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The Sinner: A Rizzoli & Isles Novel



Synopsis

This ebook edition contains a special preview of Tess Gerritsen's *I Know a Secret*. Not even the icy temperatures of a typical New England winter can match the bone-chilling scene of carnage discovered at the chapel of Our Lady of Divine Light. Within the cloistered convent lie two nuns—one dead, one critically injured—victims of an unspeakably savage attacker. The brutal crime appears to be without motive, but medical examiner Maura Isles's autopsy of the dead woman yields a shocking surprise: Twenty-year-old Sister Camille gave birth before she was murdered. Then another body is found, mutilated beyond recognition. Together, Isles and homicide detective Jane Rizzoli uncover an ancient horror that connects these terrible slaughters. As long-buried secrets come to light, Maura Isles finds herself drawn inexorably toward the heart of an investigation that strikes close to home and toward a dawning revelation about the killer's identity too shattering to consider.

Book Information

File Size: 1842 KB

Print Length: 355 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0345458915

Publisher: Ballantine Books; 1 edition (August 19, 2003)

Publication Date: August 19, 2003

Language: English

ASIN: B000FBJD9I

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #10,830 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #43

in [Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Medical](#) #47 in [Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers > Medical](#) #484 in [Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Women Sleuths](#)

Customer Reviews

I am reading these in order as written so this is the third I have read thus far. Unlike the first two (the

Surgeon and the Apprentice) the reader isn't dropped into the story in "run mode" it took a few chapters to get into the story which then flowed gently through its twists and turns meaning there was no problem putting it down but then there was no problem picking it back up again at least until the last part of the story when everything links up and you have that page turning sensation and need to find out what happens next. Isles's character gets a bit more dimension - we discover some secrets of her past, she gets a potentially romantic story sideline the story more leans towards having a "romantic" label than "thriller" even Rizzoli gets dominated by affairs of the heart for most of the book. That said it was still a good read - a nice little twist in the end that in hindsight you saw coming - in no way did the change of pace from the previous books diminished my enthusiasm for the series, in fact I am even more curious to see how these characters will develop in their next adventure.

I have always enjoyed these two main characters and letting their personal lives intrude made this a deeper story than usual. Gerritsen always writes a great clinical murder mystery, but this time each of the main characters hearts are on display. We have always known there was more to Dr. Isles than being the Queen of the Dead, but this story shows a bit of why she is the way she is. Rizzoli finally must come to grips with her insecurities not only as a woman cop, but as a woman. The mystery part was pretty good too although it really played second hat to the character stories. I look forward to the next book in the series knowing that I will get a fast paced thriller and a good dose of smart aleck Rizzoli and logical Isles.

First there was Detective Jane Rizzoli, then you were introduced to Maura Isles, now you get to know her as Tess Gerritsen tells you a part of the story through her point of view. You get to see where she lives and how she works beyond the operating table in the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Two nuns were attacked in a Convent, one a young runaway from a family of skeptics and the other a old-aged humanitarian. Each had a deep dark secret, but whose was the reason for the attack? In Maura's personal life, she is reunited with her ex who just happens to be home for the holiday. A philanthropist doctor. Jane, the investigating Detective on the case on the other hand has been feeling sick for the last few days. The reason for her morning sickness is something she rather not have her colleges know about and especially not Agent Gabriel Dean, the FBI Agent who helped aided her in The Apprentice. This one keeps the material especially the contents of the crime

dark while at the same time shedding some light into the background of the principle characters of the series. There seems to be more focus on Dr. Isles, but you'll barely notice it so it'll seem like they're equally spread out. Lepers, a corporate scam, religion, love and family are some of the topics that come up in this excellent page-turner that surpasses *The Apprentice*. With Maura have a more prominent role in this book as opposed to *The Apprentice*, I think it is safe to say that this was the first Rizzoli & Isles novel. Also I'd like to add, that unlike the TNT drama series, Rizzoli & Isles relationship in this book isn't as girlfriends, but rather close working friends. Jane is bound to meet Maura from time-to-time, but not as often as seen in the show. In here their relationship is more like Lennie Briscoe and Claire Kincaid. If you felt uncertain after reading *The Apprentice*, buy this book and you will wish you had read the books first.

I loved "The Sinner." Actually I have almost all the Rizzoli & Isles novels now from Tess Gerritsen and love them all. When Rizzoli & Isles was still on TV, Tess Gerritsen herself was on the final show of the series. That was so cool!

Read this in one day. Could not put it down. Jane and Maura really got to show how close their friendship means to each other. I never get tired of reading about their different cases!

I discovered Gerritsen two years ago and have since read many of her novels, in particular those featuring Maura Isles and Jane Rizzoli. Isles is Boston's Medical Examiner and Rizzoli is a detective. They form an interesting duo, one of them a cold-headed woman, the other as strong-headed as the other one is cold. *The Sinner* is one of the earlier novels in the series. Each book stands alone and you don't have to know the personal lives of the main characters to enjoy the fast-paced, sometimes gruesome crime stories that have made Gerritsen famous. In *The Sinner*, two nuns are brutally murdered - when it turns up that one of them recently gave birth, things turn ugly. Good plot, arresting characters, good pace. What I found interesting in reading *The Sinner* after having read many of Gerritsen later instalments is the difference in the author's writing and in how she treats her subject. The first thing I quickly noticed is that her writing wasn't then quite as slick as it is now. Not the style or choice of words (Gerritsen is good at triggering images in your mind) but the way she described her characters' personal lives was a little heavy-handed in this novel. Instead of underpinning the story, I found it was sometimes in your face - we were either in the story or in the character's personal dilemmas, not in both at the same time. To me, her recent novels show better skills in mixing the plot with the characters' lives. She's also more subtle, and it works well.

Don't get me wrong, Gerritsen's early Isles and Rizzoli's books are excellent, always exhibiting an arresting plot and fast pace. I have another one of hers to read in my pile and I look forward to reading it.

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