



# The Revenge Of Captain Paine

*Andrew Pepper*

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## **The Revenge Of Captain Paine** Andrew Pepper

It is 1834, and with the birth of the Industrial Revolution, railway fever sweeps the country. Pyke is uneasy with the luxury his aristocratic marriage has brought him, and when he is asked to unofficially investigate a decapitation in Cambridgeshire, he can not resist the chance to resuscitate the old skills he learned on the streets. But with the industrial world comes a new and faceless enemy—men who have money and power, and who will stop at nothing in their pursuit of both. For Pyke, with his young wife and child and an elevated place in society to protect, the stakes have suddenly become alarmingly high. From the sweat shops of the east end to the palace of the Queen-in-waiting; from the elegant drawing rooms of the newly rich, to the bloodspattered backrooms of London's taverns; Pyke's investigation stirs up a hornets' nest of trouble. As the death toll rises, his wife becomes involved with the radicals' fight against the industrialists, and an alluring woman from his past returns to threaten the life he has made for them both, Pyke must adapt to the ever-changing world around him and draw on all of his resources if he is to protect his family and survive.

## **The Revenge Of Captain Paine Details**

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Author : Andrew Pepper

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## From Reader Review The Revenge Of Captain Paine for online ebook

### Catherine Vickers says

Oh I love this author's works. Book 2 is just as good Book 1 and I can't wait to get a chance to read Book 3. Great scenery setting, the poverty, the dirtiness, the unhappiness, the weather and muddy roads - Andrew P just knows how to involve the reader and I really felt the atmosphere of his settings. A bit of dirty politics going on but not too imposing. Main character is a real tough guy with a mean streak but clearly the tough life has made him what he is. Some great twists to this plot. One thing that really strikes me about this era - could they really get away with murder so easily? If so then it proves the uncaring attitude towards the poor which this book captures.

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### Jan says

I have read one other book in this series on the recommendation of a colleague and it turned out to be number 3 in the series. On the strength of that I have, after some time, picked up this book. I'm not sure what to make of it. On one hand, the book is impeccably researched with a real sense of the times evoked without any heavy-handed didactic passages. There are also a couple of intriguing mysteries to be unravelled.

On the other, it is certainly not a happy book. Like fantasy, one of the pleasures of crime fiction is that the moral order of the universe is usually restored. In this book, the mysteries are solved and the guilty are found and punished, although nothing will bring back the dead. This is standard in crime fiction. It's the way in which it is done that leave me uneasy.

Pyke, the main character/solver of mysteries, is very complex; an anti-hero rather than a hero. He grew up in the gutters of London, worked as an early Bow Street runner and is now married to a minor aristocrat (more or less happily) and is the senior shareholder of a private bank. Luxury, wealth and respectability are now his. When given the chance to solve the mystery of a decapitated corpse and later, the death of a customer at the bank, his old instincts and habits are released. He will intimidate, hurt and even kill in order to get what he wants. So do many anti-heroes but we usually feel like we're on their side. I guess the real problem is that Pyke's a hard man to actually like. He has moments of kindness and love but these are mixed with moments of great cruelty and unnecessary unkindnesses. In the previous book of his that I'd read he was hard man but roguishly more-or-less likeable. In this, he is not. It's worth reading to see how he goes for you.

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### Peter says

An always engrossing story set in 1835, even if the "hero", former Bow Street Runner, Pyke, is a cold-hearted killer. Set by Sir Robert Peel to investigate a headless body, events escalate as the new railways and potential profits become critical as does Princess Victoria and her right to the throne. Pyke's invulnerability, lack of judgement and his ex-lover reappearing are over-the-top but the union rights championed by Captain Paine, the vivid descriptions of 1835 city life and the immediate pre-Victorian era compensate in a 3.5 read.

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## Sascha says

[ Emily was Captain Paine (hide spoiler)]

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## Iktek says

A fast paced thriller set in Industrial pre Victorian London, set against the coming onslaught of the future, in the backdrop like the threat and throttle of the railways. The novel lays bare and explores the heavy industrial underside of progress, of Bankers, bow street runners, and the crude moralities of 19th century London Town

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## edifanob says

The second book in the Pyke mystery series is an absolutely great read and while other people complain it is too long with more than 500 pages, I find the content fit to the length.

This book is much more than a pure murder mystery. It is a great mix of murder mystery, Pyke's biography, historical and alternate history events, introduction into economy and a secret ode to London.

I can't wait to read the next book in the series.

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## George Simpson says

CAPTAIN PAINE

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## Michael Arnold says

Better even than the first instalment

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## Tim Chaplin says

This is the sequel to the Last Days of Newgate. Pyke is living in the countryside with his wife Emily and son Felix but he is not happy with his new life. He soon finds himself caught up in another murder investigation using his previous experiences as a Bow Street runner when a headless corpse is found in Cambridgeshire. A woman from his past is also about to unsettle him in his new privileged life.

He is once again caught up in a web of intrigue as he must take on the new wealthy industrialists and questions the motives of Peel who has asked him to investigate the murder. He also finds out that his wife is involved in the radical politics of the railway labourers who are struggling against the railway owners. His as well as his family are in danger.

I enjoyed this book but found myself not entirely sympathetic with the main character but I guess that is the attraction of Pyke the anti-hero.

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### **Craig Andrews says**

The second Pyke Mystery in which Pyke is still a bit too spiteful and horrid to be a likeable anti-hero. Very unexpected ending though, definitely worth reading but if you want this type of book but with a more Sharpe-esque heroic quality then check out...

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### **Deanne says**

Pyke, definately someone you'd want to get on the wrong side of.

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### **Veronica says**

I was disappointed with this novel as I found it much too long and it seemed to take me forever to read. The protagonist is very violent which seemed to contradict his present position in society. Yes, he is a former Bow Street Runner but when you are dealing with bankers and the prime minister, I think one should attempt to handle situations without brute force. Can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear!

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### **Donna Jo Atwood says**

This is the second book of a series about Pyke, an ex-Bow Street Runner. The first dealt with his acquiring a wife and money. This one deals with his life as a banker and the early days of railroads in Great Briton. The book is gritty, fairly violent, and way too long.

We have a threat to Princess Victoria (this is two years before she comes to the throne) by her mother's secretary and the Duke of Cumberland. We have a threat to public safety with the rise of unions, and we have a threat to personal safety of Pyke's wife and son.

I generally enjoy historical mysteries, but this one was not my cup of tea. It took a while to get to the mystery, and then it unwound so very quickly in the last few pages.

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### **Gordon Chambers says**

..A great read. I for one was left guessing as to who Captsin Paine was until it was obvious near the end. Highly recommended. Pepper is becoming one of my favourite authors.

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### **John William Boundy says**

Really enjoyed this book, possibly even more than the first one in the series, The Last days of Newgate. The

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plot developed well building to a great conclusion. The description of London in the 1830's was very evocative.

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