



Hand in Glove

Robert Goddard

Download now

Read Online 

Hand in Glove

Robert Goddard

Hand in Glove Robert Goddard

In her seaside cottage, Beatrix Abberley bravely confronts an intruder moments before her life is brutally taken. The crime stuns the elderly spinster's family—especially Beatrix's niece, Charlotte Ladram. But Charlotte has little time to mourn the loss of her beloved aunt and little patience when police quickly arrest a man Charlotte believes is innocent. For Charlotte, a harrowing quest for answers begins—one that will take her into the shadows of the past...and into the life and secrets of the dead woman's brother, famed poet and casualty of the Spanish Civil War, Tristram Abberley.

Now, amid shattering revelations about her family, and in the aftermath of a second savage crime, Charlotte finds herself at the center of a widening storm. And for Charlotte, something extraordinary is beginning to happen. As fifty years of secrets begin to unravel, shy, cautious Charlotte is coming alive in the shadow of a mystery—uncovering a shocking tale of wartime greed and treachery, and a vendetta of violence seemingly without end....

Hand in Glove Details

Date : Published April 25th 2006 by Delta (first published 1992)

ISBN : 9780385339216

Author : Robert Goddard

Format : Paperback 464 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Thriller, Crime, Suspense

 [Download Hand in Glove ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Hand in Glove ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Hand in Glove Robert Goddard

From Reader Review Hand in Glove for online ebook

Isabelle says

This has been a pleasant read. It is first a good thriller, it has a plot that unrolls with many twists and turns. In addition, it is the story of long-awaited revenge. The characters are all very likeable.

The final twist coming at the end!

I recommend the book to anyone who wants to spend a few hours reading by the fireplace with a cuppa, engrossed in the story.

Claire says

Review: Hand in Glove by Robert Goddard Published by: Bantam Press (12th November 1992)

ISBN: 978-0593029251

Synopsis:

When Beatrix Abberley, sister of an English poet who died fighting for the Republicans in the Spanish Civil War, is murdered, it appears that burglary was the motive. But Beatrix has been a keeper of secrets and, as her god-daughter, Charlotte, investigates, she discovers that Beatrix has been hiding many dangerous things...

My Review:

This is one of those books that has been languishing on my TBR shelf for far too long, so I thought I'd take a break from all the newer books and read an oldie. This has taken me an absolute age to read, something that's never a good sign. Unfortunately, for me it wasn't an oldie but goodie and I was really disappointed with it as it seemed to promise much more.

The characters are, on the whole, interesting and well formed, the story an interesting and intriguing one and there were a couple of twists. It just seemed far too lengthy. By the time the conclusion was nearing completion, I no longer cared about it and felt I should've quit a long while back.

Jane says

More of a 3.5. Not quite as good as the other Goddard I've read, but I feel it's still a notch or two above contemporary mysteries. The story begins with the cold-blooded murder of the sister, Beatrix, of a famous poet, Tristram Abberley. At first it is thought Beatrix has been killed for robbery but there's a darker motive. The antique dealer Colin Fairfax, is framed for the crime. The locales stretch from Wales to southern England to France to Spain. Letters from Tristram to Beatrix during the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s and memories of some of the former combatants connect with the action decades later. A mystery surrounds the authorship of the poems, especially the posthumous poems in a collection: [Spanish Lines](#). What big secret is hidden in the letters besides Tristram's possible motive for writing them? The brother of the accused, Derek,

tries desperately to prove Colin's innocence. Derek joins forces with Charlotte, goddaughter of the murder victim. Bequeathed Beatrix's cottage, Charlotte begins to discover secrets and lies of her extended family. Derek and Charlotte are drawn into a maelstrom of lies upon lies, duplicity, terror, and a kidnapping.

This novel was very well plotted and written. Just when you think you know what's coming, something completely unexpected happens. This occurs over and over. The novel was exciting all through; I felt nothing was boring. The showdown with the kidnappers of Charlotte's niece in Spain was chilling. The novel was as much a thriller as a mystery. It was absolutely gripping reading.

Bryan Higgs says

I'm on this quest to read all of Robert Goddard's books, in chronological order. Now I'm up to Hand in Glove. This one is a little different from most of the others I've read so far in that there are two protagonists, one male and one female, and while they are not really failures in life (Goddard's main characters often are), they have to raise their games to deal with the situation in this book.

In his typical way, Goddard peels each layer of the plot and takes his time doing it. Meanwhile, you are absorbed in the plot, and puzzling over what might have happened. You don't find out until quite late in the book and there's a twist in the last two pages.

