



## Entombed

*Linda Fairstein , Blair Brown*

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## The Barnes & Noble Review

For sex crimes prosecutor Alexandra Cooper, even a night out can be murder. Already troubled by the return of the Silk Stocking Rapist (back in business after a four-year break), Alex is further burdened when the seminar she's attending at NYU Law School is interrupted by the discovery of a skeleton bricked up behind the wall in the basement of a Manhattan brownstone that was once the residence of Edgar Allan Poe! Although the tabloids have a field day with the Poe connection, this corpse is no relic from the poet's era. Forensics estimates that the body was entombed sometime after 1979 -- ancient history only from the perspective of leads gone cold.

Meanwhile, someone is mimicking the M.O. of the Silk Stocking Rapist -- with one notable distinction: He leaves his victim dead. As that investigation unfolds, Alex wonders if the copycat's victim might have had information about the body in the basement . Suddenly the cold case turns red-hot, and it's up to Alex to ensure that no one else gets burned.

Linda Fairstein's inside knowledge of police procedure and legal work (she spent 25 years in the Sex Crimes Prosecution Unit of the Manhattan D.A.'s Office) provides *Entombed* with intriguing realistic touches; her craft as a writer turns it into an atmospheric, fast-paced tale that rivals Poe. *Sue Stone*

## Entombed Details

Date : Published January 4th 2005 by Simon Schuster Audio (first published 2005)

ISBN : 9780743566971

Author : Linda Fairstein , Blair Brown

Format : Audiobook

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Crime, Thriller

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## From Reader Review Entombed for online ebook

### Deanne says

This is my favourite Linda Fairstein book, I enjoy reading about Alex, Mike and Mercer. The books are well written and you never know who the killer is until the end.

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### Magdalena aka A Bookaholic Swede says

I have to admit that it was the connection to Edgar Allan Poe that got me to read this book. I have a weakness for books with some connection with famous authors/actors/people. So, when I read the description of the book about a dead body being found entombed standing behind a brick wall in a house that Edgar Allan Poe had lived in, then I just had to read the book!

Since this is the first book I have read in this series, and also the very first book I have read by Linda Fairstein was I curious to see how the book would be. Sometimes it's easy to get into stories despite it being a book in the middle of a series. Luckily, I quickly found myself intrigued with the story and I absolutely loved the characters. I found Alexandra Cooper to be a woman to my liking. Recently single, but not a depressed, but a strong and competent woman that doesn't mind being single. Her tragic past with her dead fiance made me like her even more and I read the book wanting to get to know more about her. Then, we have her friends and colleagues detectives Mercer Wallace and Mike Chapman, both two great guys. I loved this dynamic trio and they made the book truly enjoyable. It didn't hurt that the story got pretty intensive now and then.

The cases in the book, both the rapist case and the-dead-woman-behind-the-wall case was interesting, though I have to admit that the case with the entombed was a bit more interesting to follow than the rapist case (hence the 4.5 rating). Still, it's a pretty awesome book and I have already ordered two books from Amazon since I want to know what happens next!

*So, I have found this series to my liking and I'm looking forward to reading more books by Linda Fairstein.*

### 4.5 stars

Read this review and others on A Bookaholic Swede

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### Kristen says

In Linda Fairstein's Entombed, the 7th installment in the Alexandra Cooper legal thriller series, she told us a chilling thriller that raised a notch up in the chill factor. For Alexandra Cooper, she had a lot on her hands. First she tackled the return of a serial rapist who returned after a hiatus. Meanwhile, she investigated the murders of Emily Upshaw and the shocking entombment of a corpse, 20 years ago. While she worked on both cases, her friend Michael Chapman learned about the devastating loss on his girlfriend from a freak ski accident. With a lot of twists and turns, it all odds up to the Raven Society and the connection to Edgar Allen Poe and who was behind what happened to everyone who tried to stop them in the end.

## Ginger says

Eh.

