



The Revelation Room

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Ben Whittle's father, a private investigator, has been taken captive by a cult whilst investigating the case of a missing girl. When Ben receives a desperate call from his father asking for help he is drawn into a dark underground world.

As Ben retraces the last known steps of the missing girl he discovers his only option left is to join the cult and rescue his father from the inside.

The leader of the cult, Edward Ebb, is a psychopathic egocentric who uses his position to control his small group of followers in The Sons and Daughters of Salvation. When he initiates Ben into the group it soon becomes apparent how sick and twisted Ebb is.

Ben must find his father and the missing girl, but the odds are stacked against him and time is running out.

Can Ben rescue his father and the girl and escape with his life?
And what is the gruesome secret concealed in the Revelation Room?

The Revelation Room is the first in a new series of psychological mystery thrillers.

The Revelation Room Details

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Author : Mark Tilbury

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From Reader Review The Revelation Room for online ebook

Eva says

The Revelation Room is the first book in the Ben Whittle Investigation series and is being relaunched by Bloodhound Books. After having read and loved The Abattoir of Dreams a while ago, I was really excited about discovering some of this author's earlier work and I was not disappointed.

When Ben's father, a private investigator, goes missing while working on a case of a missing girl, it's up to Ben to rescue him. There's just one little problem. Ben isn't exactly the most confident guy you'll ever meet. Together with Maddie, the daughter of the local vicar, he discovers his only option is to join the cult his father was investigating.

The leader of the cult is, there's only one word for it, insane. Completely off his head bonkers! He uses his position to control the weak and easily manipulated followers of The Sons and Daughters of Salvation and will not hesitate to remove anyone who doesn't fall in line.

Mark Tilbury has the uncanny ability to come up with the most psychotic, evil characters and Edward Ebb, the cult leader, is no exception. I was soon immersed in the dark and disturbing world of cult life and some of the events at the farm, where the cult lives, made the hairs on my arms stand up but it made for one incredibly gripping ride. And it's not all doom and gloom as there are some wonderfully humorous lines, which somehow shouldn't work but it does!

Geeky Ben, the unlikely hero, and his delightful little crush on Maddie stole my heart from the very beginning. I warmed to him immediately and was rooting for him all the way as you tend to do with an underdog.

This was a highly enjoyable and entertaining psychological mystery and I'm very much looking forward to reading more of this series as the conclusion of this first book sets the next one up perfectly.

M.A. Comley says

Private investigator Geoff Whittle takes on the case of a missing girl who he suspects has joined a cult. He makes a terrifying call to his son Ben, as he takes, what sounds to be, his dying breath. In order to track down his father and the missing girl, Ben enlists the help of Maddie, but they soon get embroiled in the workings of a crazy cult.

Great characterisation and a story that takes you on a horrifying adventure that will leave the reader gasping out loud at times.

Can't wait to read more from this excellent writer.

Amy says

All of my reviews can be found on www.novelgossip.com

I have a somewhat sick fascination with the idea of cults, they just intrigue me so when I read the blurb for this one, I just knew I had to read it. Having previously loved Tilbury's *The Abbatoir of Dreams* I was eager to read some more of his work and this book had some of the great qualities that I enjoyed the first time around.

Ben is a reluctant PI, his father Geoff is the one who does the real investigating and he normally just helps him around the office. When Geoff gets captured by a cult, the only way to save him is to join himself, but thankfully for Ben, his friend Maddie insists on joining with him. These two are pretty opposite as far as personalities are concerned, but somehow they work well together. He lacks self confidence and is terrified at the prospect of infiltrating the cult, while Maddie is more outgoing and confident, she's ready for anything. Poor Ben really tugged at my heart strings, he has a stutter and was just the sweetest kid, I wanted to hug him and keep him safe.

The leader of the cult, Ebb was the personification of evil, Tilbury sure knows how to craft some sadistic characters. How he managed to manipulate the members of The Sons and Daughters of Salvation is beyond me, but the things he says and does are both delusional and horrifying. There are definitely some gruesome and gory scenes, but there's also plenty of witty black humor to lighten the mood. This was a quick read with steady pacing and a good flow along with great characterization and an interesting storyline.

Sarah says

This is the first novel I have read by this author and having read this one I will certainly be reading more.

Ben is very much the underdog in the story. After his dad goes missing, it is up to him to save the day. Right from the start you can see what a sensitive soul Ben is and I really didn't know how he was going to cope going into such a dangerous situation. Though obviously he doesn't know that at the time.

