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Flash (Dogleg Island Mystery Book 1)



Synopsis

The first in a powerful new series from the author of THE RAINE STOCKTON DOG MYSTERIES... Almost two years ago the sleepy little community of Dogleg Island was the scene of one of the most brutal crimes in Florida history. The only eye witnesses were a border collie puppy and a police officer. Since that time Flash has grown from a puppy into a vital part of the Dogleg Island Police Department, and has lived happily with the two people who rescued him on that horrible night: Deputy Sheriff Ryan Grady and Police Chief Aggie Malone. Now the trial of the century is about to begin. The defendant, accused of slaughtering his parents in their beach home, maintains his innocence. Aggie and Ryan, the top witnesses for the prosecution, are convinced he is lying. But only Flash knows the truth. And with another murder to solve, a tangle of conflicting evidence to sort out, and a brutal storm on the way, the truth may come too late... for all of them."An ample murder mystery with an enthralling protagonist... thoroughly entertaining..."--Kirkus Reviews"Exceptionally entertaining and deftly crafted..."--The Midwest Book ReviewMore praise for the work of Donna Ball: "A maelstrom of suspense" | gripping, intense" --Rendezvous "A major talent of the genre" --Publisher's Weekly

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Customer Reviews

Donna Ball is one of my all time favorite authors. And if this first book in her new series is any indication, this will be one of her best series yet. I love Cisco and Raine, but Flash had me when I read his first thought process. Donna speaks "dog" every bit as well as Spencer Quinn, Jon Katz, and David Rosenfelt. I will never give a plot review, this book is one that a reader needs to read & enjoy for them self. But I am already ready for the next book in the series.

HUMMM - 's new rating system - have to think about that when I'm clicking all their little boxes. I have read almost all of Donna Ball's books in the Raine Stockton series (I haven't read the smaller "between" books) and loved them. I preordered this based on my enjoyment of the other series. I was not disappointed. This book was VERY different from the others - more like a cross between a generic dog mystery with the dog's owner contributing to the narrative, but this one had a bit of "Chet and Bernie" in it - the dog offers it's insight into some things. I wasn't too sure I would like that at first but it worked very well in the end and did add suspense to the overall story. (By the way, I love the Chet and Bernie series so that comment is NOT meant to be negative.) I don't read books to analyze all the characters, writer's style and all that "stuff". I read books to relax and spend some quality time with my Kindle in the evening while enjoying a good story. This book is definitely one I would recommend - and I've already recommended it to my friends, especially those with a Border Collie. It holds your interest, moves along, you're never exactly sure what is going to happen (altho I did make a good guess about one thing) and is an "easy read". I'm looking forward to the next book in this series. I do not have a Border Collie, but many of my friends do so for me that added a little something to the overall book.

I absolutely love the Raine Stockton Mystery series but I think this one is even better. A strong steady pace, great, complex characters and a complex plot meld into a strong novel while introducing us to an outstanding cast of characters. I found it delightful and useful to see the POV from Flash. It both helped me see some things more clearly and brought the dog to the forefront of the story. As is typical of Donna Ball, she treats the dog with respect as a character and has him act in accordance with his breed. His thoughts are presented in a straightforward manner without the nonsense that I apply to my dogs "thoughts". I love a book with a strong beginning and this once is outstanding with a growing level of tension and a surprising ending. The pace maintained throughout the plot. If I tell more, I will have to give away a key point in the book. If you have enjoyed any of Donna Ball's books in the past or if you love mysteries a step up from cozies, you will love

Flash!

Donna Ball is an awesome author and this one is no exception, well written, a real page turner however I do not enjoy swearing throughout the book. She seems to be adding more and more swear words with each new book. I do not believe you need this type language to make it interesting. Sorry I think I am through with this series.

Author Donna Ball does it again. In Book One of her new mystery series she introduces us to characters we come to love, including the loyal and exceedingly smart border collie, Flash. It begins with a bullet in the head and takes us on a journey that winds way through various plot twists and sub-plots before delivering a satisfying ending. I couldn't put it down. Now I can't wait for the next installment of the Flash Dog mysteries.

Donna Ball can keep you on the edge of your seat, no matter what she writes. But I especially like the stories that include dogs. Mysteries and dogs...the best of both worlds!! Can hardly wait for the next book in this new series!!

Donna Ball always meets or exceeds expectations. This book is no exception. Excellent new mystery - great characterizations, a mystery which the reader thinks is solved only to find, as that layer of the story is peeled back, there is another level. Just a touch of romance, which is woven beautifully into the story without being rammed down the reader's throat and without pages of graphic behavior which has nothing to do with the story line. Perfect. Dog lovers will really love Flash, but, I believe, so will others. No indication whether this is a new series or a stand alone, but how nice to contemplate the possibility of more stories with Aggie, Grady and, of course, Flash, Bishop, Mo, Sally Ann and the rest of Dogleg Islanders!

A bit disappointed in this new series. I figured out the killer pretty fast. The pages devoted to the history of Dogleg Island were ok but the pages dedicated to the history/traits of border collies, while interesting, didn't fit the mystery theme of the book. Editing is great per usual for Ms. Ball. I'll continue this series and am thankful I got the book on sale. Doesn't hold a candle to the Raine Stockton Series..

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