



Free to Trade

Michael Ridpath

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Paul Murray is an ex-Olympic runner, so his training is perfect for the rigors of bond trading for a London financial house. The pace is breakneck, the smell of success intoxicating. Paul has really found a home here, and maybe even the love of his life in his colleague Debbie Chater--until her lifeless body is dragged from the Thames. National ads/media.

Free to Trade Details

Date : Published January 1st 1996 by HarperPrism (first published 1994)

ISBN : 9780061093487

Author : Michael Ridpath

Format : Paperback 400 pages

Genre : Fiction, Thriller, Suspense, Mystery

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From Reader Review Free to Trade for online ebook

Jane Rose says

I didn't follow the technical part of trading, selling short etc but the book had a cracking pace and the bad guy got caught.

Ingrid Verschelling says

Gelezen nov. 1995

Jane Lippincott says

Good financial thriller...a bit unbelievable but fun

Mike Mitchell says

Opening pages are a bit dull, but he puts a taster at front of the book, an extract from page 83. (seems a bit of a cheat to me) Maybe publisher suggested this? Chap 3 annoyed me, as it was a boring digression about him running. Chap 4 equally annoying with too much description of his Yorkshire village upbringing. Who cares? But then the pace picks up, and plenty of hooks, cliffhangers etc. So in the end worth persevering.

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Ernest Godfrey says

Fast and very readable

Loved this book, I noticed that other people have felt it was a bit slow in the beginning but that was not the case for me. Perhaps the slightly slower pace helped me understand the complexities of share dealing better. The plot did speed up well and was timed superbly although in the end I lost the whole financial thing it was too complicated for me but as I believed the general storyline that was not an issue. I love the whole city/wall street thing and will read more of this author.

Dana says

Very readable book - my first of his - won't be my last. Didn't understand all the trading but it was very interesting. Quite believable with a few twists and turns. Interesting to read a book written before mobile phones were readily available making people instantly contactable and giving a camera facility. We are so used to modern technology.

Ken says

A very tepid murder mystery which is set in the high-pressure world of the London Bond Market. I expected to get some kind of insight into the workings of global financial markets, but came away with little new information, and the nefarious incidents in the novel were cluttered with very predictable 'red herrings' and fairly obvious villains.

Paul Murray is an ex-Olympic runner and works for London investment traders, De Jong & Co. He uncovers a very byzantine, complicated, and possibly illegal bond deal shortly after one of his co-workers, Debbie Chater, dies in an accident/murder/or suicide. He travels to New York and Phoenix to conferences, and tries to uncover information about the millions lost on this bond trade, and to try to determine what happened to Debbie.

Although the Bond Market setting for this novel is a fresh idea, the construction, writing, and story-line has been done before with more pleasing results. Now, Michael Ridpath sets his novels in Scandinavia, and has completely departed from the financial world, and I read his novel, WHERE THE SHADOWS LIE, and I really enjoyed it. Maybe he's found his niche.

Ula says

salah satu buku pertama yang aq baca dari pengarang yang engga' aku kenal sebelumnya.. ternyata bagus banget.. g kalah ama john grisham aor michael crichton...

ceritanya tentang insider trang di salah satu bursa efek di wall street.. selain business and mafia uang, masalah hukum en tiou2 juga masuk juga disini .. kerenz abeess...

baca deh klo kamu suka yang misterius.. tapi bukan hal yang misteri lho..

Naomi says

Read my full review @ <http://bit.ly/NBcpUa>

I first became a lover of Michael Ridpath's writing when I was introduced to his Fire and Ice series. In my Nordic Noir group, Michael was our author of the month. Well, what is a girl to do when she has read what has been released set in Iceland...she looks towards other books the author has written. That is how I was introduced to "Free to Trade". It is written with the same quality of writing found in Fire and Ice, but set in

London's financial district. This book is a rerelease from the original published in the mid 1990's but the story is still good for the time.

I think what I liked most about this book is that it wasn't a beat you over the head financial thriller. The setting was financial, but I think the author placed more emphasis on developing the mystery. As someone who isn't a fan of financial mysteries, I think that helped this one not get bogged down to me.

Christine Blachford says

A really fascinating book this one. It's appeal is probably limited to those that understand finance and/or shares and trading, particularly as it opens with some quite in depth details about a day in the life of the protagonist - a portfolio manager.

But if you get on with the financial jargon, then there's also a really good crime/murder/mystery story underneath it all. People are doing bad things, our hero is getting the blame for it all, and needs to work hard to clear his name.

I enjoyed the book, but my only complaint would be that no one took any action against Rob. Considering how we frowned upon the domestic abuse scene, it seemed like no one was bothered about this creepy, stalking, threatening, and clearly quite disturbed man. I'm not sure he deserved the happy ending that he got. But otherwise, it was an interesting story, with a lot of moving parts to keep track of, and an intricate but well conceived plot.

