



Bones Don't Lie

Melinda Leigh

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Shocking evidence hits close to home for attorney Morgan Dane and PI Lance Kruger as Wall Street Journal bestselling author Melinda Leigh's acclaimed series continues.

Private investigator Lance Kruger was just a boy when his father vanished twenty-three years ago. Since then he's lived under the weight of that disappearance—until his father's car is finally dredged up from the bottom of Grey Lake. It should be a time for closure, except for the skeleton found in the trunk. A missing person case gone cold has become one of murder, and Lance and attorney Morgan Dane must face the deadly past that's risen to the surface.

For Lance, the investigation yields troubling questions about a man he thought he knew. But memories can play dirty tricks. For Morgan, uncovering each new lie comes with a disquieting fear that someone is out there watching, because someone is killing every witness tied to this decades-old crime. Morgan and Lance follow in the shadows of a relentless killer and walk right into the cross fire.

Bones Don't Lie Details

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From Reader Review Bones Don't Lie for online ebook

Melanie says

4.5 Stars!

Bones Don't Lie was an exciting and fast-paced read with amazing characters and a plot that will keep you guessing from start to finish.

For twenty-three years, Lance Kruger has lived with the consequences of his father's disappearance. When his father's car is pulled from the bottom of Grey Lake it should be what finally leads to closure after all these years except for the fact a skeleton is found in the trunk. Now a missing person's case is a murder investigation forcing Lance to question everything he thought he knew about his father. When Lance and attorney Morgan Dane begin investigating the case, it becomes clear someone is willing to do anything to keep these secrets buried as every witness begins turning up dead. As Lance and Morgan dig deeper into the case, they will soon find themselves targeted by a killer.

Morgan has to deal with a new prosecutor who takes an immediate dislike to her when she refuses to be bullied by him. Also, someone Morgan previously put away in *Her Last Goodbye* receives parole and she is understandably worried about her family considering the man vowed retribution. She continues to be able to handle herself and gets a bit exasperated when Lance tries to step in to help her.

Lance takes more of a central role in this book as the case is about his father. He struggles with telling his mother about the new development in the case, worried about how she will react. When she reacts better than he expected, he has a hard time accepting her response and continues to worry. Lance never stops to think about how the case is affecting him and he tends to isolate himself as he doesn't want to be a burden. Until Morgan pushes him, he tries to deal with everything alone and he particularly has a hard time leaning on Morgan.

A number of side characters from the previous books returned. Morgan's family isn't given as much of a central role in *Bones Don't Lie* as this book was more so tied to Lance, but they do still make several appearances. Sharp, Lance's boss in the PI firm, returns again to help out with the case and he's more involved than previous books as he was the one who originally investigated Lance's father's disappearance. Lance's mother returns although she understandably doesn't help with the case this time around. Sheriff King from book two, *Her Last Goodbye*, returns as he's in charge of looking into the skeleton found in the trunk of the car. He butts heads with Lance, Morgan and Sharp again as he dislikes what he sees as them interfering in the investigation.

The investigation into the skeleton found in the trunk of Lance's father's car was quite interesting and went in several directions I didn't expect it to. Lance definitely struggled with the investigation as he's tied so closely to it and Sharp and Morgan had to reign him in several times. I was ultimately very surprised by who the killer was as it was someone I never would have expected. Also the ending of this book was fantastic and full of tension with some action-packed scenes.

Bones Don't Lie has been my favorite book in the *Morgan Dane* series thus far and I'm looking forward to the next book in the series releasing later this year. I would highly recommend this series for fans of romantic suspense with more of an emphasis on the thriller aspect.

I received an advance copy of this book from Netgalley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Gloria Bernal says

Aptly titled, this 3rd installment of the Morgan Dane series focuses on Lance's background. Lance is Morgan's BFF and romantic interest who is now with Sharp Investigations after a bad bullet wound to his leg ended his career as a police officer. If you haven't read the other two books this can be read as a stand alone, but in order to get better acquainted with Morgan, a military widow and attorney with 3 little girls, it is recommended to start with book 1.

