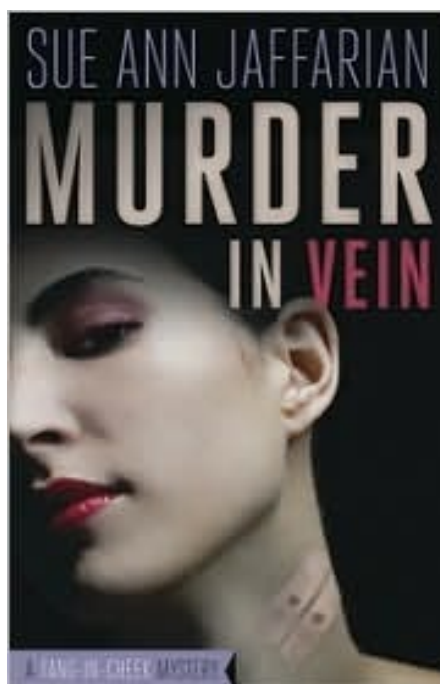




Murder in Vein

Sue Ann Jaffarian

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The sight of the blood covered fangs exploded from her deep memory like a ballthrough a plate glass window. The man had bitten Bobby, torn into him like a barbequed rib on the Fourth of July.

Vampires. Vam-pires. Real live - er, dead (undead?) - bloodsucking vampires, living in the City of Angels. Madison Rose, a street-smart twenty-something waitress would never have believed it - until a vampire thwarts a vicious attack against her by appearing in the nick of time and finishing off her assailant in one tasty bite.

Madison has been saved by the vampires - or has she? She learns that women have been going missing; their lifeless bodies turning up drained of blood. Now the murderer is after her. As the violence escalates, Madison, LAPD Detective Notchey, and a cadre of alluring and dangerous vampires search for the true killer - while Madison keeps a wary eye on the skittish and thirsty vampires. Will she survive to see the light of day?

Murder in Vein Details

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From Reader Review Murder in Vein for online ebook

Michael Mallory says

"Murder in Vein" takes a well-used theme--vampires among us--and puts a whole new twist on it. Here the vampires aren't a sub-culture, they're almost like hidden royalty, taking mortal justice into their own hands when the situation demands it. Sue Ann Jaffarian has written cross-genre mystery that genuinely does justice to both genres, presenting vampires that are alternately charming and terrifying, and a heroine who is believable as she navigates the "real" world, which has done her no favors to date, and the unsuspected vampire world. There's quite a bit of expository detail on the vampire culture in the first third of the book, and Jaffarian leaves few questions about how they can live in modern society unanswered, but that serves to create a sense of reality amidst the unreal. One note: the series subtitle, "Fang in Cheek," implies that this is going to be a light-hearted or comedic romp, which it is not. It has it's moments of irony, but no one should buy this expecting "Love at First Bite."

Ceren Ünlü says

Sue Ann Jaffarin'?n yazd??? "KEHANET" büyük bir keyifle okundu, bitti. Bu kitap pek duyulmam?? olsa da okudu?uma pi?man etmedi. Konusu etkileyiciydi... Yazar'?n dili ise büyüleyici... Karakterlerin her biri ayrı bir çarp?c?yd?. Bu kitaba bay?lmamak için hiç bir eksisi yoktu ! Ayr?ca çevirisini de çok be?endim, oldukça ba?ar?lı?yd?. Kehanet, dört dörtlük bir kitapt?.

Konusu ise k?saca; Bir grup vampirlere inanan kült, avuçlar? içersinde kan çizgisi i?areti ta??yan k?zlar? kaç?r?p, vampire dönü?ebilmek için kanlar?n? içip onlar? öldürmektedir.

Asl?nda bilmiyorlard?r ki kan çizgisi olan ki?ilerin kan?n? için ki?i de?il, sadece kan çizgisi olan ki?i dönü?üm geçirebiliyordur.

Ve katillerin kaç?rd?klar? ki?ilerden biri de; Madison'dur.

