



The Seven Stars

Simon Leighton-Porter

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A serial killer stalks the first-century Roman Empire: his victims, followers of the man they call The Christ. In 21st century Britain, former MI6 agent turned Oxford academic, Flora Kemble is invited to help at an archaeological dig in Pompeii. She stumbles onto a secret that could shake Western civilization to its roots. What follows show she's not the only one with an interest. The hunter becomes the hunted and very soon Flora is running for her life as a two thousand year-old conspiracy spreads its deadly tentacles into the modern age, unleashing a trail of deceit, violence and death reaching to the very soul of the American nation. The greatest deception of all time is about to be unmasked...

The Seven Stars Details

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Author : Simon Leighton-Porter

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From Reader Review The Seven Stars for online ebook

Denise Flynn says

This book flora between modern day and ancient Rome by chapter and has a modern murder mystery in Pompeii with lots of murders, deceit and general religious based naughtiness in the ancient world. A bit of light relief for a summer read.

Patricia says

"Please remember that it's only a novel: I made it up" and with that disclaimer in mind the author writes a wonderful book which is two related stories. The first is set in the present and revolves around the Oxford scholar, paleontologist Flora Kemble and an archeological dig at Pompeii. The site is robbed of ancient papyrus fragments, codices, and copper sheets. The second strand is set in the 1st century C.E. in Pompeii and other sites in the Mediterranean and features the Jewish historian Josephus who was purported to be the author of the items that were stolen. Joseph is the author of two important works, The Jewish Wars and Antiquities. Remember, it's fiction! and in this book he claims to be the son of Yeshua bar Yosef.

Added to the mix are several archaeologists, tele-evangelists, the FBI, MI6, black market antiquities dealers, a gang of mafia-type guys, Nero, Vespasian, and the disciples Peter and Paul. The two strands are separate but sections ended in a 'cliff-hanger' which propelled me to read more.

Flora is portrayed as a young, brilliant academic but I was surprised that the various events and the lost items were dated B.C. and A.D. where I expected to see B.C.E. and C.E.

No sex

No violence (although a lot of people were killed in both strands)

Leanne Smith says

Liked the idea and plot - archaeologists looking at a serial killer in Roman times but found the writing style rather dull and predictable. But then it was cheap!

Barenakedmummy says

Even though this book jumps from modern day to the past I did enjoy it. A good twist on the Christian story and very enjoyable

Annaliese Matheron says

Like most people, I like to read a broad selection of books, I like my Gothic novellas just as much as my historical drama and crime thrillers, and I have read works by many authors.

I think that Simon Leighton-Porters, *The Seven Stars* is right up there with the likes of Kate Mosse, Dan Brown, and others who fuse historical context with modern day mystery thrillers.

I really enjoyed the fictional historical back drop to the story and the way that it wove its self through the present day action in the book. The main characters in both the historical and present day thread are highly likeable, and the way that they touch each others lives is fascinating.

The mystery that our present day heroine, Flora, stumbles across is infectious. You won't want to put this one down until you've reached the very last page and know exactly how the past has come to affect the future
