



Edge of Nowhere

Michael Ridpath

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A short story/novella written by Ridpath.

Iceland, midwinter: the days are fleeting, the nights endless and detective Magnus Jonson has been sent to an isolated fishing village in the West Fjords to investigate the possible homicide of a road construction worker. Ringed by steep mountains, this bleak village is cut off from the rest of Iceland and from the modern world. The locals are adamant that Iceland's legendary huldafólk - hidden people - had a hand in the death. Magnus finds their superstition suspicious... As he digs deeper, Magnus discovers that the victim was not a popular man, leading him to suspect that other, more human, passions are at work...

Edge of Nowhere Details

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Author : Michael Ridpath

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Genre : Mystery, Crime, Thriller, Scandinavian Lite..., Nordic Noir

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From Reader Review Edge of Nowhere for online ebook

Sonia Cristina says

[Foi engraçado que,

Martha-Marie says

enjoyed the shorter romp through some fun Icelandic detective fiction... ;-)

Naomi says

Loved this novella from Michael Ridpath. It was a nice treat to wet the whistle until his next in series is released. It did have the feeling that there were significant aspects missing due to it being a novella and I must admit that I do prefer his full length novels which aren't to be missed! This is one of my favorite NN series.

I did read this quite a bit ago, but my review up and disappeared. Not sure what happened there.

Chuck says

A good mini-story to go with Ridpath's previous work. Great feeling for the locations.

Samantha says

This is a perfect novella. In 60-odd pages the author sets the scene, introduces the protagonists, relates the pertinent background, maps out a likely scenario, muddies the waters, sneaks behind our backs and then finishes up with some unexpected twists and turns right at the end. This is not an easy thing to do. Really - try it yourself! The novella is an art form which most authors of full-length books don't master. They should read this one.

The story is set between books 2 and 3 in the Fire and Ice trilogy, and while it would be useful to read books 1 and 2 first - more for the Icelandic setting and the part in Icelandic history played by the hidden people than for the background of the characters - it could also be read as a standalone story. Either way - just read it. Magnus doing battle with the hidden people is a wondrous thing to behold.

Libby says

I enjoyed this short story but agree with the other reviewer that it is best to read the previous two books first.

Mark says

Very short case for Magnus using the Fire and Ice characters. Enjoyed it.

Eric_W says

In this novella, Boston Homicide detective Magnus has just finished a six-month stint in the Icelandic Police College to learn Icelandic police procedures. He's on extended loan to the Iceland police forces as an experienced investigator and probably the only one in Boston who speaks fluent Icelandic.

His first case after finishing his training is the death of a construction worker, killed by a landslide while repairing a road. The man was unpopular and the local constable thinks the death is suspicious. It happened in Bolungarvik, otherwise known as at the edge of nowhere. (N.B. It's a real place.) The locals think the man was killed by the "hidden people," i.e. elves.

It's a good story and a nice introduction to Magnus. Ridpath conveys a real sense of place. I suspected who the killer was fairly early on, if not the motivation, and knew it had to be tragic. After all, it did take place at the edge of nowhere.

Lili says

Interesting short story featuring a murder and the 'hidden people' of Iceland. An additional piece from the Fire and Ice series of books. Magnus Jonson the American detective assigned to the Icelandic police force is sent to investigate. Not all is as it seems.

Will says

I give this book 4 stars because I have read the other books in the series. I probably would have given it 3 otherwise. It was just the right length for this point in the series. There is a good twist and a good nod at the end to the overall series. Looking forward to the next release.

Rachel says

Goodness me! It was over in a heartbeat! Not a bad read but way too short

CarWag says

A nice quick read, continuing the story of Magnus' return to Iceland

Mel Fouch says

This is a short story involving the characters from Ridpath's Fire and Ice series featuring the American-Icelandic cop Magnus Ragnarsson.

If you're a fan of the two books published so far then you'll almost certainly enjoy this tale of a possible murder that Marcus is despatched to investigate in a particularly remote part of Iceland.

You probably do need to have read the first two to get the most out of it. Plus this story makes reference to plot details from the first two books which you might prefer to discover as you go by reading them first.

As ever Magnus is a flawed but likeable hero, his faults tending to make him all the more engaging, and the supporting characters are well fleshed-out.

The central mystery works well, though the way it is finally solved did seem a little too reliant on dumb luck (mind you, maybe that's how some police cases are solved in real life).

I'm now looking forward even more eagerly to the release of the next book in the series, in the summer.

Melissa says

One of the better short stories in a series that I've read.

Stamatios says

I read Edge of Nowhere without having read Ridpath's previous books with the same protagonist. I don't know if it would have helped if I had done so, but I'm sad to report that this short novel did nothing to pick my interest about them. Detective Magnus is not particularly intelligent or interesting and the plot is sketchy at best. I really don't think that the short novel format fits the crime mystery genre.
