



## The Dead Won't Sleep

*Anna Smith*

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The body of a young teenage hooker is found washed up on a beach near Glasgow. This is Glasgow in the 1990s & she's just another dead heroin addict. But Tracey Eadie was only 14 years old & came from a children's home in Glasgow. One of Tracey's friends contacts Rosie Gilmour, a tabloid journalist, & she can't ignore the story.

## **The Dead Won't Sleep Details**

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Author : Anna Smith

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## From Reader Review The Dead Won't Sleep for online ebook

### Jo Barton says

This fast and furious crime novel has been compared to the novels of Martina Cole, and even offers to refund your money if you are disappointed with the contents.

Believe me - you won't be disappointed, nor will you want your money back. From the opening chapter the story draws you in, and the action keeps you turning the pages for more. I read the book in one sitting as I couldn't put it down...it's dark, gritty and totally believable.

As this is the first book in a proposed series of stories about news reporter Rosie Gilmour, I am sure I shall read more of this excellent series.

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### Pat says

Yay, I'm racing to the finish line here, my reviews are up to November now, almost up-to-date.

3.5 stars for this one. This book ended up quite gripping although it took a while to get there. Rosie Gilmour is a Glasgow journalist who is approached by a prostitute with information about the death of a 14 year old girl whose body was washed up six months after she died. The information opens up a whole can of worms about police corruption so Rosie needs to tread carefully and be able to back up her story. This prostitute also suggests that a local children's home is supplying children to a paedophile ring of highly placed men. Rosie's source is soon killed to stop her talking, raising the stakes considerably. Rosie works on both stories but is threatened and has her flat trashed. It's all getting very dangerous. Can she expose both the corrupt police and the high ranking paedophiles?

Just for once the love interest was perfect for the book and I enjoyed reading about it. Weird for me, I know, but it just worked. The characters were all very nicely portrayed, Rosie is gutsy, determined and in possession of a conscience. She is really likeable. I will certainly read the next book in the series.

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### Best Crime Books & More says

I keep getting told by FB followers that I MUST read Anna Smith and that her books are brilliant. Sadly, my to read list is stupidly long which means authors whose books I have on my Kindle, can sometimes sit there 'undiscovered' for months! Anna Smith is one such author. What an idiot I felt once I'd finished this book, her debut novel. As soon as I was finished, I immediately downloaded her second book, and have her third release firmly in the calendar (31st Jan 2013 for anybody interested!).

The synopsis sounded great before I had even started the book, but once I got going I was in for a treat. It's Glasgow in the 1990s and when the body of a young girl washes up on a beach, people don't pay much attention. It's just another dead junkie, except the media gets hold of the fact that the victim Tracey Eadie was just 14 years old and was meant to be in the safety of a children's home. The first few chapters had me hooked and from then on, things got put on the back burner (such as dinner!).

The main character in this book is the journalist Rosie Gilmour. Rosie is certainly not whiter than white, but comes across as a little bit vulnerable too. One of the things that struck me about this book is the language, and I don't mean swearing. My husband family are from Glasgow so I am very well adjusted to the way they talk and their accent. Anna Smith manages to get across the accent and the way in which the Glaswegians talk, which translates on paper (if that makes sense?!?). In my opinion it gives the writing a real edge and you get a real feel for the way they speak which I really loved.

The plot was what really kept me gripped, and the shocking part about it, is that it is 100% believable. It was gritty and particularly dark in places, covering subjects that won't be everybody's cup of tea but done with sheer brilliance. I am now obsessed with finding out what Rosie does in the future (yippee for book 2) and thought that she was such a solid character. All in this entire book had me totally and utterly enthralled from start to finish. It's already been recommended to all my friends and family, and now I'm recommending it to you lot too.

Don't put it off a moment longer and grab yourself a copy, you'll love it!