Aditya Hadi says

Paul Murray really like to move fast. When he decided to resign from athletic after got a Bronze Medal in Olympic, he tried some new world, which is fast too. Debt Analyst in a bank, and finally he chose to be a trader.

However, everything is looked like bullshit for him. Debbie, his best friend is suddenly dead; his investigation to a doubtful investment met a road-block; his mother's house is likely to be sold by its owner; rejected by a girl that he loved.

Obviously, this book make me can't resist from trading world. It is an interesting world, although you need to really read the book to understand how the story changing. I really feel hard to get away from this book.

Lesson for a trader-wanna-be : Don't trust anyone, even he looked like an Angel.

:D

Jbaes says

This is A VERY Good Read!

The book is excellent from several perspectives. First, it is very well written and structured. Second, and more important, the author understands what he is writing about. In most financial crime novels the author only vaguely understands the markets and businesses they are writing about. Not the case here. Third, because of the author's very clear descriptions even some fairly complicated ideas get explained very well. This should allow readers not familiar with securities trading to understand why any people find the markets exciting and fascinating. Fourth, the actual crimes are interesting and plausible. Finally, while not the norm the author does manage to describe some of the characteristics of nut cases running around the business

Liedzeit says

Paul Murray muß den Verbleib von Millionen und einen Mord klären und sich verlieben etc. Aber sehr kurzweilig.

John says

English murder/mystery book I bought in Olympia, Greece. A bond trader has solve what he thinks is the murder of a colleague. Takes him to NY, Arizona and back to London. Story is about bonds bought by his company that were very suspect as to how they were offered.

Henri Moreaux says

A well written financial novel is one of my favourite types of book, so I usually find Paul Erdman's books very enjoyable. Awhile ago I saw this one by Michael Ridpath and it seemed to fill a similiar niche so I picked it up, now 2 years later I've finally read it and can say I am a little annoyed with myself for not doing so sooner as it was excellent.

The story is based around a bond trader, Paul Murray, who is learning the ropes and stumbles into a complicated scam being run against his firm, this coupled with some questionable trading, a dead co-worker and another co-worker who turns out to be a Nice Guy (aka crazy creeper) makes for a very compelling read. The result of which is not so easy to foretell with the plot leading you down paths which seem like the answer but turn out not to be.

I found it to be well structured and whilst based in the trading world there's enough there that it would be accessible and enjoyable to those not familiar with or interested by that side of finance.

ken lewis says

Fantastic story.

Finally a believable story and well written. Kept my attention from chapter to chapter. Kept me guessing right up to the end. A very good well written book. Will definitely read more books from this author.

Sandy Wallace says

High Stakes Finance

To be totally honest, when I started reading this novel I was afraid the intricacies and jargon of the financial world might be a stumbling block to my understanding and enjoyment of the story. But I need not have worried. While there is a lot of "financial mumbo-jumbo" (to me, anyway), the plot and characters had me reading this in one sitting -- with a minor break for about 4 hours of sleep. I could not put it down!

Paul Murray, a former Olympic distance runner, is working for a bond trading firm in the heart of London's financial district. He is a loner, using the discipline and determination that made him a successful athlete to become a star in the financial world. His focus on that goal doesn't allow him much of a social life other than occasional lunches or drinks with work colleagues. When one of those colleagues (Debbie) is found dead after meeting Paul for drinks after work, he is catapulted into a series of events that endanger his reputation, his career and, possibly, his life. Hunting for answers, Paul becomes a human pinball, caroming off the pillars in his life now being controlled by a master game player. What is the truth? Who can he trust?

Reading how Paul resolves his problems is exciting and emotionally satisfying. Whatever reservations I had starting this book vanished in the storytelling skills of Michael Ridpath. A very good read, indeed!

Chris Steeden says

A whodunnit murder (s) financial thriller that is rather good. The lead character, Paul Murray, works at a London firm trading bonds is a very likeable character and you do root for him all the way through the book.

I won't give any of the plot away but the book fairly zips along as it twists-and-turns in-respect to whodunnit and why? I am never normally very good at working out why but I did get this one but it certainly did not detract from my enjoyment of reading this. My only criticism is the ending (quite a big thing really I guess) and the way Paul pulls everything and everyone together. I am not sure that could actually be achieved.

Dokusha says

Hat mir gut gefallen. Die Geschichte eines Angestellten in einem Investmentbüro, der in eine komplexe Geschichte von Finanzbetrug und Mord verwickelt wird.

Der Erzählstil ist locker und gut lesbar, die Geschichte interessant und die Figuren zwar nicht besonders stark ausgebaut, aber ausreichend, um lebendig zu wirken.

Auch die obligatorischen Wendungen und, Überraschungen wurden gut eingebracht.

Das Ende kommt dann im Vergleich eher unspektakulär daher (was nicht heißt, das es nicht auch eine Überraschung beinhaltet), liest sich aber auch angenehm.

Und am Ende hat man das Gefühl, dass es, sich gut so abgespielt haben könnte.