Madison'u kurtaran vampir bir çift olur. Onu korumalar? alt?na al?rlar fakat bu s?rada Madison'un arkada?? öldürölür. Ve Madison Vampir Kurulu'nun teklifiyle kendini katil aray??? içersinde bulur. Halbuki onun di?er k?zlardan bir fark? vard?r. Madison'un kan çizgisi yok...!

Bu olay'?n içine iyice batt??? s?rada yan?nda olan vampir Samuel, Colin ve insan Eric onu korumaktad?r. ?kisi ölü " , biri nab?zl? ... Üç yak???kl?...

Kan ?ehveti...

Ve Aksiyon.

Bu kitab? soluksuz okuyacaks?n?z. Herkese tavsiye ederim...!

M. White says

This is an interesting and somewhat unique approach to the usual vampire legend, and I really enjoyed the way the author is developing the story line. I look forward to more in this series.

Roni says

Love, love anything Sue Ann Jaffarian writes!

Cailin Lewis says

GREEEAT Vamp Book, one of my favorites now. The climax however could have been a little more. Why kill of Gordon to?

Nora-adrienne says

Murder in Vein (A Fang in Cheek Mystery)
Sue Ann Jaffarian
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Madison Rose is a twenty-something recent newcomer to California. She works as a waitress in a diner and is just trying to make her way in life. Leaving work one evening she is hit from behind and wakes up bound, gagged and very scared. In the course of her abduction she was knocked around, had her clothes ripped off and dragged around while he moved her from the car.

Then while she's wondering what is going to happen next he calmly sits down by a tree and pulls out a six pack of beer and starts drinking. You'd think he had all the time in the world. Madison starts struggling to look around and Bobby (the kidnapper) scoots over to her and says to her "steady now, don't go making things worse for yourself". Madison is beginning to wonder how long she has to live when someone attacks Bobby and pulls him off of Madison.

Watching as her savior throws Bobby into a tree and then rips out his throat to finish the job and drink Bobby's blood.

DRINK HIS BLOOD???????

Madison found herself being saved by a Vampire and now her adventures begin, along with might be a new life.

This is the first book in Ms. Jaffarian's new Fang in Cheek Mystery series. It's a new direction for this award winning author.

IRS Info- I purchased this book in the limited hard cover First Edition as a collectible and for review.

Darlene Musser says

Started slow but ended very nicely.

Melissa Hewett says

Enjoyable vampire book. Can't wait to read the second one.

Kallierose says

This was a good, rather fluffy read. Although, on second thought, maybe not *that* fluffy. I've been reading lots of sci-fi lately and this is much lighter reading by comparison, I guess. Anyway, I enjoyed the characters, and found Madison a lot less annoying (and a fair amount smarter) than most of the other characters I've been following in the paranormal genre.

I really enjoyed the fact that the author did not feel the need to bludgeon us over the head about how sexy and irresistible and hot the vampires were. I've read books lately that make that mistake, and it gets old fast. Sure, they're hot. We get that. But we don't need to read about it every other sentence.

My one quibble was about the identity of the bad guy. This was someone we'd only seen....what, once? Twice? It would have made the mystery a lot more interesting if the villain was someone we'd spent more time with.

That one thing aside, I quite enjoyed the book and look forward to the next one in the series.

Scooper Speaks says

Murder in Vein is book one in Sue Ann Jaffarian's Fang-in-Cheek mystery series. In Jaffarian's vampire world the California Vampire Council rules over the vampires in the area with the ancient vampire Samuel La Croix sitting as council head. All of the other vampires defer to him. Samuel is intriguing. He will do whatever it takes to protect those he cares for and he is vicious. But with Madison he is patient. I really like him. Definitely better than I like Madison.

It's not like Madison is a horrible person. She is just so new to the paranormal world that she acts TSTL at times. Like when she goes off to investigate on her own, more than once. After something bad happens, she does it again! WTF!! But I do like that she's a survivor. (Even though for a survivor she makes some really dumb choices.) The book really revolves around the mystery aspect of the story which is well written.

