



# FOG

*Ken McAlpine*

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FOG is the rare adventure that jolts the heart and mind, a tale of unconquerable spirit and menace, and the vaporous line between good and evil that exists in us all.

When the Asia sinks in a storm along the harsh winter shores of 1882 Cape Cod, the crew, the captain, and the captain's young daughter are cast into the midnight sea. Swept ashore, the Asia's captain meets an unforeseen end. His child makes landfall, and dies not far away. With dawn's arrival, all that remains are the jagged hulk of the Asia and the whispers of a secret. So begins a race to find a history-altering treasure, and a contest that pits keeper Daniel Cole and his fellow Peaked Hill Bars lifesavers against a philosophical killer, a mooncusser who walks a stoic horse along the ridge line of the Cape's towering beach cliffs, bending fate to his aims.

Hope and despair, love and loss, sacrifice and sin, riddle and answer, blur and intertwine in a tale that calls into question our own moral compass, and the very nature of progress and civilization.

## FOG Details

Date : Published May 4th 2012 by iUniverse

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Author : Ken McAlpine

Format : Paperback 240 pages

Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Adventure, Business, Amazon

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## From Reader Review FOG for online ebook

### Lucretia says

It's been a while since I read something so beautifully crafted. You can tell that each word was chosen with care and each turn of phrase was thought about well before it made the final print. It's not often that something historically based is also totally riveting. Admittedly it took me a second to fall into the style but once I did I was amazed by the story telling. It has everything a reader could possibly want, great characters, intrigue, thrills, mystery. I'm adding this to my list of must reads.

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### Megan says

Disclosure: Won signed copy via first-reads giveaways on Goodreads.

Ken McAlpine has published a remarkable piece of historical fiction with *Fog*, the story of lifesavers, shipwrecks and valuable treasure. The tale takes place in the late 1880s on the shores of Cape Cod and follows a group of lifesavers--men who earn a living saving lives at sea. Of course, the group is not always successful, and the lives lost leave the reader wondering about the whereabouts of a history-altering treasure.

Murderers, mooncussers and wreckers keep the reader on edge throughout the entire tale while the everyday lives of the lifesavers provide a very personal, realistic background.

Although I admit there were times that were a bit confusing, this truly has been one of the most suspenseful and captivating historical fiction novels I have ever read. The rich set of characters, salty setting and highly creative yet realistic theme has earned this novel 4.5 stars. A must-read for history buffs and sea lovers everywhere.

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### Hope Avery says

Love the story line and character development.

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### Martin Turnbull says

I know McAlpine from his non-fiction so I was curious to see how he handled fiction. I like his non-fiction, but I REALLY like his foray into fiction! Right from the get-go, I felt that I was in the hands of a talented storyteller who knew exactly what he was doing, and that he was doing it well. Better than I've read most authors lately, McAlpine has a great style that grounds the reader in 1800s New England so solidly that I felt like I was getting such an authentic look in the lives of the characters that I had to remind myself they weren't real. And that, in my opinion, is the ultimate goal of all historical fiction.

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### C says

Note: I won this signed book from Goodreads.

Ken McAlpine's book *Fog* is a nautical mystery set in 1882 Cape Cod. The book was extremely well written with details so clear as to paint a picture of the Cape Cod shore. Mr. McAlpine clearly did his research and each detail was well thought out.

The first couple chapters, describing the demise of the *Asia*, suck the reader into this intricate mystery. However, because of the amount of characters it was not always easy to fully invest in each of their individual stories. I at times found my mind wandering back to my favorite character and then hoping for their next appearance. Each character was so well developed that Mr. McAlpine could easily write a book on each of the characters.

Overall, this book was a good read. I would definitely recommend it to anyone who is interested in nautical history, a good non-paranormal mystery, or someone who just appreciates great writing.

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## **Andy says**

Won through First-Reads.

*FOG* is self-published, but don't let that scare you away. The author, Ken McAlpine, has many years of experience as a writer, and it shows. *FOG* is unlike any story I have ever read -- and introduced me to Pomp, a character unlike any I have ever met.