Lance's father Vic went missing in 1994. Lance was 10 years old and could never believe that his father would abandon him and his mother Jenny. Jenny felt the same way. They have never had closure but now there is new evidence, his father's old car has been found at the bottom of a lake. Lance seeks answers and his team at Sharp Investigations is behind him to assist, but it seems they must seek these answers without much help from the local Sheriff and PD, on whose feet they constantly trip over.

This could be classified as a romantic suspense but it is much more than that. It's a cleverly crafted and layered mystery with believable scenarios and well developed characters. The familial ties between them draw you in as much as the mystery, but the mystery keeps you hooked.

I'm really enjoying this series, loving the characters and tickled pink that there is book 4 coming out in September. Thumbs up, Melinda Leigh.

Mary M says

Meh or less

Amazon gives no clue that this is a romance novel. It is listed under mysteries. I don't read romance novels because, obviously, I don't like them. This one is probably no worse than many of them but it is a very poor excuse for a mystery/thriller. Very politically correct-everyone eating protein bars and drinking green smoothies when they aren't explaining to each other how in love they are. I know there is a market for this kind of thing, but I'm not it. I feel I got ripped off. I would never buy something like this.

Anita says

Advanced Reader Copy (ARC) provided by the Author and Publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an fair and honest review.

The Morgan Dane Series is one of those rare breeds that delivers a fantastic mystery plot while growing a sweet romantic relationship. Sorry, you romance fans, this one is strictly PG, but the mystery more than makes up for the missing hot romance.

Lance Kruger has spent the last 23 years wondering what happened to his father, Vic Kruger. Lance's friend and partner, Sharp, has lived with this case for that long too, first as the Detective on the case and then as a PI. After Vic's disappearance, Sharp looked out for Lance and his mother but couldn't provide the one thing they needed most - closure. Now Vic's car has been recovered, but the skeleton found in the car submerged

in Gray Lake isn't Vic. Instead of a missing person's case, now it's a murder case.

With each new piece of evidence or witness it becomes clear that someone is tying up the loose ends, permanently. Time is running out and Lance and Morgan are faced with nothing but lies and deceptions as a murderer methodically covers his tracks.

Terri ♥ (aka Mrs. Christian Grey) says

Well thank the heavens. This book actually satisfied my reading palette. It wasn't as predictable as I expected it to be. Though I figured it out, I didn't right away. Kudos. I like Morgan and Lance and look forward to more of their adventures. Though I miss Mack's brother. I loved him the best. This isn't a sexy times book and honestly I don't mind one bit. Give me plot and adventure over smut any day. Though smut done well with an excellent plot is good at any time.

Diana Davidson says

This series just keeps getting better and better! Melinda Leigh is a romantic suspense master and her genius continues with Bones Don't Lie. This is Book 3 and wraps up the underlying mystery for the Kruger family. It also deepens the relationship between Lance and Morgan. This happens so organically and is handled skillfully and beautifully. It was just perfect.

There was a lot going on in this book! I'm so impressed at how the author channeled the ever evolving storylines into an explosive ending. And talk about a shocker, I really didn't expect that bad guy or the ending. I should know by now to expect the unexpected. I really hope this series continues. I'd like to see Sharp get a love interest (I VOLUNTEER!!) and to learn a bit more about him. And I just can't get enough of Morgan and Lance.

Book Lover says

Wow. I love this series!

Lance Kruger has been haunted by the disappearance of his father 23 years ago when he was only 10. His mom has mental health issues and he's been protecting and taking care of her since then. Lance is such a solid guy. He's a hottie, physically fit, reliable, loyal, caring, big hearted, sincere, yet also has a slight touch of the alpha protective male.

Lincoln Sharp, Lance's current partner in a PI firm, was the cop on the case. He was relentless looking for Lance's dad. He recognized that Jenny, Lance's mom, had issues and he took Lance under his wing. Lincoln's organic outlook and insistence on protein shakes and bars and total disgust of sugar and unhealthy eating had me laughing a couple times.