A good page-turner and puzzler. Now I'm on to the next one in order...

Melissa Berninger says

Hooray! A new mystery writer to read. Well-written and with a nice twist. Not part of a series, but I'm looking forward to reading his other novels.

Elizabeth Elwood says

Another excellent page-turner from Robert Goddard! This was a most absorbing read, which began as an intriguing puzzle with roots in the Spanish Civil War and ultimately developed into action adventure very much in the present. Charlotte Ladram is a likeable spinster whose world has always been safe and protected. The murder of Beatrix Abberley, her stepbrother's elderly aunt, shatters her quiet life. Soon she finds herself untangling a literary mystery which some want exposed and some desperately want to keep secret. When a shady antique dealer is arrested for the murder, Charlotte is thrown into the company of Derek Fairfax, the man's brother, and although both have different motives for uncovering the truth, Charlotte and Derek team up to solve the mystery.

The progression of the plot from literary mystery to action adventure actually mimics the progression of the two main characters, quiet-living people who are observers of life rather than participants; yet, through being forced to deal with the crises precipitated by their more venturesome family members, they find themselves forced to act in ways they never would have anticipated and in doing so, find happiness in their own lives.

Being a person who likes to see progression in plays and books, I love Goddard's novels, because he is so much the master of complex plots. His stories twist and turn in all directions, yet the writing is always so

clear and well-constructed that there is never any danger of losing the thread. The descriptions of the various settings are vivid, whether in the English or Welsh countryside, the urban jungle of Manhattan or an isolated part of Spain. Well worth a read!

Nancy says

To recap the book as a murder of an old lady set in England kinda seems not worthy of the twists and turns of this book.

I appreciated the book almost on a deeper level ... what one would do to fight for justice. That seems deep - we'll go with that.

Felix says

Definitely one of Goddard's best books. In fact, it's the best I've read so far (out of 8) but I do have to read some of his old ones yet.

It's what one expects (an old mystery wreaking havoc on the present-day lives of some innocent-looking people, lots of lies and secrets uncovered in the processes, some murders, a bit of catharsis and redemption in the end) and some more.

Fewer plot twists than the usual Goddard book (which is a good thing, actually!) and a pleasant surprise in that instead of the standard damaged-in-some-way-but-fundamentally-good male protagonist we got here two - a male and a female (and less damaged than usual...).

Perhaps the reason Goddard's books (well, most of them) are so engrossing is that they are about crime and mysteries all right, but they are also about families and how messed up they can be.

Jennifer Thomson says

I'm a big fan of Robert Goddard and think he's one of the most under-rated writers ever. I enjoyed this book, but not as much as his other books.

Jon Mackley says

I read this when it first came out and really enjoyed it. Wanted to re-read it as an example of an 'hourglass' plot. And 25 years had passed and I couldn't remember a thing about the story except the opening section and that it was related to the Spanish Civil War.

This is one of Goddard's better books. It is densely plotted and maintains the suspense throughout. One thought is that it was written in 1993 and has dated. The characters nip across to France by hovercraft. Mobile phones would have made their lives a lot easier. But it's a great read throughout.

John Devlin says

A rather different mystery work.

No author trying to set up sequels. No great moments of drama and courage. A rather small story that starts out rather vanilla but has enough rocky road and English charm to keep the reader hooked.

The history and the twists do come and they're handled competently. Nothing to complain about here. I'm sure this is the book Goddard wanted to write and he executed the mystery, the people, and the surprises well.

Lynn O says

mystery. This was kind of slow. It took 50 pages before I was hooked, but I wanted to give it a chance. Strangely, I'd guessed the location of the map very early on in the book, so finding out that I was right after 400+ pages was kind of a let down.

Roger Neilson says

By about a third of the way in I reckoned the story was about to conclude..... hmmm. Masterful plotting that just keeps adding twist after twist. Only reservation would be the sometime Mills and Boonish quality of the romance elements.

Michele says

This was the second Goddard book I've read and I enjoyed it much better than his first novel. What I like: all of his books are present day, but centered around a mystery from a recognizable event from the past. In the case of Hand in Glove, a mystery from the Spanish Civil War reaches out from the past to embroil modern day characters in a mystery that threatens their lives. So we end up with a story that in order to save people's lives, the characters have to try to sort out events from the past with little clues to go off of.

The mystery serves up the standard lot of suspects and while the endings are never too much of a surprise, the process of getting there is satisfying for history buffs. I'll certainly read more of his novels, but suggest them as a library read.

Rayrumtum says

A mystery like one of those layered Russian dolls hinging back to the Spanish civil war.
