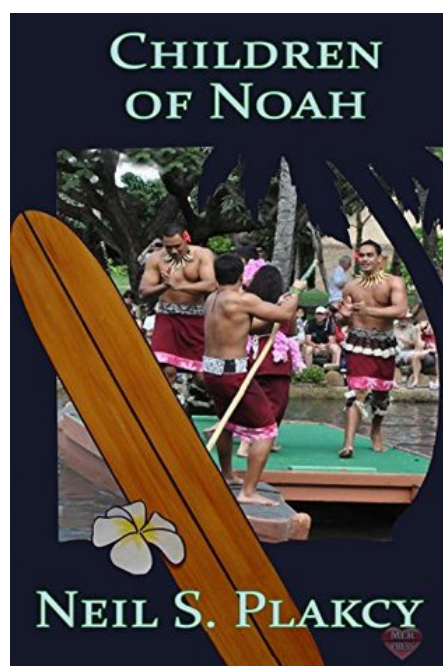




Children of Noah

Neil S. Plakcy

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A few months after the birth of his twins, openly gay Honolulu homicide detective Kimo Kanapa'aka begins a temporary assignment to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. Kimo and his HPD partner Ray Donne are quickly thrown into an investigation into threatening letters sent to a U.S. Senator. Are these screeds about racial purity related to an escalating series of attacks against mixed-race couples and families on Oahu?

When arson at a day care center on the Windward Coast brings Kimo's partner, fire investigator Mike Riccardi, into the case, Kimo worries about the future of his and Mike's newborn twins on an island falling prey to hate and a cult leader bent on death and destruction.

Children of Noah Details

Date : Published August 9th 2015 by MLR Press

ISBN :

Author : Neil S. Plakcy

Format : Kindle Edition 250 pages

Genre : Mystery, Romance, M M Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Children of Noah for online ebook

PaperMoon says

Another solid procedural crime investigation from Mr Plakcy. There's some very interesting insights into the mindset of those extreme groups using biblical texts to support their wacko acts. There's some development of the multi-book storyline for Kimo and Mike's adoption of Dakota and it is always good to read vignettes from the extended family life and goings-on. There is far less emphasis on these overall as compared to the investigative procedural parts and some readers might not like it - I was fine with it.

Just one complaint - to my reading, there's a major continuity plot-point between the first half of the book and the second half regarding Alpha and Omega. From my reading - it would seem the second half precedes the first. Has anyone else spotted this?

Avid Reader says

Children of Noah (Mahu #9) Neil S. Plakcy

4 stars

M/M Mystery

I was given this book for an honest review by Inked Rainbow Reads.

I enjoyed this book well enough. It had some continuity issues throughout, but overall, it was well thought out and well written.

I usually have issues where racial purity is based on religion – it's just a dangerous topic to write about. However, Plakcy does a pretty good job. The mystery is well planned and never gives you more than just a taste so that it is not spoiled half way through the story.

I was somewhat confused with the female character in this story – was she pregnant with her own kids or was she pregnant with Kimo's kids? When I am referring to the continuity issue, this is just one example where I was confused.

Overall though, I enjoyed the mystery aspect of this story.

Linda ~ chock full of hoot, just a little bit of nanny ~ says

Oh, but this one was fun. It's the most domestic of the books in this series so far, and it's great to see Kimo taking on the dad role when he was so hesitant about having kids in the previous books. He and Mike are great foster dads to Dakota, and while we didn't get much time with the baby twins, what we did get was fun. And for once, it made sense that these two guys wouldn't really know what to do with babies, not having any previous experience. I really enjoyed getting to see more of their day to day lives than we normally get.

The mystery here was as well done as in previous books, though religious fanatics and cults are things I don't care to read about, so I didn't really connect with it. This is Kimo and Ray's first assignment with the joint task force with the FBI, and about the only difference so far is they have a wider jurisdiction and get to

assign the grunt work to someone else. :D They still have plenty to do here, and they're not quite as out of the action as Kimo's family had hoped. I really loved how supportive Mike was of Kimo. He can be worried and protective without being possessive and smothering, just as Kimo has to be of Mike's job investigating fires.

Joseph Rogers says

I like Neil Plakcy's mysteries. They leave you guessing, and it is nice to read a mystery with a gay detective that is not necessarily all about the detective being gay...