Maddie to a certain extent felt like Ben's safety blanket. It's obvious the pair like each other but having Maddie there by his side, makes Ben that bit more braver and she helps to push him on into discovering what has happened to his dad and the case he was working on.

The cult has to be one of the strangest I've ever come across. Reading of the goings on at the farm where the cult is based made the hairs on my arms stand up. It really creeped me out and Ebb especially is one sick and twisted individual but boy does it make for some gripping reading.

The Revelation Room is a highly enjoyable and entertaining read. It has lots of elements going on and I thought it was a great start to a brand new series. Very much look forward to reading more.

Kate says

"*The Revelation Room*" is the first book in the Ben Whittle series penned by Mark Tilbury and has recently been relaunched by the brilliant Bloodhound Books. For those already familiar with Tilbury's work this series will not disappoint, this is a gripping and highly enjoyable psychological thriller.

Ben Whittle's father Geoff is a private investigator, and has been kidnapped by a dangerous cult called the Sons and Daughters of Salvation. His only hope of survival is shy and unassuming Ben. With the help of his friend Maddie, Ben hatches a plan to rescue his father, but in order for the plan to work he and Maddie will

have to infiltrate the cult.

The cult in question is under the control of Edward Ebb, a seriously evil character. He is a psychopath that uses his position to brainwash his followers and control them to do his bidding, the rules of the cult are simple, conform to the ways of the Sons and Daughters of Salvation or cease to exist.

Characterisation in this is superb, Ben is a great character that many readers will have a liking towards, his lack of confidence is endearing and seeing him confronting his fears makes for great character development. His crush on Maddie helps drive him on, she is the embodiment of the confidence and bravery he doesn't have. Edward Ebb, is quite possibly one of the best evil characters I've read for a while, so disturbing and he left me with a sense of dread whenever he appeared (in a good way!).

Coupled with the foreboding darkness is some wonderful humour, I don't quite know how Tilbury does it, but he masterfully offsets the grim and evil air in this book with some impressive dark humour that just tops this book off perfectly.

The pacing of "The Revelation Room" is akin to a whirlpool. Once it's grabbed hold of you there is no letting go, it's a gripping read that I devoured quickly, I was so keen to find out what would happen next that I could not put it down.

Now on to book two of the series "The Eyes of The Accused".....

Monica Mac says

This was my very first Mark Tilbury book and it absolutely won't be my last! It was well written and it had me on the edge of my seat for the entire time I was reading it, I just couldn't put it down.

Ben Whittle is just living his life - he is a young man with a bit of a crush on a girl and his life is pretty normal for someone of his age. Until he gets a call from his father who has been taken by a cult. Suddenly Ben finds himself in the middle of all the action, and the cult leader is not someone to mess with, not even a bit. This is a rather harrowing story and even though it was very well written, if you have a weak stomach, you have been warned!

This book was a heck of a read and I am looking forward to reading the next book in the series.

A recommended read from me, 4.5 stars.

I voluntarily reviewed a copy of this book. Thank you to Bloodhound Books.

Maggie James says

The Revelation Room is a great read, and impressive for a first novel. I enjoyed its dark humour whilst enjoying the story of Ben Whittle's search for his missing father, who has been taken prisoner by a religious cult. The novel ends nicely with a lead into the next in the series. I'm interested in reading more of Ben Whittle's adventures and to explore his relationship with Maddie.

Mark Wilson says

Dark intent? Check. Religious irreverence, bordering on satire? Check. The blackest of humour tinged with biting dialogue? Check. I'm all in for the revelation Room.

Told in third person-past tense throughout, Tilbury's Revelation Room is a hugely enjoyable slash across the veneer of decent society, exposing some of the grimmest and most graphic insights into the depths of the human soul and capacity for denial, cruelty and for goodness.

Our main protagonists, undercover in a cult, are beautifully-rendered, fully fleshed-out leads possessed of solid motivations and are the perfect creations to guide the reader through Tilbury's tantalising and tightly plotted story.

In the Revelation Room, we find a writer who is absolutely on-point with his use of dialogue to expose intent and characterisation. Tilbury's use of short, snappy sentences contrasted by longer monologues, succeeds in conveying the emotion or urgency of the particular scene. Excellent structure. The characterisation is a particularly strong element in this work.

At times the novel feels surreal, occasionally dangerous and often cutting in its darkly humorous moments and cutting observations.

A confident, swaggering, unapologetic fiend of a novel from a writer to watch.

John Nicholl says

A tremendous psychological thriller from talented writer Mark Tilbury. It's a definite 5 star book for me.

Maggie says

Thanks to Mark Tilbury and THE Book Club for the chance to read and review this book.

