



Cold Open (Sam North Mystery #1)

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When the nation's number one cable news anchor turns up floating in the East River, the cops label it a suicide. But his gorgeous widow is convinced he was killed - and carries a secret that proves it.

Now she has Sam North believing it. The story-hungry TV reporter starts nosing around and discovers what Jack Steele found out the hard way...asking questions can get you disturbing answers, maybe even killed.

Cold Open (Sam North Mystery #1) Details

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Author : Greg Clarkin

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From Reader Review Cold Open (Sam North Mystery #1) for online ebook

Malcolm Gregoire says

Hard to put down once I got into the story about how a highly rated investigative news anchor gets killed by some unsavory types trying to make it look like suicide. Moneyed presidential hopeful seems to be behind the plot twists and turns. It did seem strange with all the pot-shots taken at the reporter looking into the anchors death never got reported to the police. Ah the literary license to skip real life.

Spin2Knit says

Very good read

Every so often a book comes along that grabs you and keeps you reading without stop until the end. This book was great, characters real and story riveting. Loved it, cover to cover!

Janet says

Parts were great, parts were bad. The story has a lot of potential, but I felt these were not developed as much as they could.

Beth says

A murder mystery starring a news anchor as the detective who is trying to figure out why another anchor at his station was killed.

A bit choppy, a number of possible stories that tie all the characters together.

A twist in who/what is the cause of the murder and who is included in the plot and why.

Pat says

I think this was a Kindle freebie. A good detective story, with the main character, Sam North, being a reporter/newsman for Liberty TV channel. The hot talkshow host is found in the harbor, and suicide is ruled to be the cause of death. His hot wife, however, thinks someone killed him, even though a suicide note was found. She turns to Sam for help. He almost gets fired, but tries to find out the scoop anyway. He runs into a lot of dead ends, but when he is targeted, he starts taking things more seriously and the story starts to unravel. The level of deceit goes even higher up the food chain than even Sam believed and several people get murdered before Sam is able to put it all together.

Probably not super-high quality fiction, but a fun, fast read. Entertaining, to say the least.

Helen Darknell says

Great Story

Will keep you reading right to the end if you like who did it dialogue you will love this one.

Tulay says

Wants to be president, murders and money.

Should be read and enjoyed. Another one from Texas thinks he's the only one can run this country, no body should stand in his way. His rich daddy took care of his problems growing up, now rich himself and company in Houston. Buying his way to contracts with our enemies, killing anybody stands in his way.

Robbie says

I was pleasantly surprised by this book. I thought Sam North was a decent, intelligent character and enjoyed his interaction with the people around him. I'll definitely look forward to reading more by this author. I give it 4.5 stars.

Lillie says

I liked Sam's persistence to get the truth in the face of jeopardizing his job and putting himself in danger. The plot was somewhat predictable but with enough surprises thrown in to keep it interesting. Fast-paced.

Sherry Melissa says

I liked the film noir, hard boiled detective feeling to this story. I also loved the setting (NYC), and I work in tv news so there's that too. I was incredibly frustrated at times because the main character is so dense. However the dialog and action were enough to keep me interested in reading.

Ruthie says

I enjoyed this book and look forward to reading this author's next book.

Joyce says

Well plotted and developed. In reading this I almost felt like I was part of the investigation. The wise cracking and attitude shown by the protagonists made me think of cop humor as I saw it in real life. The characters were believable as was the plot. Well done!

Mike says

I would have given this four stars because it was entertaining enough. I cut one off because rather too many of the characters sounded alike in their half-assed jokey way. Amusing when one person does it but variety is the spice of a story. The intention to give a distinctive flavour to the Sam North collection was good but from a dialogue p.o.v. there was more than one Sam.

The only other cavil was the descriptions seemed to come in clumps. For example, in the first page or two Charlie 'was dressed in his summer uniform...' We get a breakdown of shorts, sneakers, T shirt and Sam's suit (colour, maker, favoured, jacket location), shirt, tie (folded, stuffed - location). All this naturally adds to our seeing the picture clearly but drip feed is far better than a para pause with itemized list. Small point really but the flow becomes a shade more bumpy than it need be if this occurs too often.

All in all, though, this was a good enough start and if the stories are a shade more novel or unexpected in content, then all the better.

Richard Hallmark says

Great story of suspense and murder

Sam is a world class reporter who crosses thru a lot of threats to close in on a gangster who's heading for the Whitehouse. Lots of twists and turns, some bad language along the way. I'm not sure why authors can't resist the foul language. To bad for a very good book otherwise.

Kevin Bowser says

I really liked this book.

It was a fast moving plot with a fast talking character. In fact, it was the pace of the dialog that made it so enjoyable. Was the dialog almost cartoon-ish in a way? Sure. But that is just part of the charm of the book.

The plot is predictable to a degree. A less than stellar news anchor / reporter happens to pick up an incredible tip and chance to scoop the entire world. Someone of great celebrity is found floating in the river. And as luck would have it, the body belongs to the biggest media star of the cable news network for which the main character is a reporter.

It sure looks like suicide. But is it? The more we find out the more the poor dead guy the more he seems to have lots of reasons to live. Maybe it is murder. He had been trying to boost ratings with some attacks on some high profile folks and making some pretty significant claims of wrong-doing.

I won't spoil the end of it for you because I think you will enjoy the story enough to read it for yourself.
