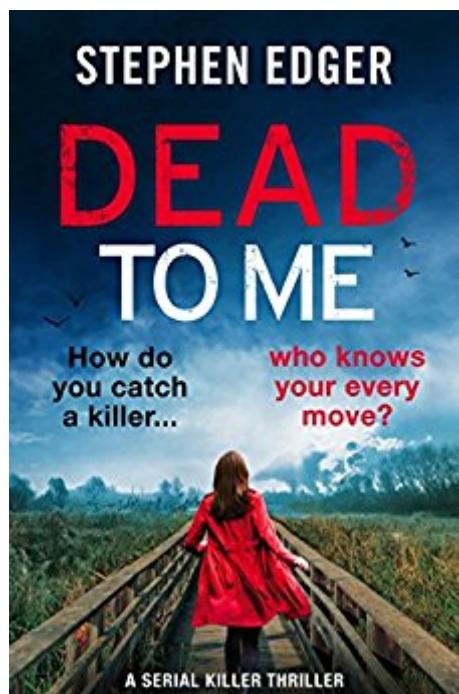


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Dead To Me: A Serial Killer Thriller (Detective Kate Matthews Crime Thriller Series Book 1)



Synopsis

How do you catch a killer who knows your every move? The woman lay flat on the table, her face to one side, her wrists bound with thick tape. Deep scratches marked the wood beneath her fingers, now resting cold and still... When a woman's body is found in an abandoned bar near the Southampton docks, Detective Kate Matthews is called in to lead the investigation. She must solve this case to prove she is coping with the death of a close colleague. Kate knows a pile of ripped up newspaper cuttings discovered at the victim's house must be a piece of the puzzle, but her team keep hitting dead-ends... Until she finds a disturbing clue that convinces her of three things: The murder is linked to the body of a man found hanging in a warehouse, she is on the hunt for a calculated serial killer, and the killer is watching her every move. Kate realises there will be another victim soon, and that her own life is in grave danger, but no one else believes her theory. Can she find and stop the most twisted killer of her career, before another life is lost? An absolutely NAIL-BITING thriller that will keep you guessing to the very last page. Perfect for fans of Robert Dugoni, James Patterson and MJ Arlidge. What readers are saying about *Dead to Me*: "I absolutely adored this book! An enthralling mystery, fast paced and thrilling; absolutely unputdownable. I did not want it to end and yet was frantically turning the pages to find out what was really going on. Brilliant writing. Loved Detective Kate Matthews - cannot wait for more books with her. So glad I discovered this incredible author." Goodreads Reviewer, 5 stars "A tense cat and mouse thriller that leaves your brain in a whirl!... Without giving away any spoilers, Watching You had the hairs on my neck on end as I checked and double checked my doors and windows were locked. The stalking element of this novel sent shivers down my spine!... It was certainly a fast paced and action filled plot, plenty of twists and turns and red herrings to keep the reader detectives amongst us happy!" Goodreads Reviewer, 5 stars "The killer is on a rampage, leaving a trail of bodies with macabre clues that Kate must solve if she is to stop the killing. Intense and creepy." Cayo Costa, 5 stars "An enthralling, fast paced mystery that kept me hooked from the very start. The murders had me so intrigued and I was desperate to find out who was behind such twisted deaths." I really enjoyed reading this one and I would definitely read more of Stephen's work. Congratulations on a great book!" Goodreads Reviewer, 5 stars "Breakfast at Shelby's" Wow this book was good, I really enjoyed it. Kate is a very dedicated and driven police officer whose private life is a mess. You can't help but like her. This book has a lot going for it; it is gritty, brutally honest in places and full of suspense. I

really found this book hard to put down. It totally had me engaged right the way through. This is the first book that I have read by Stephen Edger and I am definitely going to check out his others. This was a cracking read! Bonnie's Book Talk