Ben Whittle's father goes missing whilst investigating the disappearance of a girl who has joined a strange religious cult. Urged on by his friend Maddie, he reluctantly agree to go in search of him. Maddie is sure that the way to find the girl and Ben's father is for the pair of them to join to. They had little idea of what they were letting themselves in for.

I found the character of Ben very irritating at times although I really liked Maddie. The villains in the story are truly awful especially Fathr Ebb.

In many ways this was a very absorbing read & I certainly had to find out how it ended. I would give it 3.5 stars.

C.p. Bialois says

I have to admit I wanted to read this since I read the first excerpt, and it didn't disappoint. The story begins a little slow, but that's to flesh out the two main characters and set the stage for their relationship. For me, it was well worth the wait. Because of that, I developed a strong attachment to Maddie and resented any time she was put into danger. Lol

The other characters were just as well done, and you either feel sympathy or loathe them. The latter was reserved for Edward Ebb while I fought the urge to reach into the story to shake Ben a few times despite feeling for him.

Overall, I felt the story was well done and made me want to keep reading. The gore was well-placed to augment the proper scenes while tongue-in-cheek humor kept the characters grounded in important scenes.

Besides being well-paced, I think it's a cool contrast between the two opposite ends of the religious spectrum from loving and caring to sociopathic domination. Both of those properties are shown perfectly in Father Tom and Edward as they battled for Ben, Maddie, and the other's souls.

Overall, I loved this book! This is easily one of the best thriller/suspense/horror stories I've read the author has become one of my favorite Indies. I can't wait to read the next book in the series.

Maxine (Booklover Catlady) says

This book was a complete surprise package for me and nothing quite what I was expecting but it was actually so much better. How do you take a serious storyline like a cult holding a man against his will and being led by a loud, charismatic but totally off the wall man who calls himself the Father and inject dark humour into it? You might think there is no chance of that blending well, but by golly Mark Tilbury has done it and it's what made this book really stand out from a lot I have read.

A dark plot, dangerous deranged people, but smatterings of witty one liners that had me snorting and giggling. It just really worked. I was very impressed. It had me feeling like a very happy reader very early on.

Ben Whittle's father is a private investigator. He's been taken captive by a cult whilst investigating a missing girl. Close to death, he makes a desperate call to Ben for help. He tells Ben that he must not call the police because "everyone will die". Ben retraces the last known steps of the missing girl with his friend Maddie. The only option left open to them is to join the cult and rescue Ben's father from the inside.

The leader of the cult, Edward Ebb, is a psychopathic egocentric who uses his position to control his small group of followers in The Sons and Daughters of Salvation. When he initiates Ben and Maddie into the group it soon becomes apparent how sick and twisted Ebb is. He tricks and coerces his followers into believing they have no choice other than to follow his barbaric regime.

We get a slow background (but not boring) build-up of Ben and Maddie, getting to know them, their families, their lifestyles and their relationship to each other. These foundations are important for the overall story. With not wanting to involve the police they take it upon themselves to go and find this cult where they believe Ben's father is being held, possibly dead already.

Ben as a character is a shy guy who used to be given grief over a stutter, he lacks on self-confidence and self-

belief and is really meandering through his life quite empty and aimless. He knows Maddie, her Father is the Pastor of the church that they are both involved in on some level. For Ben that might just involve helping with youth club table tennis, he is not exactly a devout believer. Maddie is a ball of spinning energy, oodles of confidence, personality and with the gift of the gab. They are a complimentary mix when they team up.

The more we learn of the cult and it's bizarre ways and beliefs and hear the stories of the different brothers and sisters who now belong there (not leaving soon or ever) we soon know that this is going to have some really interesting angles.

Mark Tilbury was lulling me along with snippets of wit and humour that fitted really well in certain scenes in the book then BAM! I was hit with some graphic, brutal hard hitting scene that just blew me away, that was then I began to think this may not end well. Very clever imagery and story telling put me right where they were watching the horror unfold. What is wrong with these people? A lot.

Ben is just hoping to find his dad, bracing himself for his death if it has occurred. The plot is unique and flows really well, it takes the reader not only on a journey but into the minds of different characters at times. Ebb is a stand out character and I felt Mark wrote him really well with all his quirks and strangeness, evil, unstable and just plain weird. It was fascinating to watch him change constantly. Light and shade. He is also the character that gave me the most laughs, the most evil by sure but there are some brilliant humorous moments that just works against the serious plot of this mystery thriller.

