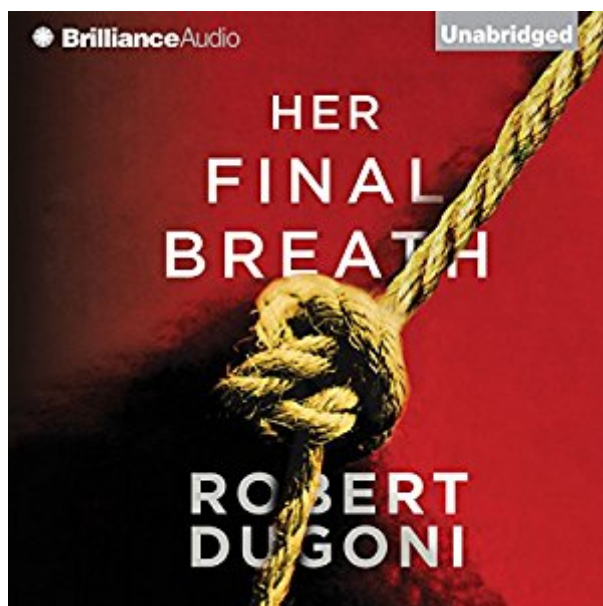


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Her Final Breath: The Tracy Crosswhite Series, Book 2



Synopsis

Homicide detective Tracy Crosswhite has returned to the police force after the sensational retrial of her sister's killer. Still scarred from that ordeal, Tracy is pulled into an investigation that threatens to end her career, if not her life. A serial killer known as the Cowboy is killing young women in cheap motels in North Seattle. Even after a stalker leaves a menacing message for Crosswhite, suggesting the killer or a copycat could be targeting her personally, she is charged with bringing the murderer to justice. With clues scarce and more victims dying, Tracy realizes the key to solving the murders may lie in a decade-old homicide investigation that others, including her captain, Johnny Nolasco, would prefer to keep buried. With the Cowboy on the hunt, can Tracy find the evidence to stop him, or will she become his next victim?

Book Information

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Procedurals #801 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Police Procedurals

#1159 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Women Sleuths

Customer Reviews

Robert Dugoni has done it again. my only regret is that I have to wait until May for the 3rd book in the series to be published for kindle :(.the book is well written, the story unfolds very well. The characters are, once again, perfect for the story line. Tracey and her team work so well together. There are bad guys of a different type in this book. To understand that, you must read it. But it is a read worthwhile for sure. You get absorbed into the story, and you feel what the characters feel, remorse, pain, fear, the adrenalin spiking and all that goes with it. You know how sometimes you are watching a show, or a movie, and you just want to take your hand and smack one of the characters across the face? Well, this book makes you want to do that to one in particular. I still feel

like slapping him silly, and I finished the book last night. Take this book, curl up on the couch with a blanket [if your weather has turned chilly like ours just did] and enjoy the time reading this one.

This book is pretty good as far as your basic crime novels go, but there is a gaping hole in the plot that I couldn't get past. The premise is that a serial killer is targeting women, but not sexually assaulting them as would be expected. All of the victims are noted to have had no signs of having sexual contact within 72 hours of the attack in order to make it clear that this is not part of the killer's MO. But in order to frame other suspects, it is also said that the killer specifically makes his move *right after* the women have been with other men that they were intimate with, usually within the hour. So they absolutely would have shown signs of sexual activity and the detectives wouldn't have been able to say until the truth came out that it wasn't with the killer. You can't have it both ways! Not sure if the author didn't put this together or was just hoping no one else would just because it served different aspects of the story for both contradictory ideas to be true. So the book was good for mindless entertainment, but I get annoyed when there are glaring inconsistencies like this.

Thoroughly enjoyed this thriller. The author's use of dialogue is spot on. I assumed he must have worked in law enforcement. I mentioned that when sending him an email. At at time I was about half way through the book. He explained that his background was not as a cop, detective or in any other law enforcement role. When I finished and read the acknowledgements at the back, I saw that he relies on a large stable of consultants to make sure he gets things right. Detective Tracy Crosswhite is well rounded as a character and it's fun to follow her as she attempts to solve the case of an elusive serial killer. You won't go wrong by reading this book. It's definitely not a waste of time. Now I have to go back and read the first Tracy Crosswhite. David Liscio--author of the serial-killer thriller *Deadly Fare*

I liked this book as much as I did the first one, with one caveat--I hope the rest of the books don't include a psycho who has an obsession with Tracy Crosswhite. I think she's taken enough physical punishment. I also hope Nalesco finally gets the comeuppance he deserves. A wonderful cast of characters from Tracy on down to Roger the cat and Sherlock and Rex the dogs. You have to give kudos to any author who can make even animals have interesting personalities. On to book number 3! So glad I found Dugoni and Tracy Crosswhite. I for one, would certainly be willing to pay a great deal more than \$1.99 to read one of his books. To me he's up there with L. Penney, V. Thompson, A. Cleeland, and a whole bunch of others who write mysteries I love to read.

Do read this one because it is a suspenseful and riveting story for thriller fans. I felt the action somewhat slow for the first chapter. Then I was hooked when an unexplained noise from a darkened area around a shooting range grabs Tracy's attention, and she finds a rope noose hanging on the gate to the range. It is dark, and no one is around to explain the sinister message. The action speeds up, suspense begins to mount, and it is definitely a roller-coaster ride thereafter! The narrative is done with such aptitude that the characters and the activities are so vivid that I could picture the galvanic and horrifying scenes! Tracy Crosswhite is a very dedicated, compassionate and capable police officer. She does have a mind of her own, and when she believes she is right, she plunges ahead without regard of what the action might do to her career. She is; however, careful, astute and mindful of her and her fellow officer's safety. Tracy is a character that the reader will like from the beginning. The plot is well-developed, and the story is well-crafted and flows fairly smoothly. Tracy is heading an investigation into bringing the serial killer, nicknamed Cowboy, to justice. There are many suspects to choose from. Just when I thought I had everything figured I would discover I was mistaken. The villain is definitely mentally warped, and performs heinous crimes against women who dance in "gentleman's" clubs and those who use their bodies to earn a living. He is despicable; however, there are several other characters with low moral values as well. They; however, are not killers. In her desperate effort to catch the killer before he kills again, Tracy delves into the lives and activities of each suspect, and there are quite a few. Her boss, Johnny Nolasco; however, is someone that deserves every ounce of contempt that is flung his way. He is jealous of Tracy's capabilities, and he humiliates and demoralizes her every chance he gets. Tension mounts between the two when Tracy begins to connect the path leading from a murder ten years prior. The old case was one that Nolasco worked, and he is not delighted to have Tracy looking into the cold case files. She is taken off the Cowboy case and is assigned a desk job and shuffle papers. Cowboy is very elusive, smart and he does not plan to be caught. However, Tracy has every intention of bringing the killer to justice.

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