Lance's dad's car is discovered at the bottom of the lake with bones in the trunk. They have the first break in the case. Lincoln, Lance and Morgan jump right in re-investigating the case, going over everything again with a fine tooth comb.

I kind of thought I knew who the murderer was from the beginning based on a few things said. I was right. Still Ms. Leigh takes us on quite the adventure ride to get all the answers.

I just love Morgan and Lance as a couple. Morgan has had her share of heartache. Lance isn't sure he's the right person for her. When Lance tries to leave Morgan out of his turmoil and chaos, she digs her heels in. There's not much romance in this story but the relationship evolving and growing is engrossing. Heartfelt conversations, realistic expectations, the importance of just being there emotionally and physically in person, for each other and the balancing act that requires. Sigh.

I love all the members of Morgan's family, Lance and his mom, Lincoln. Just a great group of people. I'm always sad when I finish the book and start anticipating the next one!

I voluntarily reviewed an ARC provided by NetGalley and the publisher.

Under the Covers Book Blog says

I received this book for free from Publisher in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.

An old car dredged from a lake digs up an old case and fresh pain for private investigator Lance Kruger. It's his father's car and it has bones in the boot. Lance always knew that when his dad went out to the grocery store when he was a child but never came back that something terrible happened to him; he would never have abandoned his family. However, that all seems to come into doubt when the bones in the back of the car turn out to be female. Could his father have murdered some one and then run away? Lance and Morgan dig out the case file and do what they do best; find the truth, no matter how painful it is.

I adore this series, it has a little bit everything; great characters, a little romance and a thriller/mystery plot line that keeps it all interesting. Bones Don't Lie is no different, only this time the case was something a lot more personal and something we have heard spoken about a lot in the previous two books; Lance's father disappearing. Finally we get to the bottom of the mystery in this book.

As I am at heart a romance fan, what I loved about this book was the relationship development between Lance and Morgan. Although they are already a couple this book really helped solidify this as the tables are turned and Lance is the one who needs Morgan's help and support as they investigate his dad's case. I loved seeing the murder and mayhem broken up by glimpses of their family lives and slowly seeing theirs meld together.

But, it is the thriller story line and the mystery of the body in the boot that intrigued me. I loved seeing this all unfold as multiple suspects are offered up for us readers to consider, as witnesses reveal their lies and skeletons start rattling in closets. I enjoyed trying to figure out the whole story and I even got some of it right.

I really enjoyed this book, Leigh is a fantastic writer who manages to combine her thrillers with a little romance and family life without compromising on either. I highly recommend you go to book one and give this series a try.

*ARC provided by publisher

Reviewed by Suzanne♥ ? Don't want to miss any of our posts? Subscribe to our blog by email! ? ♥

Maureen Carden says

Don't mistake Bones Don't Lie for a romantic suspense cozy despite the loving families, the sweet romance and the stalwart friends. This is a hard-hitting heart-breaking thriller with plenty of terrifying moments. Morgan Dane has returned to Scarlet Falls after being widowed two years ago. She has returned with her three young daughters to live with her father. After a career as a prosecutor who has joined the dark side as defense attorney, taking an office in the private investigation firm belonging to Lincoln Sharp and her new lover Lance Kruger.

Sharp has been a father figure and a mentor to Lance Kruger ever since his father went out to the store and never returned twenty three years ago. Sharp was also the lead police investigator on the case. This was his bête noire case, but he has never given up hoping to solve it; or on his guidance of Lance nor his friendship with Lance's damaged mother.

Lance's father's car is pulled from a local lake, and it looks like a long-standing mystery might be solved. Instead the mystery is just beginning, putting all that Lance and Lincoln have believed, and the lives of witnesses and loved ones in jeopardy.

Morgan is determined to help Lance and Lincoln despite being stalked once again.

Leigh presents the reader with a terrifying and surprising end. You "are a better (wo)man than I am, Gunga Din" if you can figure out the killer.

I say this is a thriller, not a cozy, but I do want to sink myself in the lovely Dane family, I want to hang with Lance and Lincoln. I'd even drink one of Lincoln's green concoctions.