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### **Rachel Hall says**

3.5 stars

Author Anna Smith had a twenty-five year career as a journalist for the Daily Record, a Scottish tabloid newspaper based in Glasgow prior to becoming a novelist, so I expected plenty of grit and realism in her debut novel featuring intrepid reporter, Rosie Gilmour. The Dead Won't Sleep is set in 1998 when the body of a teenage prostitute is discovered washed up on the beach at Troon. Ordinarily given the late 1990's culture another druggie hooker wouldn't draw too much interest from the red tops, but when the girl in question is identified by dental records as fourteen-year-old Tracy Eadie, who came from a children's home in Glasgow, heads do turn. After six-months in the water there are no forensics to be uncovered and the options for investigation appear limited. Until, that is, an older girl who was friends with Tracy, heroin addict and prostitute Mags Gillick puts a call into Rosie and reveals that she wants justice for the friend whom she last saw leaving to accompany three big names within the Strathclyde Police Department for a weekend of sex and sailing aboard a boat off the coast of Ayrshire. Mags promised Tracy that nothing dodgy would happen, after all, they are known faces with connections and a lot to lose. However, something does go very wrong and an opening prologue reveals the men involved in Tracy's death, Head of CID, Chief Superintendent Gavin Fox, Chief Inspector Jack Prentice and Superintendent Bill Mackie. Having risen through the ranks together the men share a bond and a more private passion for turning a blind eye and taking backhanders from Glasgow's most feared gangster, 'Big Man', Jake Cox. Proving the matter of the trio's involvement though is a far harder task and calls for thirty-six-year old Rosie Gilmour, queen of the scoop.

When Tracy's body is discovered journalists choose to focus on the element of neglect within the social services system and the obvious failure to protect vulnerable youngsters. As jitters spread, teflon-coated Chief Superintendent Gavin Fox (Foxy) attempts to keep a steady hand on the Catholic guilt of Jack Prentice. Meanwhile Mags knows all the men involved and has a recorded voicemail from a desperate Tracy on her final night aboard the boat and is able to identify the men and consequently the top dogs waste no time in giving her a slap to keep quiet. When she lets on to another hooker just what Tracy was involved in a word from Foxy to the 'Big Man' sees Mags ending up dead with a slashed throat and the crucial voicemail message nowhere to be found. Gemma, the seven-year-old daughter of Mags is sent to Woodbanks, the

children's home that Tracy ran away from and when Rosie goes to visit she is alerted to a second and equally head rolling scandal. Given the cold-blooded murder of Mags, Rosie has to watch her back and with people watching her every move it is a dangerous hornets nest of an investigation to even begin to uncover.

The difference between other journalists and Rosie is her background, being no stranger to the tough life around the mean streets of Glasgow, having lost her own alcoholic mother at just nine-years old and winding up in a children's home. Rosie knows that life on the fringes of a city is tough for these teenage girls, trapped in a vicious circle of turning tricks and scoring, taking all the associated risks of the violent and abuse that is part of the scene. However, Rosie is willing to take her own risks and fundamentally cares about the people whose stories need telling. She is respected and admired and people gravitate towards her, seeing a straight up, no nonsense gutsy firebrand. Rosie can't trust all of her fellow reporters, knowing crime reporter Bill Reynolds is within the fold of the police and soon she is watching her back both in and out of the office, however her long established relationship with editor Mick McGuire is enough to give her all the belief she needs that she can expose the scandals. Rosie has had her own scrapes and experienced hurt in relationships by making the mistake of trusting too easily and as such self-preservation is her strategy with romance. Offering snippets into Rosie's childhood and her romantic liaisons, there was a great balance of plot momentum and personal revelations within the novel. There was plenty of banter contained within the pages of *The Dead Won't Sleep* but one minor criticism was that it centred more or less on sexual innuendo, and as the novel progressed this became a little tiresome and needed a good shot in the arm of old fashioned Glaswegian humour.

