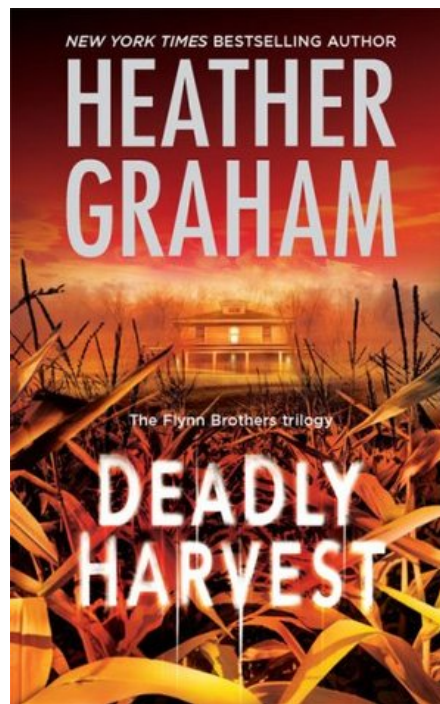




Deadly Harvest

Heather Graham

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When a young woman is found dead in a field, dressed up as a scarecrow with a slashed grin and a broken neck, the residents of Salem, Massachusetts, begin to fear that the infamous Harvest Man is more than just a rumor. But out-of-town cop Jeremy Flynn doesn't have time for ghost stories. He's in town on another investigation, looking for a friend's wife, who mysteriously vanished in a cemetery.

Complicating his efforts is local occult expert Rowenna Cavanaugh, who launches her own investigation, convinced that a horror from the past has crept into the present and is seducing women to their deaths. Jeremy uses logic and solid police work. Rowenna depends on intuition. But they both have the same goal: to stop the abductions and locate the missing women before Rowenna herself falls prey to the Harvest Man's dark seduction.

Deadly Harvest Details

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From Reader Review Deadly Harvest for online ebook

April says

Mild Spoilers

I didn't find out until after I was about half way through, that this was the second book in a trilogy. However, you do not need to read the first book to be able to read and enjoy this one.

Brad's wife goes missing while they are in Salem, Massachusettes, trying to repair their marriage, enjoying the Halloween festivities. Of course, he is the first suspect.

Brad's old partner, Jeremy, from the police force, who is now a private investigator with his two brothers jumps on a plane to help his old partner find his wife and clear his name. Along for the ride is Roweena. A Salem native who had been working with Jeremy at a radio station and is heading home for the holiday season. The night before they are leaving, they finally close the gap of tention that had been between them the past few months. Of course. You can't have suspense and horror/thriller without a love story complicating matters right?

Roweena knows the locals. And the legends. The makeshift team discovers a legend almost forgotten. The race is on to find the missing woman alive before the Harvest Festival.

Salem has more history and legends than just their witch trials.

Although I love reading about the trials and life during that time period, I was extremely pleased Heather Graham explored a different legend. It definitely made for a more interesting read.

Deb says

I've read a number of Graham's books before and I've never been this disappointed. First, as a "trilogy" ... well, it's not. The only thing tying this to the first book is that the characters have brothers -- but that's so peripheral to the story. This book was formulaic, the characters were two-dimensional (if we were lucky), and full of the "tell, don't show" style of writing. I'm disgruntled enough I might not pick up the third book.

Kristen says

A little predictable, but some clever aspects, and wonderful characters with plenty of excitement made for a good read!

Just after Halloween, a woman is found dead in a cornfield, made to look like a scarecrow with a slashed grin and a broken neck. When another woman goes missing just steps away from her husband, who's now crazed with panic, and the local police think he's the prime suspect, he calls on his friend, former police diver Jeremy Flynn for help finding his wife.

But this is Salem, Massachusetts, and the town's tragic history has a lot of people on edge, fearing that the legend of the Harvest Man - Salem's version of the bogeyman - may be real, and taking new sacrifices.

Rowenna Cavanaugh, a Salem local, wants to do anything she can to find the missing woman, and the strangely prophetic dreams she has always had may be one thing that can shed light on the case.

But Rowenna and her dreams are nonsense to Jeremy, who believes good old normal police work will solve the case and wants nothing to do with paranormal anything!

Heather Graham writes solid, entertaining paranormal fiction with just enough romance to spice things up without becoming the focus of the plot. Her characters are likeable and the stories she writes are always filled with mounting suspense and danger, with a possibility that there's an otherworldly involvement going on.

Graham's stories tend to be a bit formulaic, and you know that certain things will happen: the heroine WILL end up in mortal danger, no matter how she insists she'll be careful, the hero WILL have to accept that there may be an otherworldly situation going on, and probably accept help from a ghost or other paranormal "something", and there WILL be an ultimately happy ending. None of these things are criticisms, because I really enjoy Graham's books, and they are perfect for the beach, a plane trip, or a rainy Sunday afternoon.