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## Susannah Carleton says

Very good, very eerie, and very atmospheric. Alex, Mike, and Mercer have their hands full between a skeleton found behind a brick wall in the basement of a house in which Edgar Allan Poe once lived, the return, after a hiatus of several years, of a serial killer, and other seemingly unrelated cases. Fans of Poe will enjoy this story and its references to his poems and tales; people who aren't fond of Poe will enjoy the thrilling who-dun-it tale with a handful of red herrings to keep them guessing.

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## Janice says

I'm lost in the maze. This novel kept bouncing around and I kept losing the focus. Yes, as the protagonist stated, a real life detective is involved in more than one case at a time. I think this novel tried to emulate that concept. There were two distinct cases that Alex Cooper and her partner were working on along with references to other cases that didn't add anything to the story. I think I would have preferred the book better if they'd cut out the story line about the silk stocking rapist and just concentrated on the Edgar Allan Poe copycat murder.

I've turned into a book snob and have trashed some books lately. I know that can be painful to an author who has spent countless hours creating a body of work. So, to be fair, I must try and look for the positives as well.

Perhaps it was my own fault that I kept losing focus. I would find that I had read a page and hadn't absorbed it. At other times, I would be completely absorbed in the story. If I hadn't found the story somewhat absorbing, I wouldn't have persevered through 500 pages. I liked the tie-in with the history of Edgar Allan Poe. I remember trying to memorize "The Raven" while in highschool. I loved his work. It was this reason that I was drawn to the book in the first place.

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## Renee says

Entombed was fascinating. Truly, wonderfully fascinating. Privilege, Poe and personal tragedies entwine in Alex Cooper's search for a long-dormant rapist as well as for the identity -- and murderer -- of a long-entombed corpse. At first the focus on Poe seemed like a distraction but, as is often the case in Fairstein's novels, it turned out to be key to finding the murderer.

I'm very much looking forward to see how personal matters play out over the next book, even though I have a few (okay, 4) books already waiting for my attention.

## Catherine says

This book felt like it was all over the place at times, and not always a cohesive story. It was too dragged out too, and didn't need to be 500 pages. Didn't love this one like some of her others. I'll always be a Linda Fairstein fan though.

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## Devon says

It is probably hard to believe that as someone who often enjoys a good mystery/suspense novel that this is the first novel by former DA Linda Fairstein that I have read. Fortunately I was not at all disappointed with this engrossing novel. Entombed features attorney Alexandra Cooper who is the heroine in all of Fairstein's novels to date, yet in this tale while trying to find a serial rapist who has eluded her partner Mike Chapman and herself for years Alex also finds herself trying to find a murderer who quite obviously was trying to frame this serial rapist. Now finding this copycat has become a priority for Alex as she learns of its connection to a murder committed twenty-five years ago in the former home of poet Edgar Allen Poe. The investigation leads Alex and the detectives to a group of Poe enthusiasts known as the Raven Society who seem to have many secrets that they do not wish to have unearthed.

This novel takes many twists and turns as Alex searches not only for a murderer but a serial rapist as well. However, the chemistry between Alex and detective Chapman, as well as the slight cliffhanger between the two, is what will keep me reading more of these Alex Cooper novels as well as searching out Fairstein's previous novels!

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## Stephanie says

Enjoyed this book. I felt like the story kept evolving. There were lots of twist and turns and some very sad parts. Looking forward to reading the next one!

Side note, make sure you are reading these books in order!

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## Bev Taylor says

a murder with echoes of edgar allan poe .....

an old brownstone is being demolished when a skeleton is discovered within the walls. this building was where poe once lived

d.a. alex cooper takes on the case together with mike and mercer. added to this they have the silk stoking rapist who has resurfaced

then another female is found dead, made to look like the rapist but alex is not convinced. as they look deeper

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it appears that she, and many others that she knew, had a connection with the skeleton

all clues point to poe!

the characterisation is spot on and the dialogue and repartee between alex and her team is to be savoured.

a few holes in it though. no way would they have been allowed to handle the clothes of the victim; surely it was obvious what the raven society was connected to; why did they not check the records of the dead doctor; why did she go to phelps when she knew he had a connection with zeldin

a fast read. would make a good tv series

bev

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### **Sophia Peters says**

Man, Fairstein really missed the mark on this one. The plot dragged and the ending is really whack-a-do. She failed to close all the loops on all the semi-interesting plot lines that came from Poe. She truly does describe a great New York meal though - pour me a Dewers. Hopefully the next one will be better!