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Customer Reviews

This is the first book by this author that I've read although he has been on my watch list for a while, mostly because his books are set near where I live and I do like reading books set in familiar places. I find it makes that connection a bit easier from the start. It's the introduction to Detective Kate Matthews who, even after finishing the book and being mostly satisfied, I am still unsure about. She has something about her that is preventing me from making that complete connection that I need with a main character in a series. All is not completely lost though, she may well surprise me and come through in book two and, as the rest of the book - story and writing-wise - was more than strong enough to carry her in this opener, I am not writing her off just yet. I have had this experience with many characters that I have gone on to really love and, as I don't like giving up on people too soon, she deserves the benefit of the doubt at the moment. Another thing that put me off a bit was that I

seem to be reading quite a few police procedurals where the personal life of the detective becomes intertwined in the crime they are investigating. Can't really fault the author for this as it's my fault that I am reading samey books at the moment but I do have to say that it was a factor in my overall enjoyment of this book. That said, I haven't marked this book down for this coincidence, just mentioning it for completeness in this review. The crime being solved in this book had me hooked from the start. There were all the usual red herrings and twists and turns that you would expect from the genre but towards the end it became evident that something was a bit different. As connections were made we started on a whole new path, one that led me as a reader a merry dance all the way to what turned out to be a rather shocking and very original ending. One that completely blew away all my niggles and previous issues that I was having with the characters. Talk about about-face, I had to go back and completely rethink my thoughts on what I had just read in the context of what I had just discovered. And that's when I realised how clever the book actually was. My main fear for this book is that people less determined than me won't get to the end. That they'd be a bit put off with the main character and some of the things that happen initially but what I need to really get across here in my review is that if you do feel a little like this then please give it a chance. Trust in the author and the overall journey that he has planned for you as a reader. Stick with him and Kate and go on. Trust me, you'll not regret your decision. I definitely don't regret mine and to be honest, I'm actually quite looking forward to seeing what's next in store for Kate in book two. You never know, we may even get to be friends! My thanks go to the Publisher and Netgalley for the chance to read this book.

Dead to me by Stephen Edger. How do you catch a killer who knows your every move? The woman lay flat on the table, her face to one side, her wrists bound with thick tape. Deep scratches marked the wood beneath her fingers, now resting cold and still... When a woman's body is found in an abandoned bar near the Southampton docks, Detective Kate Matthews is called in to lead the investigation. She must solve this case to prove she is coping with the death of a close colleague. Kate knows a pile of ripped up newspaper cuttings discovered at the victim's house must be a piece of the puzzle, but her team keep hitting dead-ends... Until she finds a disturbing clue that convinces her of three things: The murder is linked to the body of a man found hanging in a warehouse, she is on the hunt for a calculated serial killer, and the killer is watching her every move. Kate realises there will be another victim soon, and that her own life is in grave danger, but no one else believes her theory. Can she find and stop the most twisted killer of her career, before another life is lost? OMG. What a start to this book. An absolutely

fantastic read with brilliant characters. Full of twists and plots. I liked Kate. She was my favourite character. This one really had me. I could not figure out who it was. I had my suspicions. OMG I did not see that coming. What a shock. This is a must read and I would highly recommend this book. Definitely worth more than 5*. Netgalley and bookouture.

First of all, I need to find the same coat as in the cover! What does justice mean to you and how far would you be willing to go for it? *Dead to Me* explores the depth and holes of the system, the betrayal, the plans, everything that can make justice slip off the fingers and vanish without a trace. This book keeps you busy! Different investigations, different members of the police force to deal with, different suspects, different places. You need a bit of concentration to follow the tightly weaved plot the author came up with! I loved this hustle and bustle and the competition between the D.I.s. Belonging to the same force doesn't mean everyone gets along or that everyone is nice. Personalities are different and the different confrontations were a welcome addition to the cases, adding a tension so tangible you could already almost touch it with your finger!!! Our main character does have quite a history and her position in Southampton is not welcomed by everyone. The details of her arrival are sketchy and from the beginning, I felt Kate was a free and dangerous grenade. Her heart is at the right place, but her mind and her issues mix and make her quite unreliable as a police officer in my opinion! She was quick to jump to conclusions and I often questioned or disagreed with her decisions. Still, I enjoyed reading her battle against the devil, against herself, against others. It was very interesting and I hope to get to know her better in her next adventure! I felt that even if it fell into the "main character being a cop and having so many issues", it was different and original. Kate won't please everyone, but she couldn't care less! The case, or should I say cases, are intricate and take you on a chase for clues that can drive you crazy! The book was at the perfect length. I would have started being annoyed if the author had decided to make things drag more. The balance was good enough to keep me gripped and riddled with doubts, and I only dared thinking I knew who was the culprit just before the book got to the point, so yay for me being a fabulous detective, and yay for the author for keeping me in the dark so long! I received an ARC

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