



Murder Beyond the Grave

James Patterson

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Two true-crime thrillers as seen on Discovery's *Murder is Forever* TV series

MURDER BEYOND THE GRAVE: Stephen Small has it all – a Ferrari, fancy house, loving wife, and three boys. But the only thing he needs right now is enough air to breathe. Kidnapped, buried in a box, and held for ransom, Stephen has forty-eight hours of oxygen. The clock is ticking . . .

MURDER IN PARADISE: High in the Sierra Nevada mountains, developers Jim and Bonnie Hood excitedly tour Camp Nelson Lodge. They intend to buy and modernise this beautiful rustic property, but the locals don't like rich outsiders changing their way of life. After a grisly shooting, everybody will discover just how you can make a killing in real estate . . .

Murder Beyond the Grave Details

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From Reader Review Murder Beyond the Grave for online ebook

Bert Zee says

These Murder is Forever books by James Patterson have been fun to read, they're quick, easy to read and feature enthralling true-crime stories that I probably otherwise would never know about. This one I noticed was co-written though which was a bit of a letdown for me, the other 2 were solely written by Patterson and I really appreciated that, oh well, it is what it is.

For people just getting into reading true-crime these books would be a great starting point, they're very accessible for a new reader.

Nandi says

I liked the first story better than the second one, but, all in all this was a good read. Murder beyond the grave was the first story, it took me a while to read because of the storyline. If you like chilling true crime stories, thus is the book for you. I might suggest you be prepared because both stories will chill your blood.

Happy reading!?

Doug Phillips says

James Patterson is nothing if not prolific. He has now extended his personal brand to be associated with true crime stories told on the Investigation Discovery television channel.

Both of the true-crime stories presented here are interesting enough. It's just that the author has morphed a crime report in to accounts that include what has to be fabricated dialogue amongst the parties involved with each crime story. Granted that this is a technique used by authors of other true crime books. It just seemed a bit forced in the stories presented here and feels like it was used as a device to lengthen the book.

I will continue to read from the author's voluminous body of work. I may just stick to stories with bodies that are fictional.

Donna Hines says

Is it a no wonder that James holds the Guinness World Record for the most #1 NYT Best Sellers, and his books have sold more than 350 million copies worldwide.

Having read a number of his books I fall in love with his simplistic writing style perfect for a quick read anywhere on the town.

Broken up into two distinct yet equally entertaining parts- Murder Beyond The Grave- captures readers with a real kidnapping in place requesting a large sum of ransom money in return.

Ironically, be careful what you wish for should've been this drug dealer's main thought prior to committing this heinous crime along with his sidekick wife. Neither of which felt an honest days pay for an honest days work would've held much water in their lives. So they felt cheated and internalized how some people are

wealthy and others aren't and wanted to even the score.

Who knew suffocation would result considering all the careful planning involved to create the perfect 'box' for human remains but you know Patterson leaves no stone unturned (pardon the pun).

We than move on to the next engaging round of Murder in Paradise which by anyone's standards a beautiful lodge along the picturesque Sierra Nevada mountains sounds quite lovely.

Well, that's until the rich folks want to purchase a quaint lodge but the pesky locals won't let them and try to run them out of town literally.

A grisly shooting ensues and rumors run rampant in this rural area as the man found was scantily clad alongside the wife but where the heck is the husband in all this fiasco?

Well it turns out hubby was just as guilty but not in the way one would think as self defense is still an option on the table here.

Ok well I truly enjoyed the page flipping fun but I must run off to the next read; so do a favor and read this as you can never go wrong with James Patterson (who by the way is a great supporter of reading and donates all the time) so for that reason alone it's a must read for 2018!

Suzanne says

These were two quick short crime stories in one book co-authored by James Patterson. I enjoyed the first story a lot more than I did the real estate murder in the second story. The first was actually a good view of what can happen when keeping questionable company.

My quick and simple overall: okay read. Nothing awesome but not a bad way to pass an afternoon.