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### **Jorge Fernandez says**

El libro está bien, en la misma línea de los anteriores. En esta oportunidad se da mayor peso a los casos alternos, ahondando en la investigación, cubriendo mayor terreno que en los libros anteriores donde los casos alternos eran más una distracción y no aportaban nada a la trama.

La trama construida alrededor de la obra de E. A. Poe es cautivante y entretenida. Uno de los mejores libros de la serie hasta ahora

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### **Pamela Brucker says**

Any mystery that leaves me hanging until the last chapter automatically gets at least 3 stars. I really could not figure out the villan in this Poe based story. I loved the literature references, but otherwise this was not high on my list. I found the many characters who were introduced and then left, confusing. Where did the profiler go? Likewise, I found way to many side dramas that only complicated the main story, which was strong enough to stand on its own.

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### **Pip Snort says**

A rapist is stalking and attacking women on the Upper East Side of New York City. After several attacks and a clear DNA profile, the attacks suddenly ceased. Now, five years later, the Silk Stocking Rapist has returned. Alex Cooper, an assistant DA with the New York District Attorney's Office is working with the NYPD to identify and catch him before too many attacks occur. Emily Upshaw is attacked, but this time

there is no rape, and she is killed. But Alex is not convinced that this is the work of the Silk Stocking Rapist. Instead it seems that this crime is linked to that of a body found inside the wall of the basement of Edgar Allen Poe's New York home. Weaving Poe's poetry and story ideas into a modern mystery, Linda Fairstein attempts to engage us in the hunt for this two disparate criminals. However, for me, this story did not work, it all felt a little too contrived, a bit forced. Even the dialogue between Ms Cooper and the police was too remote to be believable. Only ok.

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### **Paris (kerbytejas) says**

This was a new author for me. The story was ok but nothing I'd scream about.

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### **Jill says**

I typically enjoy these books as fluffy crime novels. They feel a lot like watching a Law and Order episode although the protagonist seems to get hurt in every storyline. I am pretty sure Sam Waterston never had this problem. However, this one seemed disjointed and I had trouble tying everything together. I did listen to the audio version and found out it was abridged once I was finished with it. That might be part of the problem...or not.

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### **Linda says**

Sections of this book were good, left me feeling like reading more. Other sections left me wondering why I was reading the story at all! Dragged in some places, not in others. Too many characters, so many that I couldn't keep track of the suspects. I skimmed thru some pages and eventually finished it.

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### **Marca says**

Once upon a midnight dreary...I always learn something about a random subject usually unrelated to law in Fairstein's books. Last time it was book collecting; this time it is Edgar Allen Poe. The plot is centered around Poe writing and enthusiasts. Prosecutor Alexandra Cooper attends a fundraiser in a building where Poe briefly resided, when a skeleton is discovered in a brick wall as it is being dismantled. Cooper is also on the trail of a serial rapist who has operated far too long in NYC. Are the cases related? A phone number trace leads Cooper and her team to a mysterious group called The Raven Society, which is the thread they need to unravel the mystery. I like Cooper and her team. They are dogged. They dodge the rules, sometimes, but they don't live their lives flouting their authorities as do some detectives (which can grow tiresome). They are smart, and they work and play together well. I get a little tired of the Jeopardy games, but that's just me. Definitely worth a read.

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### **Kathy Petersen says**

My husband recommended this one because the setting included references to Edgar Allen Poe, the New

York botanic gardens, and NYC history. All that was true; but the writing was boring, the murder mystery tedious, the setting obviously staged, and the overabundance of characters confusing and poorly delineated anyway. Five hundred pages of yawn, but once I started, I was, as almost always, obliged to finish.

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