Leigh does a lovely job with her characters. It's always great to see returning characters from the other Scarlet Falls/Morgan Dane books. Leigh treats most of her characters with sensitivity and gentleness. Have a hankie ready when Morgan and her daughters visit her late husband's grave on his birthday.

Leigh writes her criminals and miscreants fully developed too, but with their sins at the forefront. I will admit to finding Kruger's re-examination of his relationship with Morgan and her daughters to be disturbing and sad; especially when he finds himself coming up short.

An enjoyable addition to the Morgan Dane series, but can easily be read as a standalone.

Thanks to NetGalley for an ARC in return for a fair and honest review.

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Book Him Danno says

I have yet to be disappointed with anything Melinda Leigh has written. Her characters are well developed and continue to grow as the series progresses. Every character dead or alive as a reason and purpose to be in the Morgan Dane series.

Readers will be pulled in from page one until the last page giving readers everything they have come to know and love from Melinda Leigh's writing. She brings characters from different series and we read as they have changed and grown since readers read them last.

The romance in the story progresses and will pull at readers' heart strings as Morgan finds love again and her family feels.

The author allows readers to grieve with a mom, wife and friend. They will feel Morgan's pain as she moves

forward. Readers will feel the same emotions as Morgan and her girls as they read this series. I love how she address Bulling in this day and age. I agree it is no longer acceptable to allow Children to behave and call it Kids will be kids.

This could be a stand alone novel however I would recommend anyone picking up the Morgan Dane Series start with book 1 to really understand the different characters.

The mystery that has had readers wondering will be answered and will have reader sissified with the ending.

Thank you to Netgalley, the author Melinda Leigh and Montlake for the advance copy of this series.

Melinda Leigh you never disappoint

***Avonna says**

Check out all of my reviews at: <http://www.avonnalovesgenres.com>

BONES DON'T LIE (Morgan Dane #3) by Melinda Leigh is another thrilling addition to this series!

One mystery that has influenced Lance Kruger's life for the past twenty-three years was the disappearance of his father, Victor Kruger when he was just a boy. His mother's mental instability completely collapsed and he took on more responsibility than any child should.

Lincoln Sharp, Lance's current partner in their P.I. firm has always carried the burden of the unsolved case from his years as the detective assigned the case. He took the fatherless Lance under his wing and helped with his mother. Sharp is called to the scene of a car being pulled from the bottom of Grey Lake. It is identified as belonging to Lance's father. They do not find Vic, but they do find a female skeleton locked in the trunk.

For Lance, this development causes more questions than answers and also has Lance questioning if his memory of his father is accurate. As Sharp, Lance and Morgan all work to find the truth of what happened all those years ago, some witnesses are being caught in lies and others are being killed for the information they have. To add to the suspense, Morgan is also receiving threats from an unknown source.

Ms. Leigh keeps making this series a must read for me. The plotting is fast paced and the dialogue is realistic. The warmth and love between all of the characters makes you want to keep returning to check up on them. The emotional growth and love between Morgan and Lance is wonderfully satisfying and heart-warming. I was completely surprised by the killer, which makes this book even more fun for me. I am looking forward to many more books in this series to come.

Thanks very much to Montlake Romance and Net Galley for allowing me to read this eARC in exchange for an honest review.

Teresa says

This series keeps getting better and better! Bones Don't Lie is the 3rd book in the Morgan Dane series.

Morgan Dane is an attorney and single Mom. After her husband died in Iraq 2 years ago she returned home to be close to her family. Lance Kruger is a private investigator and Morgan's boyfriend. Lance has always wondered what happened to his father that went missing 20 years ago. He never believed his father would've just left him and his mom. A car has been pulled from a lake that belonged to Lance's father. Bones are found in the trunk and thought to be his father but end up being the bones of a 20 year old female that went missing the same night Lance's father. Definitely did not see this end coming!