Eyre says

I enjoyed the mystery part of the plot, and I loved the scenes with Dakota. Saying that, continuity issues really affected my enjoyment of the story. At the beginning of the book, Addie and Owen have already been born. There are scenes with Mike, Kimo, Sandra, and both babies. Later on, Kimo is described as a father-to-be. Toward the end of the book, he tells someone that Sandra is pregnant with his twins. Umm, they have already been born. How did such huge inconsistencies get missed in editing?

Ami says

The mystery was good though it made me feel uneasy since it was related to religious (albeit very distorted) belief about racial purity. Never been a fan of crime stories based on someone's faith. But as far as Kimo and Ray's first assignment with the FBI's FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, I thought they went with a bang.

I enjoyed their investigation and research process. I liked that Kimo was able to put himself in the 'new' shoes of being FBI Agent and that he stuck to rules without antagonizing HPD detectives who work on the same case. Oh, and I also liked reading an update about their foster son, Dakota, and the fact that he seemed to have found a nice boy as well.

Having said that, there was a HUGE continuity problem that somehow influenced my reading enjoyment. It was related to Kimo's children status. In the beginning, Kimo and Mike were said to already become fathers to baby twins, Addie and Owen (previously known as Alpha and Omega), as a result of them being donors for their lesbian friends couple, Cathy and Sandra (with Sandra as the one carrying the baby). Heck, Kimo and Mike even babysat the twins!

But then as the story progresses, I felt like watching *The Curious Case of Benjamin Buttons* because somehow, Sandra was back to her pregnant status, the babies were back inside her womb, Kimo was said to be "soon-to-be-father", and he was wishing for his own father to be able to see and teach the unborn twins as he did with Kimo's nephews and nieces...

Uhm, what?! We already met the babies!!

I am not a reader who is very fussy about details -- that is why I can't be a good proofreader -- but this one was GLARING at me, I couldn't help being very annoyed by it. While it didn't directly related to the case but

still it was sloppy editing error. An editor should've caught that before this was being released.

Reducing my rating stars because of it.

Bo says

Aloha!

The problem with this series has always been that author Plakcy lulls you into the everyday life of Hawaii cop turned detective Kimo Kanapa'aka while giving you enough of a rope to wrap around your neck in terms of a new mystery to solve. That's where he gets you--simultaneously unwrapping Kimo's latest love life escapade--now with his should-be husband Mike (the Firefighter) Riccardi and their children--around something truly horrifying snorkeling around the islands.

This one ratchets up both aspects of Kimo's life (narrated by him) in such a way that it's like a fuse has been lit on at both ends. His relationship with Mike is not front and center here, but rather it's one that features their twins (and their mother), foster son, his and Mike's parents, and a small group of friends and colleagues that form a unique nuclear family.

That his chief sidekick here is his detective partner Ray Donne, both now on special assignment with the FBI, brings in more of a close-knit feel to a mystery which unravels in increasingly horrifying ways that take very unexpected turns.

That the mystery is solved and the chase which begins in earnest eventually winds up with a satisfying but not exceptionally defined end to this series is a testimony to Plakcy's ability to keep you guessing until the very end.

K says

Kimo and Mike are settled in their relationship with their foster son Dakota, dog Roby, and of course their role as fathers of the twins with their lesbian couple friends. Kimo and his partner Ray have been seconded to the FBI - a decision made in part because it would be safer riding a desk than out fighting crime as a cop. Or that was the plan. Incidents of racial abuse and attack escalate to murder, and all signs point to the perpetrators being part of a quasi-Mormon cult who live in an isolated compound on the island. When Kimo gets a tip off that there is a planned attack at the cultural theme park - which will put everyone in danger - he's back in the action again.

Running along side what is a pretty solid police procedural, is the declining health of Kimo's family and the relationship with his wider family.

There were a couple of editing errors that were a bit off putting, but aside from that this is another solid story in the series.

Suze says

Another installment from Kimo and Mike.

I enjoyed the mystery, though sometimes with the move to the FBI there were a lot of procedurals that maybe won't be there in future

Kimo and Mike were more of a background hum really with the relationship focus more with Kimo and his parents and with the twins - though Mike and Kimo trying to cope with two squawking babies was fun (could have been played for more I think!)