I felt like I jumped around the paranormal world with the heroine trying to figure out from which direction the danger would come. But one thing really bothered me: the derogatory use of the word "beater" to describe humans. It's used often throughout the book and usually by humans. At first it was a piece of information, but before long it was being slung from every direction. (That's how it felt anyway.) To be fair, some of my issues could be based on reading Sophie Littlefield's *Aftertime* which used the word "beater" to describe the zombie characters. I don't know...

Overall opinion of *Murder in Vein*? It was a quick, no-think type of enjoyable read. I want to see how Jaffarian plays out the romance she introduced and the short snippet at the back of the book sounds really good. Not knowing Jaffarian's work, I gotta give it to her—she really knows how to grab her readers. From the first sentence of *Murder in Vein* and the snippet of the next book, *Baited Blood* which will be released in September 2011. I like books that cut straight to the story.

Scooper Speaks

Naomi Ruth says

At first I wasn't sure how I felt about this book. There were some rough passages, and I don't think it was the best book ever written. There were some cliches and some moments where I wasn't sure if the emotions were described well (I blame this on Plato, since I read this right after discussing Book X of The Republic.) But I actually really liked it. I liked the characters and the description of place. I liked that the main girl (I'm blanking on her name... Oh. Duh. It's in the title, Madison) was around two sexy men but she kept up her boundaries and said: "No. I'm good. I'm going to do the best I can and I'm not going to just go all BUT SEXY." I was a little bit proud of her. I don't know. I really felt connected to Madison by the end. I kinda' want to read more. It might have started out a little bit rough, but by the end I was definitely hooked.

The Review is Based Off of an Advanced Reader Copy I Have Had Lying Around and Finally Was Able to Read.

Rachel Kramer Bussel says

I'm a fan of Sue Ann Jaffarian's other mystery series, but don't tend to read vampire stories so wasn't sure what I would think, but I loved this whodunnit, which delves into the world of vampires and vampire envy. Madison Rose finds herself shocked to discover that vampires are real, and that she almost died because of them. She goes to live with her new vampire "grandparents," who wind up becoming the only family she has, only to become the target of those who think if they kill her, they are on the fast track to permanent (as opposed to retractable) fangs. Jaffarian sends up vampire envy while introducing a whole new cast of characters, including a vampire council, with her own twist on the genre. She manages to make this a believable world, as she did with Ghost a la Mode, and Madison is an engaging heroine who is by turns wary and curious about the undercover community that takes her in. If you're a Jaffarian fan, you'll definitely want to check this out, and if you're a newcomer to her work, you'll enjoy the sly humor as well as the covens, clubs and coffins that populate Murder in Vein.

Sheryl says

3-1/2 stars: Hmmmm...what do I say about this book? I have really mixed feelings about it, hence the 3-1/2 stars. I couldn't quite give it 4 (when I compare it to other books I've given 4 stars to) yet it doesn't quite rate a 3.

The book started off very shaky for me. The writing felt very unpolished and perhaps that is why I didn't quite get sucked into the story immediately. The writing left me feeling ambivalent to all the characters and what was going on plotwise. As the book progressed, the writing improved; it felt more like an experienced writer to me and I was able to get into the story more. I plowed through the book in about a day, so I can't say it didn't keep my attention, but something was just missing from it. Maybe it was a connection to the characters. I really liked Dodie, Doug and Samuel, but I just couldn't rally any special feeling for Madison, Colin or Mike. I didn't dislike them, I just didn't care all that much about them.

The storyline was good but nothing spectacular. Again, it held my attention but didn't elicit any strong feelings. I will say that by the end of the book, the characters had gained enough potential that I will probably give the second book a try and see if my ambivalent feelings for this book were just a matter of having to "get into the series". I have had other series where I didn't love (or hate) the first book but the

second book really sucks me in.