Jenny says

"Bones Don't Lie" is book 3 in the Morgan Dane series by Melinda Leigh. Twenty-three years ago when Lance Kruger was ten years old, his father Victor Kruger went missing, and there were no clues why. Until a car was brought out of a local lake belonging to Victor Kruger that trigger events that affected, Lance Kruger, Morgan Dane, Lincoln Sharp and Jennifer Kruger lives forever. The readers of "Bones Don't Lie" will follow the twist and turns in Lance, Morgan and Lincoln investigation.

I enjoyed reading Bones Don't Lie. I am so pleased that I found this series. I loved the characters Morgan Dane, Lance Kruger and Lincoln Sharp and the way they intertwine with each other. "Bones Don't Lie" is well written and researched by Melinda Leigh. I like that Melinda Leigh ensures that I am engaged and have closure with her plot of "Bones Don't Lie".

The readers of "Bones Don't Lie" will learn about how it affects people when you do not know what happens to love ones. Also, "Bones Don't Lie" will highlight for readers that you can balance work and family as a single mum.

I recommend this book.

Carrie says

Bones Don't Lie by Melinda Leigh is the third installment of the Morgan Dane series. The series is probably best classified as romantic suspense as the main characters are slowly forming a romantic connection but the books focus way more on the thrills and suspense and are not full of the steamy moments known in that genre but a cleaner read.

Each book in the series has featured a new case for the main characters to become involved in investigating so it would be possible to understand on their own. However the series is best enjoyed from the beginning to get the full character building the author has done as events between them do carry over from book to book.

In Bones Don't Lie a car has been pulled from a lake that is found to have belonged to Lance Kruger's father who had disappeared from his life more than two decades before leaving him to begin caring for his mother as a boy. It's immediately thought that the bones within the vehicle would belong to the missing man but instead end up belonging to a female victim.

Morgan knows that this case is hitting Lance very hard but after two decades of not knowing he wants nothing more than answers from himself and his angoraphobic mother who were devastated at his father's disappearance. But not only do the pair need to find answers to this decades old case Morgan seems to have gained a stalker when some things begin occurring to her.

I have been following the Morgan Dane series from the beginning and still absolutely love every book so far in this series. Morgan and Lance make such a great combination with Morgan's law experience and Lance being a P.I. and I love that their relationship continues to grow with each book.

To go along with a great, strong lead couple in this series is always a pretty good investigation to follow along and try to solve. There's just the right amount of questioning suspects, following clues and forensics to give it a realistic feel with some great twists and turns along the way. So with another great addition to the series I'd still recommend checking these out to any fans of this genre.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.com/>

Dísir says

Melinda Leigh's 'Morgan Dane' books are always gripping and suspenseful, locking you down with a twisty case and protagonists who work together so well that you can't help but love them. I've enjoyed every one of those as much as I loved Morgan and Lance, and Leigh certainly doesn't disappoint with 'Bones Don't Lie', with a case that strikes too close to home for Lance.

Every time I think Leigh can't do any better, she manages to surprise me once again, starting with pushing Morgan/Lance (somewhat) quietly to the top of my best fictional couples list. Individually, Lance and Morgan are fascinating, complex characters; together, their connection to each other simply feels like a solid entity that is the only constant in this maelstrom. In fact, the tense, unfolding murder mystery is contrasted with the respect and love Morgan/Lance had for each other, even as their slowly maturing relationship is tested with a significant discovery linked to Lance's unresolved past.

The romance is slight, given that Lance and Morgan are already involved, so the focus in 'Bones Don't Lie' is solely on the murder mystery which is, in itself, remarkable and creepy in its own right as it makes you question all you know about law enforcement and the contradictions so inherent in human personalities.

Still, I inhaled every line that detailed Morgan/Lance's interactions—Leigh infuses so much depth and subtlety in crafting these characters—that it's merely a foregone conclusion that this pairing would only come out stronger and better for it. I love Morgan's unwavering sense of justice, her own protectiveness towards her children as much as I love Lance's ability to listen and pull back while not compromising his own integrity and honour. Reading about the other characters in the Scarlet Falls series made me only giddier, though that merely reinforces just how much I need more of Morgan and Lance.

*ARC by the publisher via Netgalley