As the momentum picks up the book has some great reveals and eye-opening scenes, some of which you don't know whether to be disgusted by or laugh at. Mark writes with a fine line there sometimes and it's very tricky stuff. I felt it worked so well and if it's all through this series then count me in. So readers will get a nice mix of interesting things on offer from this novel. This is Mark's first novel and in light of that the writing is very good and he plot unique and dynamic.

I enjoyed the dark moments in this book and the heavy scenes, however I also loved the wit and the laugh out loud moments a lot. This debut novel from British Author Mark Tilbury gets **4.5 paw prints from me, rounded to 4 for Goodreads but will be rounded up to 5 for Amazon.** I highly recommend this book to just about anyone, those that like murder mysteries, books that tackle dark human nature will love this book.

I have to mention that a very special character in this book has the same name as me, that was very cool. I now eagerly await the second book in The Ben Whittle Investigations which I suspect will get better.

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I received a copy of this book after asking the author as I really wanted to read and review it, thanks Mark for trusting your first book into my hands.

Chandra Claypool (wherethereadergrows) says

We open with Geoff staring into the muzzle of a gun, stuck in a tree with his camera and refusing to admit why he's really up there. "Shoot him," we hear a man say and his somewhat dimwitted sidekick does just

that. He falls out of the tree and then is dragged to The Revelation Room where they have determined he is The Imposter and they must drive the devil out of him. He finds one window of opportunity and calls his son, Ben, on his watch phone and barely has time to tell him he needs help when the phone dies. Now it's up to Ben to find his way into this cult and bring his father back. Trekking off with his friend, Maddie, he does the one thing he can think of to make this happen - go undercover and join the cult. But the initiation process turns out to be more than he ever expected or deserved.

Cult life has always been a fascinating culture to read about. Hive mentality, extreme religion, one crazy leader who has somehow mesmerized everyone around him that his word is God.... preying on those who have had a hard life and convincing them they have been saved. It's a treacherous, unhealthy and vile arrangement that is all too common in the world. The author does a fantastic job of showing the crazy that goes on within the compound of The Sons and Daughters of Salvation. Ebb is the sadomasochistic leader who keeps his members to a small, manageable number - proving to them the hold the Devil can take on people in the outside world by using holy water (acid)... along with a variety of other dastardly deeds. Amongst the delusional and sadistic scenes, the author brings about some black humor to keep a good balance. "Mark my words, half the evil in the world is spread by Burger King and McDonald's." You know, not sure I completely disagree with you here, Mr. Tilbury!

This is a fast and entertaining read if, like me, you like to read about the cult life and the mindset behind the scenes. While this one escalates quickly, it's done in a humorous, yet crazy, way that makes it less gruesome, more entertaining and you end up empathizing with some of the crazies. Get on in here - if this book is any indication of how this series will go, you're going to want to start NOW.

J.C. Brennan says

This story begins centered around Ben Whittle. To say Ben lacks confidence is an understatement. He's awkward, unsure, and touches on annoying but the young man finds the courage to try and help his father. Ben's father is a private detective who has gone missing while trying to help a girl who joined a bazaar cult. In his last conversation with his son, Ben's father told him not to involve the police. Ben doesn't understand it, but he knows his father wouldn't have said this without a reason.

Ben gathers his courage and with the assistance of the preacher's daughter, Maggie, sets out to find his missing father.

The to find a twisted, obsessed religious fanatic that has the charisma to obtain followers who follow him like sheep—they believe his ridiculous stories and are sucked into the cult.

The leader of this crazed cult, Edward Ebb, is much like the past cult leaders that have sucked their victims into their delusions and performed inexplicable unspeakable acts. Some that come to mind are Matthew F. Hale, Wayne Bent, and Carl Drew, to name a few. Each one of these men enacted despicable acts of rape, violence, and even murder. Tilbury has added his fiction character, Edward Ebb, to this list. This literary fiction is a straight shooter from a brilliant storyteller. Tilbury's has created a strong story and delightful characters the reader can relate too. But it's the character development that makes this story interesting and keeps the readers nose to the book. The author has taken his time to develop his character in such a way they have "realism," making the reader see them as people with morals, qualms, flaws, and even frightening trait. Reader's are going to love this story. I would recommend it to anyone look for a read to get the blood pumping thriller into their day.

Alan Cotterell says

Nice surprise

This was a new author for me, and a great surprise. I admit I bought it when it was on an offer, and I don't particularly remember looking to, much at its plot at the time.

But it was a very nice surprise. Unusual storyline about a cult and the most unlikely detectives ever.

Somehow it works and works extremely well with some great one liners.

I will definitely read more of this author.