Heather Graham writes stories that are escapist, thrilling and romantic, with the added bonus of some paranormal aspect to spice up the plot. They aren't great literature, but they are highly entertaining reads. If you like paranormal fiction and are looking for a light, easy read, Heather Graham is a dependable go-to author

Eve Recinella (Between The Bookends) says

This is book two of the Flynn Bother's trilogy.

This one takes place in Salem Massachusetts, and the legend of the Harvest Man. The wife of Jeremy Flynn's ex police partner has gone missing and Jeremy heads to Salem to help find her. Together him and Rowenna Cavanaugh set out to find the missing Mary, and find a body posed as a scarecrow.

I really enjoyed this one, the history and storytelling was great. It had a lot of twists and turns and red herrings. I actually thought I had the baddie figured out, and there turned out to be much more to it!

Overall loved it! Another great read by this author.

Glamdring says

The only reason it took me so long to finish it, is because I didn't have time to actually "read" a book lately...

Sherry says

Heather Graham so far has a double play with "Deadly Night" and "Deadly Harvest", I loved the subtle play with the paranormal during the plot line filled with suspense and mystery. I can't wait till I read "Deadly Gift", (which I get a copy of tomorrow). If the third installment lives up to the first 2, Heather Graham will have reached that pinnacle of praises, it will end up on my re-read shelf which only the best of the best goes! :)

Donna says

Jeremy Flynn is a private investigator who is trying to locate his friend Brad's missing wife. Jeremy is a skeptic who refuses to believe in anything paranormal despite his being shadowed by the ghost of Billy, the young child whose death caused him to leave his job as a police diver when he pulled Billy out of the river too late to save him.

Rowena Cavanaugh doesn't see herself as a psychic. She says she just puts herself in the shoes of the victim and can then give probabilities for what happened. Of course, she actually sees and hears what went on and the people of Salem do believe that Rowena is a true psychic. Since Rowena's fiancée was killed, she has remained close to his father Joe. Joe is the police detective assigned to find the missing woman and Rowena gets drawn into the case.

Jeremy and Rowena are thrown together while working on the case and are attracted to each other despite their differences. They find a string of bodies: the first set up as scarecrow in a cornfield. They become convinced there is little time to find Brad's wife. They don't realize that Rowena is slated to be the next victim.

I enjoyed the suspenseful plot and the romance although it was a bit predictable.

Gina says

A legend/myth brought to life by a madman...

Jeremy Flynn, a serious man who doesn't believe in what he can't see or touch, is a private investigator with his brothers' firm. The middle brother, he was once a police diver but quit when the last straw was when a drunk foster father drove the family into the river, drowning everyone inside. Jeremy had rescued Billy, who had been still alive when found, but pronounced at the hospital DOA. The foster children had all been tied in the back of the van; not belted in, tied. He quit, became a private investigator and began a children's charity for orphaned and abused children. (You will get a lot of that in Book #1, Deadly Night.)

Rowenna Cavanaugh, good friend of Kendall Montgomery (Book #1 - now Aidan Flynn's wife,) a bestselling author and world-reknown speaker, is a complete opposite of Jeremy. While he prefers cold hard facts, she prefers to discuss the unknown, the unexplainable. And for some reason, using her intuition, she can somehow imagine herself in someone else's shoes; feel what the other saw/felt. Completely unexplainable, and don't know how she does it, she trusts it.

For the last couple of weeks, Jeremy and Rowenna have been on radio and TV talk shows (mostly radio), debating just about everything. Rowenna felt an attraction to Jeremy when she met him. Jeremy, on the other hand, thought of Rowenna as slightly absurd - how can she possibly believe in the unexplained and so on. But he did respect her for her debating abilities.

On her last night in New Orleans, Jeremy receives a call from his former diving partner and friend, Brad. He and his wife were in Salem, Massachusetts, trying to put their marriage back together after he cheated on his wife, Mary. Mary had forgiven him, much to her parents chagrin, and they had decided to take a vacation to Salem for Halloween. But Mary has disappeared, Brad is the prime suspect, and he's beside himself, looking and wanting Jeremy's help. So Jeremy follows Rowenna to Salem, her hometown.

Investigating Mary's disappearance, Jeremy uses the more conventional way of investigation, while Rowenna uses her intuition and research. Rowenna, through her dreams and intuition, is convinced that what is known as the Harvest Man is behind it. The Harvest Man was believed to be a myth/legend, but with more research, she discovers that someone is trying to repeat stories of the past. Jeremy doesn't believe it - can't believe that a myth is to blame - and that a flesh and blood killer is who they're searching for - and someone local to boot. No one wants to believe that - and most don't, until it's almost too late.

