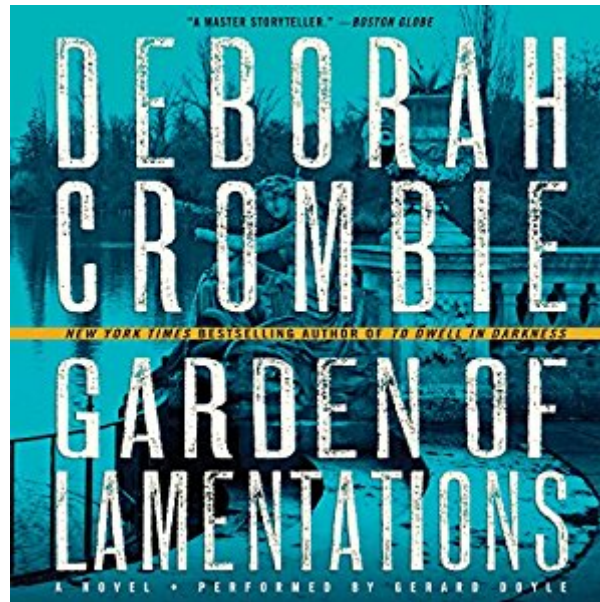




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Garden Of Lamentations: A Novel



Synopsis

Scotland Yard detectives Duncan Kincaid and Gemma James are drawn into separate investigations that hold disturbing - and deadly - complications for their own lives in this powerful mystery in the best-selling series. On a beautiful morning in mid-May, the body of a young woman is found in one of Notting Hill's private gardens. To passersby, the pretty girl in the white dress looks as if she's sleeping. But Reagan Keating has been murdered, and the lead detective, DI Kerry Boatman, turns to Gemma James for help. She and Gemma worked together on a previous investigation, and Gemma has a personal connection to the case: Reagan was the nanny of a child who attends the same dance studio as Toby, Gemma, and Kincaid's son. Gemma soon discovers that Reagan's death is the second tragedy in this exclusive London park; a few months before, a young boy died in a tragic accident. But when still another of the garden residents meets a violent end, it becomes clear that there are more sinister forces at play. Boatman and Gemma must stop the killer before another innocent life is taken. While his wife is consumed with her new case, Kincaid finds himself plagued by disturbing questions about several previous - and seemingly unrelated - cases involving members of the force. If his suspicions are correct and the crimes are linked, are his family and friends in mortal danger as well? Kincaid's hunch turns to certainty when a Metropolitan Police officer close to him is brutally attacked. There's a traitor in the ranks, and now Kincaid wonders if he can trust anyone. As Gemma begins to see a solution to her case, she realizes she holds a child's fate in her hands. Can she do the right thing? And can Kincaid rely on his friends, both inside and outside the Scotland Yard force, to stand beside him as he faces the deadliest challenge of his career?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Such a shame. I've read -- and loved -- any number of books in this series, but apparently not the ones that preceded this one. I tried to wade through it anyway -- but got almost half way through, and still, most (most? well, too much of, anyway) of the text was dealing with people and events that took place in earlier books. Waaaaay too many characters, when you combine all those from prior books, plus the new ones here. Look: I read a lot of books. Some I remember better than others, some I remember mostly one or two really remarkable scenes or events. There is no way I would have remembered the entire Deborah Crombie oeuvre well enough to enjoy this book. I could have plowed through it -- but life is too short, y'know? I'm very disappointed. The original bones -- story line -- of this book was provocative and interesting enough, but it's hidden inside pages and pages of "stuff" from prior books. As a reader, I have no idea how much of that is going to be important in understanding this one, when it comes to resolution time. Better to cut my losses, and move on to another book. I will be more careful about buying any more books in this series.

I have to give Deborah Crombie credit. I remember reading the first Duncan Kincaid book and the delight that came from discovering a literate, intelligent, descriptive mystery. I almost said "police procedural," and while technically it could be in that category, in reality the series is in sync with the best British mystery series with a cast of sympathetic but flawed characters, in descriptive settings, with a plot that juxtaposes good and evil. Although at times I found it hard to follow these last three books which share a single story arc (wishing I had reread the previous entries), Crombie's clear writing moves the reader along. And in this day what a delight to read an error free, grammatically correct, typo free Kindle book. This is not a stand alone, nor are the previous two, but it is a tribute to Crombie that the quality of her books has not flagged. Those of us who are invested in Duncan & Gemma, Melody & Doug, Kit, Toby & Charlotte, not to mention the dogs, would probably still read these books even if, as is teased at the end of this book, Duncan & Gemma bought Duncan's family's bookshop!

Like a few others here, while I always enjoy Deborah Crombie and look forward to the newest book with great anticipation, I found this one rather disjointed, and hard to keep track of various characters, many of whom seem underdeveloped because there are actually two story lines going

on here. Now I'm going downstairs to my 'library' and look out the earliest ones to reread! :) I never throw a good book out, or donate to the local booksales, and Crombie's books are definitely keepers.

This book seems over-explained, to me at least. There's something tired about it and not up to the earliest books in the series.

I have enjoyed this series from the beginning, and the series has gotten better and better . Because there is an ensemble of characters, one feels like they are rejoining people they have come to know and like every time they pick up a new book. The Kincaid /James household anchors the story and characters in the "real world of family" at the same time Kincaid and James are involved in solving crimes in the larger real world. Also important, the characters have a passion for what they do which pulls the reader into the story. I recommend reading Debbie Crombie's whole series -- in order, of course. Enjoy!

I have read at least 2 times all of Deborah Crombie's books and I reread # 16 prior to reading this one. I am glad that I did because this book is the final installment of a 3 part story. I love her books and writing style more than any other author's. She makes the reader feel as if they are a part of a story. I usually read a book quickly but I read this book slowly because I wanted to savor the enjoyment of the story, like a good movie. I think that the next book will have different setting and look forward to # 18. Thank you Deborah for such a great series. I also am a fan of Jungle Red Writers and enjoy when you host a week.

What a wonderful addition to the series! I enjoyed every moment of it. I was glad to see her deal with issues that went unfinished from the last book. As usual, the family aspects were good. The twists in both stories were good. I really like these characters. Thanks, Deborah Crombie, for another great read! The only sadness for me is that I have to wait a couple of years for the next one. I really loved it! Good ending!

As far as I'm concerned, this is one of her best mysteries in the series. I thought the government intervention and spying were completely apropos in our current political climate and it added to my enjoyment in the book. Also, some haunting problems, things left hanging in earlier stories, were cleared up in the current book. I'm looking forward to the next story in the series.

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