*The Dead Won't Sleep* was a slow starter for me, taking almost one-hundred-pages for tips to fall rather fortuitously into Rosie's lap and her to attain corroboration. Although I appreciated that Rosie had a well earned reputation for the big splash she did none of the running in uncovering the story initially and she appeared more reactive than proactive, probably by necessity of her occupation in the story. However once Rosie got into her stride she showed her mettle, fighting tooth and nail to tell an important story. *The Dead Won't Sleep* really picked up pace after the first quarter and kept me reading Rosie's exploits and as such I warmed to the character. Anna Smith managed to portray a vibrant city replete with natives who look on the bright side, but are not surprised by the dark underbelly of the city they call home. I would be very willing to read more of both Anna Smith and her feisty leading lady!

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### **Carol says**

I loved this book, quite a different perspective reading a crime novel from a journalists view, but it really worked, was gripping from start to finish and a great book. Started the next book in the series already and only a few chapters in, but can see it will be a great sequel. Glad this author was recommended to me.

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### **Bev Taylor says**

a decomposed body is washed up on the shores of a beach in glasgow. she is a 14 year old girl who went missing 6 months ago

a junkie and a prostitute already not much attention is paid, especially as she was living in a home. h/e journalist rosie receives a call from her friend telling her she knows what happens and agrees to meet

what she has to say would blow a hole in the police force and expose 3 top officers in web of corruption, prostitution and also murder. she has the bit between her teeth - especially when her informant is found with her throat slit and her daughter taken into care

add to this an exposure of child abuse by other top officials involving a titled judge plus the problems she has with coming to terms with her own past life

can she overcome all the legalities and big wigs to bring this all to light and make the perpetrators pay?

the author very skilfully brings to life glasgow's underbelly, which she obviously knows well

after a promising start i found a few holes. too convenient that the daughter contacted her regarding her father's suicide; also adrian turning up when he did - and with a gun. finally could not accept that rosie would let the second uncovering be buried without true justice. she could either have jacked it in and persuaded another paper to publish or just put it on the internet. her decision went against the character that i had built in my head

bev

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### **Emma says**

I really enjoyed this book, its one of those that makes you want to read on and on. Its the story of an investigative journalist, and corruption within high ranks. Its also about the seedier side of glasgow, a few good murders added. And some really heartwrenching things too, its one of those books where you cant wait for the next one from this Author. I have looked and Anna Smith has her next one coming out next February which i cant wait to get my hands on...

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### **Elaine says**

#### **5 Rosie Gilmour Your A Star**

When a young girl is found washed up at sea it starts to become apparent that there is a lot more about this girls death than the police are keen to admit.

**Rosie Gilmour** is good at her job, a journalist for a newspaper in she knows how to get a her story. **Mag's** is a friend of the dead girl, she comes to Rosie with some information, little does Rosie know what type a story she is going to break and the danger she is now under.

Whilst her investigation may still need more evidence to bring it to the front page, she then stumbles on something else far worse.

As she continues to delve further into these crimes she won't give up until the truth is revealed

There are so many characters I want to talk about.

Rosie underneath that professional exterior is a vulnerable young women struggling to have commit to a relationship.

When **TJ** comes back into her life again will she give everything up to start a new life in New York with him or will circumstances change the course of her life forever..

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**Excellent gritty story....**

**My Thoughts....**

My first book from **Anna Smith** and I thoroughly enjoyed this fast paced exciting story.

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**~ Cariad ~ says**

**LOVED!!**

...So much that I've just bought the entire Audible series!!

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**Durinda says**

Wow, okay this is the first book I've read by this author - Anna Smith. But will certainly not be the last. First of all I need to read the rest in the series.

This is not a new publication; however, the story line could be picked out of the headlines right now!! Page-turning thriller from page 1. Story line follows investigative journalism by a female reporter at a Glasgow newspaper. For a debut book, excellent writing, gripping all the way.

