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A Dirty Shame: J.J. Graves Mystery, Book 2



Synopsis

J.J. Graves is back in Bloody Mary, but she's a long way from feeling at home. Between her physical scars from being the target of a murderer and the emotional scars left by her parents, she doesn't know who she can trust. But death doesn't stop for anyone. The first murder is grisly. The second even more so. And though things are shaky between them, she and her best friend, Jack, have no choice but to join forces and find the killer. Because the life of someone they love dearly hangs in the balance.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Honestly I bought this book because I liked the first one so much. What a waste of money. Don't even bother to get a room these characters had sex in every room and surface available in the book. To the point that the plot got lost in the gratuitous sex.

After the first 1/3 I wanted to throw up. And it was all senseless....seems to be hate crimes (that's mild) about non whites or gays? cue the drum beats..... BUT.....SPOILER....it's about MONEY and ABUSE AND DEAD PEOPLE. It left me wondering how in the world I liked the story in the first book? And how there are murder mysteries and then there are murder mysteries that for some odd reason want to describe torture to the nth degree - who wants to read that? Honestly, in 50 years of reading I do not think I've ever read nor seen a more gross and disgusting murder than the one this books starts with! Thankfully, I didn't make it to the second one. And I liked the poor dead guy from

the last book much more than I like the sheriff. The reviews don't even mention how much violence there is except for one other one star review I so wish I'd of seen. That's disturbing, in itself. The promo piece does say "gritty," but since the last book was *simply* rape and strangling, I thought we'd done "gritty." Boy, was I wrong. And btw, I liked this writer - have all the Whiskey books - and a couple of others.

I like this series. I really really do. It has many faults and flaws, but manages to be charming and fun to read. I am always eager for the next book. JJ Graves is a really intriguing woman. She has to work hard to overcome her PTSD in this book. I like that she wasn't just fine after her near death experience, it gave her a greater sense of reality. She has more depth in this book and warms up on the emotional front as well. She is still engaging and dynamic. I love her playful relationship with Jack. They make a great couple and I really hope they stay together. Having been friends since diapers makes for a real connection between the characters. I felt the love more in this book than the last. The romance is kicked up in this book. That bedroom door opens up more than a crack!! Still not a full on smexy erotic read, but more detailed than a squeaky clean romance. They are very playful in and out of the bedroom. My favorite type of relationship! The mystery this time has underlying Aryan Nation themes. It is more on a solvable level, there are loads of holes and missing info still, but I was able to determine real suspects. I really enjoyed the twists and turns in the read. It was a steady pace for the action and details were doled out in a timely manner. The narration is all from JJ's POV, which makes things limited when it comes to understanding other's thoughts and motivations. You don't know what the supporting characters think until they speak their thoughts. I think there is inconsistency in the way JJ views her relationship with the towns people and what happens. In both this book and the last the people seem to treat her more as a beloved orphan they need to look out for. With the exception of a few people, the townsfolk rally around her and are meddling in the ways of ones who love not hate. I am not sure how she gets the impression they do not like her, I get the exact opposite from comments and actions. I listened to the audiobook narrated by Laura Faye Smith, who is rapidly becoming a favorite. She does a great job of adding snark and sass to her tone that fits the characters. She does a brilliant job with the rapid fire narration and dialogue. I love a quick read and she delivers speed without losing any quality. Great voices that are distinct and consistent, very important when the dialogue ping pongs and you need to follow who is speaking. Overall, this is a really intriguing series. The characters and banter go a long way in making the read enjoyable. Even with the issues that come up in the story line, I can't stop listening! The flaws are so easy to overlook because the book is very charming and charismatic. I am

definitely addicted and need my next fix! Holy cliffhanger at the end of this one!! Way to drop a bomb!

I've been anticipating this second book in the JJ Graves mysteries and was thrilled to see an email letting me know it was available. Strangely enough, when I searched for it on , it doesn't come up in the search results for the author, but the link in the email brought me right here. I thought Liliana Hart did an exceptional job of building up the relationship between Jack and Jaye in the first installment, even though they weren't love interests, and totally kicked it up a notch in this book. The book definitely did not disappoint and I can only say that I will read any additional installments. The mystery was entertaining, with aspects that kept you wondering where it would go, while other aspects were fairly predictable. Through it all, though, she can write some truly heinous crimes but balance them with wit, humor, and even sensuality. Now there's an accomplishment. If you haven't read the first book, *Dirty Little Secrets (Romantic Mystery) Book 1 in the J.J. Graves Series*, then you really should to get the full dynamic of JJ's issues along with her relationship with Jack. It's been months after JJ almost lost her life to a deranged killer from the first book and she's finally coming back home to Bloody Mary, VA after running away from her life's troubles. Unfortunately, during her hiatus, she's found more trouble, but that aside, no sooner does she cross the border to her hometown when she finds a dead body tied to a tree. As the town's coroner and mortician, JJ gets involved in the investigation to catch the killer(s) and teams up with Jack, her life long best friend and the town sherriff. Jack is hurt that JJ ran away, but he knows JJ better than she knows herself, so this time around, the gloves are off and Jack pursues JJ personally as vehemently as he pursues the perpetrators of crime. The payoff is absolutely wonderful. There's no doubt this series works because of the dynamic between Jack and JJ. On their own, each one is intriguing, intelligent, and funny, but together they're explosive and I'm looking forward to how they team up in the future to take on challenges together. There were some side roads taken in the story line that did end up pulling together at the end to leave us on a cliffhanger. I'm not a fan of cliffhangers, but because it's new content entirely, I'm okay with it. There was a fair share of typos and grammatical errors, but I got over it and Jack's description changed from just over 6 ' in the first book to 6'5" in the second which is pretty significant. I'm not a writer myself, but I would imagine there's some sort of notebook to remind you of details you put into your series. Anyway, I digress... the one thing I still find surprising is the price of the books. It doesn't detract from my overall rating of the story, but I find \$4.99 for a self published book with typos and grammatical errors to be extremely high and I fear that this will prevent many readers from discovering this great series. The author recommends us

lending these books to other kindle readers, and I recommend lowering the price so they can try it themselves. It's how I discover plenty of great independent authors.

I had to start this book just as soon as I finished her first book. I can't wait for Book #3. I am thrilled to have found a new author that I just can't wait for their books to come out.

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