****Incredible second book - better than the first!**

I felt a click between Rowenna and Jeremy right from the start, no matter how much Jeremy tried to fight it. Both are hardheaded, and yet still manage to come to the same conclusions, regardless of how they get there. Brad was very believable as a loving husband trying to correct his past wrongs. You feel his angst, his belief that Mary is still alive - he loves her that much. With the author's descriptions of scenery and characters, you immediately like the place and them and, like the characters, don't want to believe someone local is being the disappearances and murders - you like them that much.

The mystery is great, and I liked the legend of the Harvest Man. Different from what I've read before, I enjoyed the history of Salem. Like some of the characters, you get the chills at some scenes (especially when a suspect is named Tim Richardson, the name of my parents late nextdoor neighbour, LOL!) Steamy love scenes, really great action scenes, excellent mystery all wrapped with beautiful scenery, great characters, and a touch of paranormal make for an excellent read! High recommendations!

Robin says

Private Investigator Jeremy Flynn is contacted by his former partner, Brad Johnstone, when Brad's wife mysteriously disappears from a cemetery in Salem, MA. When Jeremy arrives he finds Brad is a suspect in his wife's disappearance, and local resident Rowenna Cavanaugh believes someone may be impersonating the Harvest Man. Soon Rowenna and Jeremy discover a body hung in a cornfield like a scarecrow, and they're afraid that Mary Johnstone may have been taken by the same killer.

This is the second book in the Flynn Brothers trilogy. This story is more of a mystery with romantic elements. The mystery is interesting with several twists. There were several suspects to choose from, but I did figure out part of the mystery. My biggest problem with this book was the editing. The heroine's last name changed in the middle of the story. And, there was no gap between scene changes. One sentence had Jeremy and the police questioning the suspect, the next sentence was Rowenna researching the Harvest Man. It was very confusing and happened a few times during the story. My rating: 3.5 Stars.

Beth Lechman says

This one will have you questioning your opinions on the supernatural and ghosts. Women are disappearing without a trace. Rowenna Cavanaugh is having strange dreams that are coming true and Jeremy Flynn is

seeing a young boy who he knows is dead. they all work together to find the wife of Jeremy's best friend.

Sandra says

Mary and Brad Johnstone are in Salem, Massachusetts, taking a vacation as they try to patch up their marriage. While they are there they see the sights and end up getting a reading at the psychic fair by a strange man wearing a turban who has a very real looking crystal ball...in it they see many things, including cornfields and corpses. The man freaks them out and makes Brad angry and they leave. Later that night, while visiting a cemetery, Mary disappears and hasn't been heard from since.

A distraught Brad asks an old friend, Jeremy Flynn (a private eye who used to be a cop and was Brad's former police partner) if he can help him out. Jeremy agrees. Also helping out is an acquaintance of Jeremy's, Rowenna Cavanaugh. She is very intuitive and frequently helps the police with their cases. Rowenna has been having many dreams of cornfields and scarecrows recently that have been disturbing her. After she discovers a corpse hung up in a cornfield like a scarecrow she begins to look into the history of the town's infamous Harvest Man legend...

This was another wonderful read by Heather Graham. It was captivating and atmospheric. The story took place in the fall, near Halloween and Thanksgiving. I liked the main couple (Rowenna and Jeremy) and I found the cast of characters/suspects interesting.

A great read with some scary moments and a good setting, Salem, Massachusetts.

Tasha says

Hummm

Sadly this was too similar to its counterpart for me to enjoy. Man, woman, don't like each other, murder, mystery, damsel in distress.... Yeh all very similar. Sad as well because I liked the first one.

Randy Daugherty says

Rowenna Cavanaugh believes that there are things that go beyond what can be proven, though not saying there are ghosts she is open to the possibility. Jeremy Flynn is a former police diver, currently he works alongside his brothers running a private investigation company, he believes in what can be proven hard and solid. While many believe there are sparks between the two neither will admit to an attraction to the other, Jeremy firmly believing that Rowenna is someone he needs to stay away from. When a friend's wife goes missing in

Salem on Halloween night Jeremy is off to help just as Row is headed home, to the same place. Jeremy is falling for Row and she has always wondered what a night would be like, she no longer wonders, now it's whether it is more than a one night fling.

While searching for one missing woman, another is found murdered and then 4 more, the whole town is wondering what is going on, and is it tied to the harvest festival. Perhaps it is the Harvest Man, don't fear the reaper it says, fear the Harvest Man.

All Jeremy is afraid of is that Rowenna is the next one to be harvested and he thinks only over his dead body!