Pianogirl1126 says

2 very interesting stories. a good, quick read

jv poore says

I really dig James Patterson & generally find true crime books to be fascinating, so I probably picked this up with unrealistic expectations. In both cases, the victims' plight deserved to be told & Mr. Patterson certainly did them justice. He simply presented the facts as polished stories, whereas I'm accustomed to the bare-bones, almost jolting dialogue of other true-crime tomes.

Nickole H says

Really good! A real crime story that's keeps you focused on finding out what happened to the victim and the criminal.

Sunnettowers says

I'm hoping Patterson continues with his true crime thriller series, because I have definitely enjoyed the three that have been published so far. This is another quick, gripping read, that I flew through in about a day.

Michelle says

Excel?enr! Not sure you can go too terribly wrong with a story based on facts without totally changing the facts. Well done

Anna says

I have only read one other crime fiction book by this author. I understand he is in part now writing about true crime. This is one such book. It is most unusual reading to me seeming much like fiction.

Sheila says

a kidnapping plot goes awry

Laura Rash says

I liked the other two books in this series a little bit better. These ones seemed drawn out to even make them short stories. I still like the concept tho & am hoping maybe there will be more of these to read.

Matt says

During a recent binge of James Patterson's BookShots, I came across his newest series of short stories, non-fiction with a criminal twist. Murder is Forever—now apparently a television program—shows off some real-life crimes that have been committed by dumb criminals and rolls them into bite-sized reads. In this third volume, Patterson teams up with Aaron Bouelle and Christopher Charles to bring two more tales where murder plays a central role in the final outcome of the criminal experience. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did.

Murder Beyond the Grave (with Aaron Bouelle)

Danny Edwards is a low-level drug dealer who cannot do much of anything right. After being busted for large quantity possession, he turned on his supplier in a sting operation, but even then could not wait for the cocaine to appear before uttering the code word. Down on his luck and money, Danny has a plan; kidnap the local millionaire and keep him for ransom. In order to ensure that Stephen Small does not foil his own kidnaping, Edwards constructs a coffin of sorts to bury him, but provides an oxygen source to ensure that no

one will find Small until the money's been provided, but he is sure to stay alive. Using his unknowing girlfriend—Nancy Rish—to take him to and from the scene of the burial, Edwards places phone calls from pay phones that summer of 1987, hoping to get the Small family to pay up. Edwards thinks he is so smart, alternating pay phones, but does not realise that they can be traced. Soon Edwards and Rish are both apprehended and the police use some tactics to strong-arm Danny into admitting what he's done and where to find Stephen Small. It is only then that things take a terrible turn for the worse.

Murder in Paradise (with Christopher Charles)

When Jim and Bonnie Hood came upon a potential fixer-upper property in the hills of California, they had differing views. Where Jim saw a cesspool of wasted money, Bonnie saw some potential and set about to make it a wonderful getaway. However, the more time and money she spent there, the more anonymous threats that she received. After a clash with some local loggers at the saloon, Bonnie thought she might have to take some drastic action and made some thinly veiled threats. When, after a tryst with one of her employees, their cabin was attacked by an intruder, Bonnie was left dead, leaving Jim to break the news to his children. After locating a suspect and going to trial, Bruce Beauchamp was found not guilty, forcing the Hoods to fear that he might seek retribution. What came next was truly the twist in the story, which shows that justice does not always follow the most obvious path.

These are two more stories that show the criminal element cannot always get away with a crime that seems almost foolproof at the start. Patterson has a knack for finding some interesting cases and presenting them in an intriguing short story format, which keeps the reader curious and wanted to forge onwards until the end. Using two well-seasoned collaborators, Patterson strengthens the storytelling and keeps the reader wanting more, which is sure to come in the next instalment of the Murder is Forever series. For now, those readers with the option can tune in to see Patterson's television program on a weekly basis.

Kudos, Messrs. Patterson, Bourelle, and Charles, as you recount these interesting tales. I like the style and the succinct nature used to present these stories and cannot wait to see what other cases make their way into the print version of this series.

Love/hate the review? An ever-growing collection of others appears at:
<http://pecheyponderings.wordpress.com/>

A Book for All Seasons, a different sort of Book Challenge: <https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/...>

Lisa says

Two great stories!!!! I really enjoyed both of them!!!