By the way, this book was dropped off in our mailbox by one of daughter's best friends while we were on vacation in the Caribbean in January, so this book is relatable to all ages, as our daughter and friends are all early 30s, and I'm in my 60s.

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**Linda says**

3.5 stars

Strong first book in a series set in Glasgow featuring investigative reporter Rosie Gilmour. The author herself is an award-winning journalist, giving her fictional character a credible base. The second book already is on my TBR list.

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## **Lisa says**

Yesssss! I have found another fave investigator to follow!

Rosie Gilmour is a journalist seeking to expose some corrupt individuals in Glasgow.

She is fab and the story is gritty, exciting and compelling...can't wait to listen to more of these (Scottish accent double yesssssss!)

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## **Cora Tea Party Princess says**

**5 Words: Brutal, shocking, corruption, murder, journalism.**

### **AUDIOBOOK**

This was a bit different for me. When it comes to crime it's usually police procedurals or private investigators, so to have the story coming from a journalist was a new experience from me. But I loved it.

This story was harsh and brutal and shocking.

I think if I'd read this it would have been a different experience altogether. Sarah Barron does a magnificent job of narrating the story, putting such life into the characters. There were even pints I laughed.

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## **Mo says**

Okay, okay, this one was good - very good indeed.

I have been to Glasgow once. To a concert. Didn't stay the night. Headed back to Edinburgh that night. It has a bit of reputation of being a rough town. And, perchance, the night we were there, some fucking wanker murdered a trainee Irish nurse and tried to dispose of her body in a quite horrifying way. So my preconceived notions about Glasgow are not that good

Son, who is studying in Edinburgh, visits there regularly for concerts, football, etc. He thinks it is a great city. What do I know? We are heading there in December for a concert so maybe my notion of Glasgow will change.

**Swallowing another mouthful of the gin and tonic, she also resolved to stop the booze for one month. Maybe next month.**

I know what you mean, Rosie.

**"What a fucking mess ... what a right fucking mess."**

Quite depressing this one was.

**"I can't dance like that ... I'll make an eejit of myself."**

**"Bollocks. I'll show you."**

Kinda similarities between the Scottish and the Irish expressions.

I will definitely read more from this author but maybe I need something light now.

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### **Sue G says**

This is Anna Smith's debut crime novel after a career as an award-winning crime reporter in Scotland, and she sticks to the subject she knows best.

The book is the first in a series featuring journalist Rosie Gilmour, and is set in Glasgow, somewhat oddly, in 1998. A 14 year-old prostitute has been taken on a boat by three high-ranking policemen when one of them discovers that she has died. In the hope that they can remain undiscovered they tip the girl's body overboard, but 6 months later her decomposing corpse is washed ashore.

Reporter Gilmour receives a tip-off that the death is connected to a number of senior policemen who already have a reputation for being corrupt. The story then follows her efforts to gather the evidence she needs so that the paper can go to print with her exclusive. But once there is a rumour that she has a lead on the story the culprits make every effort to stop her.

Coincidental to this she becomes involved in a second investigation that is also pretty unsavoury, and which makes for equally difficult reading.

The Glasgow we see through Gilmour's eyes is a seedy and dark one, where poverty, drugs and prostitution are rife. This background and the crimes themselves can make for grim reading. Smith manages to keep the tension high throughout, making for quite a page-turner.

Gilmour is a strong female character with some serious issues in her background. Another thread within the book concerns her personal relationships and her upbringing in the same deprived area of the city as she seeks some resolution.

Interestingly there are a number of small references to Gilmour's backstory, which made me feel as if I had perhaps missed an earlier book, but in fact this was actually a good way of making the character more realistic, rather than having just one huge introductory piece about her.

The cover suggests that the book is “As good as Martina Cole” but I’m not a huge fan of Cole and found this much more enjoyable. Whilst this is not an easy read Gilmour is a great leading character, despite her flaws, and I look forward to reading more about her when *To Tell the Truth* is published in 2012.

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