This was a good read and the story enjoyable, with another in the Flynn trilogy.

Linda says

Jeremy Flynn is in Salem, Massachusetts trying to help an old friend, Brad, find his wife, Mary, who has disappeared. He is joined in his search by Rowenna Cavannaugh, a native of Salem who occasionally aids local law enforcement with her psychic visions. Although Jeremy doesn't believe in Rowenna's visions, he is strongly attracted to her, and together they work to unravel the legend of the "Harvest Man", a serial killer who has visited Salem before and may have something to do with Mary's death.

This is the second of the Flynn brothers trilogy. The characters are likable and the plot is suspenseful. Graham throws in lots of red herrings in this one and in parts it is truly frightening, but it seems to come together at the end too easily. It's a fast, entertaining and scary read...a great vacation book.

Paula says

Private investigator and ex-cop Jeremy Flynn goes to Salem, Massachusetts, to help his former partner and friend, Brad, whose wife has mysteriously gone missing. Brad and his wife were vacationing in Salem and visiting one of the historic cemeteries when she disappeared without a trace. Also helping out is Rowenna Cavanaugh who is an acquaintance of Jeremy. She doesn't consider herself a psychic, yet she sometimes feels and knows certain things that can't be explained, and she has proved useful in police investigations in the past. When a body is discovered in a cornfield hung up like a scarecrow, it becomes a possibility that this crime may be connected to Jeremy's friend's missing wife. This seems eerily like it could be the work of the legendary Harvest Man.

This was a wonderful romantic suspense book with a touch of paranormal. The romance between Jeremy and Rowenna was on the easygoing side, but it was the suspense part of the story that I loved. I loved the Salem setting, and Heather Graham always does such a great job with description that I felt as though I was there. I enjoyed learning about the legend of The Harvest Man. The story is very atmospheric and there were some truly spooky moments. Loved the cornfields. The cast of secondary characters were a colorful assortment of people that I enjoyed reading about. This book would be a perfect read for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and the Autumn season.

Marnie says

This book was very much like the first one in the trilogy. Different characters, different location but same

'formula'. Hope the 3rd is better.

PastAllReason says

I didn't find it up to her usual standard, guessing the identity of the "Big Bad" at first appearance.

DAISY DISNEY says

Perfect read if you want to get in the Halloween mood! The story is based in Salem Mass which made me want to travel there one day even more than I already did to see where the Witchcraft Trials took place in. This story has a mixture of legend folklore and ghosts & of course cornfields which are creepy. Why? Hello do you remember Children of the Corn?!!! They live in those fields! I didn't feel like I missed anything in not reading the other books in the trilogy. Highly recommended for Halloween- mood readers!

Nancy Ellis says

A fun October read! Perfect setting: Salem at Halloween. The spirit of the Harvest Man is killing young women in preparation for the big takeover by....who else.....Satan himself. Light and thoroughly enjoyable, if you like the subjects, which I do, especially in Halloween season. Nothing too scary or gory, just good ol' supernatural thrills with some romance thrown in. I confess, though, that it did make me sentimental for the days of my youth spent in the exquisite New England foliage!!

Megan says

The heroine of this book, Rowenna, is described as a "stunning woman. Her hair was nearly pitch-black, her eyes strikingly amber. ... Amber, like gold, and shaded by ridiculously thick lashes. She was both tall and slim, but curved in every place where a woman should have curves." O RLY, Heather Graham? Just this once, you couldn't skip the boobs and hips and make her tall, thin, gawky, and lanky? If all of your book's heroines have bodies like this, why don't they make sensible career choices like oh, say, being MODELS? "I know that God has dealt me this extremely physically favorable genetic hand and that I could make millions and get to travel the globe ... but I think I'm going to be a potter/psychic/matchmaker/detective/artist/chef."

If you're as romance-novel literate as I am and nimbly vaulted over the hurdle of Rowenna's goddessness, chances are you were still not able to stomach anything else in this book. Rowenna's supposed psychic powers are supposed to gleam under the scrutiny of her equally dull counterpart, Jeremy Flynn; while Flynn's belief in "hard work, science, logic, and intelligent investigative techniques" is frequently stated (sigh. SHOW, don't TELL, Heather Graham!), the inevitable challenge to these beliefs at the end of the novel is glossed over.

The most surprising thing about *Deadly Harvest* is how a story set in Salem, MA and rife with spooky scarecrows, graveyards, and old legends manages to fail so spectacularly. I even skipped the sex parts. Yawn, two perfect people have re-discovered their biological impulses and--like the simplest forms of life on earth ... pond scum, for example--are able to engage in a reproductive act. But ... can they *love*?

SPOILER ALERT:

Yes.