The story is set on the Cape Cod coastline, and tells the story of one particular lifesaving station. This lifesaving station is not for swimmers, but for ships. But are all shipwrecks caused by acts of God? Could there be a mooncusser at work? (A mooncusser is a land pirate, who attracts ships on moonless nights with false beacons and lures them to their doom.)

The writing of *FOG* is first-rate, but that doesn't mean I don't have any complaints. I have two. The first is that I wish the author did more to set his scenes. Often too little is said about the locations where scenes take place. For instance, I never had any understanding of what the lifesaving station was like, or where it was, or what was around it. My other complaint is that the "history-altering treasure" that drives much of the plot is a bit too much of a MacGuffin. It doesn't really matter what it is, only that people want it. I wish the author had either chosen a different treasure, or done a better job of convincing me of the importance of the one he chose.

I did come to like that *FOG* is a less passive read than most other books. It often was not enough to simply read the words -- I had to construct each scene in my head to get a firm grasp of what was happening. McAlpine doesn't spoon-feed his readers, that's for sure. Mind you, I don't see this as a fault. McAlpine gives his readers all the information they need, but he lets his readers connect the dots.

But if for no other reason, *FOG* should be read for the character of Pomp. Among all of the bad guys I have encountered in books, TV shows, and movies, Pomp stands out. I would not have expected that from a self-published novel. I won't be forgetting him any time soon.

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### **Kayla says**

I won it, I can't wait to read it! The book has awesome reviews. Woo hoo! Checking the mail everyday. haha!

Not what I was expected at all. No doubt about it, I simply loved it! My favorite line; "She wanted to die, but she fought to live because father wished it, and it was possible that God listened to everyone's prayers, even father's." If you're thinking about reading this book don't let anything stop you. Amazing writer

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### **Hildegart says**

First-reads book. I really enjoyed this book! I wasn't sure how much I would like it because of how much detail there was, but it turned out just fine! To me, this was a book that made me think- the things people do for greed... I don't know if I have one favorite character from the book. I like that the horse, Thoreau, was shown as having a personality and was sad to see him killed.

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### **Cristine says**

Really liked this book. It was a fast read. I really liked the Characters, they were developed well. It was interesting learning about the lifesaving stations along the coast in the 1800, and what it was like as I was hooked on the Characters & mystery that surrounded the sinking of the ship Asia. It does get into a deep dark character, you are seeing the evil that is in his head & witness the awful things he does. All in all it was a great book and doesn't end they way you think it will. Thank you Ken for an enjoyable book!

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### **Connie says**

A very descriptive intriguing tale of shipwrecks, men who prey on shipwrecks and men who go out to save the sailors who are in trouble. Loved the setting of Cape Cod and the history behind this novel. Read it for bookgroup. One of the reasons it was chosen is that a number of us in the group know the author's parents. Hope he continues to write fiction.

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### **Tammy says**

A look at the lives of 1882 Cape Cod lifesavers.

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### **Emma Suvall says**

I won this as a first-reads and was hesitant at first seeing as its not something I would normally pick up.

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After getting through the first few chapters where an overwhelming amount of characters were introduced, the book was excellent. Deceit, greed, loyalty, murder, mystery... This book truly had it all. It is an excellent read.

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### **Theresa says**

I won FOG by Ken McAlpine in a giveaway for free on goodreads~ So glad I did this book is superb- so different from any others I have read\*\*\* Ken McAlpine's writing in FOG is amazing. I watched the book trailer~ and loved it also.... I would recommend this as a good/read to everyone. This will stay a favorite of mine for 2012 no matter what- 5 stars Thanks!! Reesa\*\*\*

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### **Bobby says**

What a surprising gem of a tale. I had never heard of this book but had read a review a couple of years ago and added it to my list...so glad I did! This book will drop you back into the 1880's and you have to find your way back through a fantastic cast of characters and descriptions of the time. Cole, Hiram, Willie and even Pomp will stay in the room with you long after you finish.

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