



Skypoint

Phil Ford

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The eighth novel in the bestselling Torchwood range from BBC Books. SkyPoint is the latest high-rise addition to the ever-developing Cardiff skyline. It's the most high-tech, avant-garde apartment block in the city. And it's where Rhys Williams is hoping to find a new home for himself and Gwen. When Torchwood discover that residents have been going missing from the tower block, one of the team gets her dream assignment. Soon, SkyPoint's latest newly married tenants are moving in. And Toshiko Sato finally gets to make a home with Owen Harper. Then something comes out of the wall...

Skypoint Details

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Author : Phil Ford

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From Reader Review Skypoint for online ebook

Daniel Kukwa says

Smashing prose, an exciting & concise plot that could have been ripped from the second season of the series, and a use of both Owen & Tosh -- the two characters I like the least -- that made me give quite a damn about their welfare. Phil Ford was the head writer of "The Sarah Jane Adventures", as well as a contributor to "Doctor Who" and "Torchwood" itself...I should never have worried that this particular "Torchwood" novel was in anything other than a safe & professional pair of hands.

? Irena ? says

I have a feeling this story is much faster then the previous seven I've read. After Gwen and Rhys's estate agent vanishes while he was showing them an apartment, Torchwood sends Owen and Toshiko as newly-weds to discover what is going on in SkyPoint.

Almost the whole story takes place in that building. Every member of the team has a role to play, but this story is mostly Owen's. While he isn't my favourite character in the series, he is more than great here. I guess Phil Ford didn't want to make him as selfish or annoying as he is sometimes.

Chris Burd says

I thought it was interesting that unlike many of the Torchwood books, in this the author attempts to make the book accessible to readers who might not be familiar with the show. Nice try, but I would still recommend it only to true fans of the show.

For fans of the show, it's a good read. I enjoyed having a little more opportunity to explore the Tosh / Owen dynamic, but I wasn't crazy about the "monster of the week" plot. And - trying to get away with no spoilers makes this sound vague and stupid - at one point, there is a lot of action with characters in various locations. I spend way more brain energy than should have been necessary trying to "keep up" with where they all were and what obstacles each was facing. It was distracting.

But I still enjoyed it. :-)

Megan says

Torchwood: SkyPoint had the distinct honor of being the only Torchwood novel Mr. Ford has had written and of being the last novel that featured main characters Owen Harper and Toshiko Sato.

As you see on the cover, Toshiko was **huge**. She covers 3/4 of the cover! It was really distracting to read this book with such a large Toshiko on the front cover. I'd be reading and then flip to the cover. Read some more and then flip to the cover. I think it was the biggest character I have seen on any of the Torchwood covers so

far. I had no clue what they were trying to do with the background behind Tosh though. They had an opportunity and failed. The back cover however features a tall apartment building by the bay. So we can presume this is SkyPoint.

There were actually 30 chapters in this book. You wouldn't believe it if you saw the slimness of the actual book. I did the math (yes I did math... with a calculator) and each chapter was about 8 pages long. Pretty short chapters for a book of this size.

This novel was basically a love letter to Owen and Tosh. A last novelization for them before the end of season 2. The majority of the book was either in Tosh or Owen's POV. Don't get me wrong, each member of the team had a POV chapter. But since Tosh and Owen 'make their home' at SkyPoint for the operation, they were the main focus of the novel. The book even ended with a sappy Owen/Tosh(ish) moment. The author in his acknowledgements mentioned both Burn Gorman and Naoko Mori who played Owen and Tosh respectively.

Phil Ford liked to throw canon in your face as if it was a pie, and then smash it so he made sure all the cream got in all your crevices. What I meant was, Mr. Ford 'mentioned' something canon, from the TV show in every chapter. Almost every five pages. He forced the same facts on you again and again. It was like he was trying to get these facts into your skull. If you had seen the TV show, you know this stuff. It really does not bare repetition on this scale. However, if you hadn't seen the show or had seen little of it I can see where this would be useful. I thought it was cool at first but after a while...

Mr. Ford tried to 'give' an explanation as to why Gwen kept her maiden name. In fact, for a good part of the book she was referred to as Gwen Williams. But then for really no reason at all, she called up Rhys and said honey, I'm keeping my maiden name. Yeah.

I actually really liked this Torchwood novel. I thought Phil Ford did a great job. This book could be a little freaky if you are in the process of moving to a new place or have just moved into your new place. It was also has really dark themes about death; this was Torchwood *and* Owen.

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Bianca says

3.5 stars

Jeremy says

Very nice characterizations of Tosh and Owen - they got a lot to do and feel in this novel. Disappointing use of Ianto, especially how they just left him after his big scene, and you never find out how he got off the 6th floor and out to the SUV. As invincible as Jack is, it's interesting to me when the author can come up with a monster he has reason to be afraid of.

