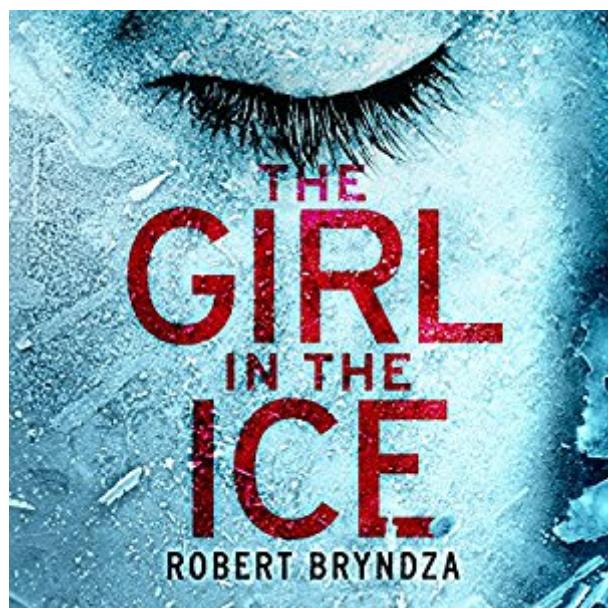


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The Girl In The Ice: Detective Erika Foster Crime Thriller, Book 1



Synopsis

Her eyes are wide open. Her lips parted as if to speak. Her dead body frozen in the ice...She is not the only one. When a young boy discovers the body of a woman beneath a thick sheet of ice in a South London park, Detective Erika Foster is called in to lead the murder investigation. The victim, a beautiful young socialite, appeared to have the perfect life. Yet when Erika begins to dig deeper, she starts to connect the dots between the murder and the killings of three prostitutes, all found strangled, hands bound, and dumped in water around London. What dark secrets is the girl in the ice hiding? As Erika inches closer to uncovering the truth, the killer is closing in on Erika. The last investigation Erika led went badly wrong...resulting in the death of her husband. With her career hanging by a thread, Erika must now battle her own personal demons as well as a killer more deadly than any she's faced before. But will she get to him before he strikes again? A pause-resisting thriller packed with suspense. If you like Angela Marsons, Rachel Abbott, and Karin Slaughter, discover Rob Bryndza's new series today.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I don't like to disagree with everyone else, but I was asked for an honest review in return for my Netgalley ARC and this is it. The prologue, written from the victim's point of view, seemed promising, full of intrigue and tension, and the anticipation of getting a good read hooked me. Sorry to say it, but for me it all went downhill from there on, my disillusionment began with Erika. Erika is the lead character and, like so many fictional female detectives, is emotionally damaged and socially inept.

She resents authority and goes her own way against all orders and common sense. She is hell bent on her own theory and won't cooperate with anyone else. That her presence will engender resentment from her new colleagues pretty much goes without saying. I'm not even sure she should even have been placed in that particular setting. Would the Metropolitan Police Force, with all their resources really bring in an officer from another territory to investigate a murder? Would the officers really act in the manner portrayed? I don't think it likely, not these days but then, I'm sure the author would have used the services of a police media advisor. There were far too many stereotypical characters for my liking, even the old prostitute is a dirty, foul mouthed, ill mannered, drug addicted woman with crooked brown teeth. The working classes and criminals are portrayed as arrogant and ill mannered because they are poor, and the are rich portrayed as arrogant and ill mannered because they are privileged. I thought it was a real shame because the actual plot itself is quite good and that is what earns it the 3rd star. It failed for me though because the whole story ran along predictable lines, including the usual part where the protagonist finds herself facing almost certain death (and that's not a spoiler because we know it's a serial). Having said that, judging by the number of 5 stars and the gushing comments, this style of writing must be exactly what many people want to read, I'm just not one of them. ARC provided by Netgalley and Bookouture in return for an honest review.

The blurb on the cover doesn't lie: this is a gripping serial killer thriller, one you will be hard pressed to set down! I first came across this author on crimebookjunkie's website, and knew I had to get the first book! I got it on Audible and started listening to it, and I didn't want to stop listening! It's very easy to get wrapped up in Erika's life and troubles, which she needs to figure out while also having to find a serial killer and politics at work. Erika has been on leave for a few months after a case went wrong and her husband (a DI) and other officers were killed. After being cleared, the first case she works is one that will put her life at risk several times. Erika follows her gut when she senses she is onto something or when something is wrong, which leads to conflicts at work. I was so into this story that I listened to it on the way to work, and while I was working! I just had to find out what happened next! I can't wait to start the others in this series!

This is a very good procedural. The best part of the book is that the main character is one of the more complex characters that I have come across in fiction lately. While DCI Foster is very very good at her work she is not Wonder Woman. In fact I would rather say that she is Wounded Woman

and that is what makes this such a fascinating read. When you throw in that there are all kinds of police politics going on involving the case, it makes for a fascinating page turner. The people in this novel are the ones that draw you into the story . Not only that but even some of the secondary characters are real. They do not care if you are a police person they still say F you and know the law enough that they will get away with it. I am looking forward to the next book to see how this complex and interesting individual and all her comrades will develop.

Great read. Definitely worth \$.99. Very well written!! This is a murder mystery thriller that will keep you guessing until the end. We are introduced to the corrupting influence of money and power in a murder investigation. We see how some officers will still do what it takes to find the truth. I really like DCI Erika Foster. She is strong female protagonist that fights to do the right thing and find justice for those murdered girls even to the detriment of Herself. One thing I didn't like was how DCI Foster repeatedly went into dangerous situations with no back up and no weapon. I love Moss and Peterson. Always great when you have coworkers that have your back when you need it... And even when you don't think you need it. I found myself wanting to yell or a smack Marsh. Overall a great read!!

I was not familiar with Robert Bryndza and bought only the first in the Erica Foster books. As soon as I finish my review, I will purchase the next two in the series. I was pleased with Bryndza's style of writing. He provides enough detail to make the scenes visible but also keeps the action moving right along. His main character acts rather feisty at times and reacts to her boss in ways that surpass my comfort level. But the story is not about me, and I can worry about her interactions with her boss without worrying about what would happen to me in that position. I am not sure that made sense. I got totally involved with the story and really did not know how it would end. In my opinion it is very well written and believable. I enjoy the supporting characters and how they interact with each other and the main character. I am excited about reading the next one to discover how things evolve and what the next case will be.

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