John says

I enjoyed this novel, but a word of caution: the cover bills it as a "Fang-in-Cheek Mystery," which is doubly misleading. It's neither a comedy nor a parody but a straightforward adventure (with vampires of course), and there's an investigation of murders but not a mystery in the Agatha Christie sense--better to call it a Vampire Council procedural.

Set in the Los Angeles area, the story posits a Vampire Council that enforces vampire law and sees to it that the existence of vampires remains a deep secret. Council members routinely monitor activity in several "covens" of mortals who claim to be vampires, run fashionable "vampire" clubs, and indulge in supposedly vampiric practices; for example, they suck blood from eager donors, but they get it with the lancets diabetics use, not with their artificial fangs.

Not only are vampires secret in this story's world, but the only mortals that are genetically capable of being turned into vampires have a tell-tale mark on their left palm, which fades once they're turned. A series of murder victims bearing the mark brings the Council into the investigation, unofficially connected by Mike Notchey, a sympathetic LAPD detective. Someone knows about the mark and is exterminating potential vampires--who? and why?

The story begins with Madison Rose, mortal, age 23, beaten, gagged, and tied up in a forest while her captor waits impatiently for someone else to come; then suddenly an elderly man throws her captor against a tree, rips into him with fangs, and leaves him "just as white as raw poultry and just as dead" (page 3). Fourteen hours later she wakes up from a sedative in a cozy bedroom and is ministered to lovingly by a grandmotherly woman named Dodie, who explains that it was her husband Doug who saved Madison. And yes, they're on the Vampire Council, which meets in what becomes Madison's new home.

The focus of the third-person narrative is on Madison, but the point of view shifts readily to other characters whenever it helps the story to do so--thus, for example, we get some conversations about her among Council members. And one such conversation on page 37 reveals something very important about her, (view spoiler). They believe "someone posing as a vampire may be behind" the killings, and Madison agrees to be "bait" in their investigation of the pseudo-vampire clubs.

The plot of this story was quite satisfying to me, and the writing style was calm and evenly paced like many of the mysteries and procedurals I used to read. One quibble, though: a dozen times or more through the book, the author uses a technique of skipping a scene, starting the next one, and after a few paragraphs dropping back to the previous scene, using the past perfect tense to mark the backward time-jump. Typically, though, the past perfect switches quickly to the simple past, and when that scene is over the jump ahead to resume the next scene is unmarked. Annoying and possibly confusing, but otherwise a pleasant read.

Tiffany Cole says

Gagged, beat up, and trapped in a forest. That's how readers meet the street savvy waitress Madison Rose, and it's as terrifying a start as it is interesting. When she thinks her biggest fear is the psycho that put her in that position, a dark figure with fangs emerges from the forest and rips her captor apart. "We'll have to kill her," is the first thing he says and the last thing she hears that night.

When Madison comes to, she finds herself in a beautiful room. An elderly woman vaguely fills her in about what's going on. After Madison fixes herself up and eats, she goes to the kitchen and sees the elderly woman and the dark figure -- who is also elderly in appearance and no longer a dark figure -- drinking thick, red liquid.

Meet Dodie and Douglas: The first vampires introduced and definitely not the last.

However, Dodie and Doug are the least of Madison's concerns, though bloodsuckers certainly are. On the one side, there's wannabe vampires; on the other side, there's real vampires. Smack down in the middle, operating as the link, are cases of missing women. Had Doug not rescued Madison, she'd be another statistic.

Now it's up to Madison. Can she help the real vampires stop the fakes?

I finished "Murder in Vein" in six hours, and that was during a busy day full of school work and studying. It had the right mix of comedy, seriousness, and adventure. Romance lingers in the background, but it never threatens to take over. Sue Ann Jaffarian adds a little more to the vampire's way of living and makes them neither too dark or too innocent. There's a respectable in-between.

My name is Tiffany Cole, and I'm a book reviewer for Suspense Magazine. I am also an aspiring young writer. Savior of the Damned, the supernatural/dark urban fantasy novel I've been writing and editing for five years, is one step away from the agent/publisher hunt. You can find me in many places:

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