However, the ending was so abrupt and guesswork-y and I felt there could have (should have) been more done with the little girl and her mother, some kind of resolution.

Ah well, it was fun.

Jim C says

This book is based on the television show and takes place towards the end of the second season. In this one, a new high rise building has been recently constructed and people are disappearing from this edifice. Torchwood investigates.

This was a likable read in this universe. The author portrayed the characters correctly and I had no problem picturing this as an episode. This book dealt more with Owen and Tosh and how Tosh has always pined for Owen. Jack and Gwen have roles toward the end and I am sorry to say if you are a fan of Ianto you will be disappointed. The story line wasn't the strongest and maybe if this was an episode the visualization would have added more to it. I did think the climax was weak and I felt like I skipped a page.

This novel was a nice visit with old friends. I enjoyed their portrayals but I wish the story had more meat to it. I would only recommend this book to fans who miss visiting these characters.

Hannah Reed says

[I reached the end of series 2 and Owen and Tosh had just di

Shelley says

If they could only ship me one of the three books, six weeks late, why couldn't it have been the Ianto genderfuck??

In the last set, I praised the author of *Twilight Streets* for having read the scripts of upcoming episodes and subtly weaving in facts. This guy also saw the same episodes, but lacks any amount of subtlety. The first half-two thirds was a ridiculous amount of regurgitating facts we learned about the characters in episode 12. Tosh is buying coffee - let's talk about how she didn't have coffee while locked up! He'd stop the action in a scene to discuss what we already knew and didn't relate. Add that to the fact that this book is much shorter than the last six, and you have a sucky book.

In his defense, once he got the plot going, it was very Torchwood and very interesting. But that wasn't even a third of the book. Also, the climax fell very flat - there was an awesome build up and then done. I actually had to reread to make sure that I hadn't missed the real climax.

There were occasional moments of good characterization, and it was great seeing Tosh and Owen again. Two brief Jack/Ianto moments that were nice, and no real Jack/Gwen undertones, which I appreciated. But overall...no one who isn't a fan is going to be reading a Torchwood tie in. We knew all the facts he presented. It would have been nice to see him USE the facts to propel characterization and the story, as opposed to just

stating them. Trust me - we knew already. Probably before he did.

This would have been much better served as a short story and not a novel - at least with this author.

Anastassia Dyubkova says

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Lamadia says

This was a disappointment after the last few good Torchwood books. It read like one of the many "trapped in a highrise" movies and television episodes from the late 80s and early 90s. There were plenty of groan inducing moments of idiocy. The characterizations were pretty good, but seemed to bounce around a bit. Ianto was severely underused, as if the author had no idea what to do with him. The plot was just ridiculous and the defeat of the bad guy was strange and anti-climactic. I wasn't quite sure if I had read it correctly the

first time. It's pretty skipable and only one to read if you're a fan and can't get enough of any new Torchwood.

Nicholas Whyte says

<http://nwhyte.livejournal.com/1885088.html> [return][return] Another pretty decent Torchwood novel, with an intersection between exploitative aliens and exploitative crime lords in the property market in Cardiff Bay, set just after Gwen and Rhys return from honeymoon, with Owen still dead and walking. Some nice exploration of the dysfunction in the Owen/Toshiko relationship (Toshiko gets to be on the front cover this time) and lots of reference to their back-stories which will please the diehard fan. My one gripe is that the supposedly Latvian crimelord has a rather Adriatic name ("Besnik Lucca" - first name Albanian, second name Italian).

Lavender says

Several of my friends regularly watch/watched Dr Who and Torchwood. I managed to never get into Torchwood when it was on the air. I was familiar with the characters and concepts due to catching bits and pieces of the show or hearing friends discuss some point or other. I'm more of a reader than TV watcher, so I started reading this series as I was interested enough to see what it was all about. At first, I had assumed the novels would just retell the events from the TV show, but these are totally different stories. The books do occasionally touch on stuff that happened in the show as the events they portray sort of happen between episodes. After reading the first 12 novels in this series, I actually went back and watched the whole show, too, since I liked the characters so much.

Ianto Williams says

Good start, not so good middle, amazing ending. Well recommended!

K. McDevitt says

I think these "full Torchwood cast" novels are going to be my favorites. Though the authors don't always balance time among the characters, they do manage to write books that really feel like Torchwood adventures.

Loved: Owen coping with being undead and using it as an advantage against the big bad. Jack trying to remember how many times he'd died and come back to life (and then using it to his advantage). Tosh doing serious, brave investigative work. Gwen and Rhys wanting to make a life for themselves as a married couple. Ianto the action hero. Oh, and Tosh and Owen with feelings about pretending to be a couple to figure out what was going on in the building.

There were lots of tense moments and quite a body count by the end. But I think they did a great job saving the day, as always.

