.

The “bad guy” is to die for, a James Bond type super villain working behind the scenes to cause maximum mayhem, but who and why is the thing that will keep you up into the early hours. Add to that a really emotive subject matter handled very well and realistically despite all the unrealistic situations Robert finds himself in and you have a heady mix of emotional resonance and pure thrill ride.

Is reincarnation a thing? Or is there a simple explanation for Simon’s knowledge? Well you’ll have to read to find out and while you are you’ll fall in love with him, with Robert and with all the other gorgeously drawn characters that you’ll meet along the way. You will root for a happy resolution, get swept away by the pure imaginative drive of the narrative and ultimately collapse in a heap feeling like you’ve been running a marathon.

Twisty turny eminently readable goodness. That is what this one will give you. Plus a possible toothache from grinding them throughout.

Highly Recommended.

Happy Reading Folks!