Not quite as engrossing as some installments but great for fans of Kimo.

Enjoyed it, it moved along quickly. 3.5/4*

Drianne says

I love series that are like visiting an old friend when a new book comes out. The actual book doesn't matter so much; it's just a chance to catch up, as it were.

In other words, the mystery was not-great, but I mostly wanted to see how Kimo and his family are.

Neil Plakcy says

A few years ago I was able to attend the FBI's Citizen's Academy, a nine-week program that met one evening a week to learn about the functions of the Bureau, and I was excited to learn about the Joint Terrorism Task Force, which brings local law enforcement into the Bureau's operations for cooperative efforts.

After eight books in the Mahu Investigations series, I was beginning to run out of ideas for Kimo to investigate within the narrow confines of his HPD district. I was itching to give him a bigger canvas to work on, and sending him and his detective partner Ray to the JTTF was just the ticket. I was also interested in religious fundamentalists, and those things came together to generate the plot for Children of Noah.

It was also great fun to come up with my own theme park, and the survivalists' compound, as well as creating a pair of boy/girl teens who make Kimo wonder what his own kids will grow up to be.

Sarah says

I loved this so much! This is one of the best crime fiction stories I've read in a long time. I've finally found a series with a gay protagonist that rivals the best of mainstream bestsellers. I know I'm a little late to the party starting on book 9, but this was absolutely brilliant.

Kimo is a fabulous lead character. I can't think of a more complex or engaging character in any series I've read recently. Plakcy has managed to sustain a fascinating character over nine books without the detective descending into the alcohol fuelled self-destruction so familiar in the genre. Instead of wallowing like Harry Hole or Wallander, Kimo is a foster parent, a partner, a son and he is soon to be a father. His partnerships are solid, both with Ray, his work partner and with Mike, his life partner.

It is the story that gives readers a thrill. Complex, layered and compelling, Plakcy paces his tale perfectly. Readers are given just enough help to follow Kimo and Ray's investigation, but never enough to ruin the

suspense. I kept making links to other series in my head. The storyline reminded me of True Detective - a beautifully written series, but Kimo and Ray are such better characters!

And Hawaii! Kimo's island is beautiful, complicated and completely unique. I love the colourful cast, the easy lifestyle and the blend of cultures.

I also love the ease with which Plakcy writes Kimo's non-traditional personal life. This is not a story full of angst or homophobic government agencies. Kimo, Mike and Dalton are a family. Kimo and Mike are co-parenting with a lesbian couple. Their friends and family accept them unquestioningly. In a genre full of contrived conflict, Kimo's relaxed modern life is absolutely refreshing.

Possibly my only gripe is with the cover. It looks really dated and doesn't really suggest crime fiction. I would hate for anyone to shy away from such a wonderful book because of a dodgy cover.

A truly fabulous book!

I was given a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Inked Reads says

FiveStars

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Overall though, I enjoyed the mystery aspect of this story.

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AvidReader

Melanie says

A Scattered Thoughts and Rogue Words.com Review

Rating: 4 stars out of 5

For the full review, visit <http://wp.me/p220KL-662>

From that review: "I loved this book for so many reasons, none of which really had anything to do with the mystery. Kimo's parents which have figured largely in all the stories are now frail, older figures here, especially Kimo's dad. Their relationship, always so strong, sees a change in position here that is so realistic and painful. Mike's parents, once so against the relationship, now move forward into new positive roles. So much is changing within the family structures for them both, including that of their foster son. Here all the relationships strain against their bonds and come back for support once more. Its all so remarkable in its human dynamics and believable interchanges. Sometimes angst-filled, often humorous, it will be so easy for all the readers to relate to the relationships in flux here, whether it be brother and brother, father and son, or new fathers and new babies. This is what made this book for me. Its all about the changes in life that we all go through."

For all our reviews, author interviews, and all things book related, visit us at <http://ScatteredThoughtsandRogueWords...>

Marlys says

As someone that has grown up in Hawaii, Neil writes an accurate portrayal of life in Hawaii. It is obvious

that Neil has done his research. This book grabbed my attention from the first paragraph. I read this book in one day!
