



Wolf

Mo Hayder

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When a vagrant—the Walking Man—finds a dog wandering alone with the words "HELP US" written on its collar, he's sure it's a desperate plea from someone in trouble and calls on Detective Inspector Jack Caffery to investigate. Caffery is reluctant to get involved—until the Walking Man promises new information regarding the childhood abduction of Caffery's brother in exchange for the detective's help tracking down the dog's owners. Caffery has no idea who or what he is searching for, but one thing he is sure of: it's a race against time.

Meanwhile, the Anchor-Ferrers, a wealthy local family, are fighting for their lives in their remote home ten miles away. Two men have tricked their way into the house and are holding the family for ransom. Yet as the captors' demands become increasingly bizarre and humiliating, it becomes clear that this is more than a random crime—it's a personal vendetta.

Wolf Details

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Author : Mo Hayder

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From Reader Review Wolf for online ebook

Miloš says

For a couple of moments, the plot was slow and boring, but the end... the end was good! :-)

Sam H Arnold says

Many people commented that Mo Hayder's last Jack Caffrey novel, Poppet was not as good as the rest. A fact that I denied continuously. Having just finished Wolf I was wrong. Wolf is a return to everything that is brilliant about Mo Hayder's, Jack Caffrey series and shows some of the others up.

The book is unique to others as this is not so much a police investigation as a private case for Jack Caffrey. None of the familiar characters appear except for Jack and the Walking Man are present. Initially I was disappointed that we would not see the continuation of the Jack and Flea relationship but as the book progresses it was so enthralling I forgot there were any characters missing at all.

The victims as always play a wonderful part in this book. I love the way Mo Hayder invites us to meet new characters in her villains and victims. Her depth of character development in this book are a credit to her and a defining factor in how good this book is.

If you have followed the series from the beginning, like I have, you will love this book. This book answers several questions that have been held over from previous novel and from the beginning of the Jack Caffrey series. I simply brilliant read.

Liz Barnsley says

Publication Date: April 24th 2014

When a vagrant—the Walking Man—finds a dog wandering alone with the words "HELP US" written on its collar, he's sure it's a desperate plea from someone in trouble and calls on Detective Inspector Jack Caffery to investigate. Caffery is reluctant to get involved—until the Walking Man promises new information regarding the childhood abduction of Caffery's brother in exchange for the detective's help tracking down the dog's owners. Caffery has no idea who or what he is searching for, but one thing he is sure of: it's a race against time.

Is it really Book 7 of the Jack Caffery series already? Yep it would seem so and the first thing I want to say about this one is - for me it was the best one yet. Part of the "Walking Man" series within the series, as always it featured compelling characters, a dark and violent mystery and some truly shivery moments.

Somewhere a family is in trouble. We know this, we also know that its possible their one hope is Jack Caffery, a man who does not know they exist. With her usual trademark build up of tension, Mo Hayder takes us on a twisted journey towards an unknown outcome.

The first part of this novel totally freaked me out. I mean REALLY. Dark dreams, not wanting to be alone in the house, jumping at every sound - freaked out. And to be honest even as things became clearer and the story took shape that feeling never really went away. Sublimely creepy throughout, perfectly constructed to keep you on edge, this was one of those tales that will wake you up in a cold sweat weeks later and wondering what the heck you were dreaming about. Yep. One of them.

I love the writing style of this author, it flows off the page and into your psyche without missing a step - and Jack Caffery, as always, is right at the heart of it, developing more with every novel, coming into focus and living with you for the entirety of the reading experience.

One negative for this reader - Flea. Where was she? But to be fair, those of you who follow this series will understand her absence - Jack had to take this portion of his journey alone. And I gulped at the ending.

Brilliant brilliant writing. Inventive, fascinating and disturbing as ever, Mo Hayder is right at the top of the game when it comes to terrific Crime and Psychological thrillers. Wherever Jack goes next I'm heading there with him...

Happy Reading Folks!

Wilma says

Saaaaaaaaaaaaai...door de snel wisselende hoofdstukken van hooguit 1 á 2 bladzijden waarin afwisselend dader, slachtoffer en rechercheur een rol spelen werd ik niet meegezogen in het verhaal. Af en toe las ik een paar bladzijden en kon het boek makkelijk wegleggen...te weinig spanning?
Prachtige cover!!

Rob says

Ballsy. That's the best word I can think of to describe Mo Hayder's work on her sixth Jack Caffery novel. It's ballsy for two reasons: 1) Caffery, the London detective who always takes center stage in these novels, is more or less a supporting character in this one, spending much of his time searching for the owner of a lost dog with a mysterious plea for help in its collar, and 2) it's now clear that what Hayder's doing isn't giving us a detective series as much as she's telling an epic-length story of a man consumed by his past. *Birdman*, Hayder's first Caffery book, stands on its own, but books 2-6 essentially tell one extended narrative. An extended narrative that comes to a none more black resolution at the end of this volume.

About that supporting character business. Most of the action takes place at an old mansion in rural England. A family is being held captive by two men who promise much torture and murder in the family's future. At one point, however, the mother is able to sneak the family dog out of the house with a note in its collar reading, "Help us." Caffery – through circumstances I won't spoil here – is tasked with finding the dog's owner. And that's what he does for much of the book: travel through the villages outside Bristol trying to piece together who this dog belongs to. The catch, of course, is that he doesn't know what we do: the clock is ticking, and ticking fast.

And that's all I'll relay here. *Wolf* is the work of someone who's pushing the boundaries of what detective

fiction can do. Rather than be content to give us just another murder-of-the-week, Mo Hayder is going deeper and darker by using the crime genre to explore the nature of obsession and the danger of dwelling too much in the past.

F.R. says

Obviously it doesn't take much brain power to realise that if you are going to dip your toes into a series of books about Detective Inspector Jack Caffrey, number seven isn't actually the best place to start. Oh well, it was the one the library had and so here we are. Mo Hayder though is good at what I call 'The Bertie Wooster Conundrum', namely passing across the relevant information so newbies are brought up to speed, whilst not alienating the old faithfuls. But even though I got a reasonable secure hand-hold on the over-arching plot, I actually thought the Jack Caffrey sections were the least successful parts of 'Wolf'. What we have here is a really terrifying home invasion story, brutal and visceral, a nightmare made real. It's a family locked together in an isolated home, with no possible lines of communication to the outside world and two men who plan to introduce them to new concepts of hell. And then elsewhere we have the Jack Caffrey segments, which can basically be summed up as 'sad man wanders about with lost dog'. Of course Jack Caffrey will eventually be the policeman who knocks this family's front door, but try as she might Hayder cannot create an equivalence between the sections. So the more gripping and terrifying half just finds itself dragged back by its plodding sibling. Without a doubt if Hayder had written this as a stand-alone novel and focussed solely on the home invasion, we'd have a genuinely horrifying and unremitting chiller that would haunt its readers for years after. Instead we have a baggy work which is only ever fifty percent successful.

Raven says

The queen of nail-shredding tension returns with *Wolf*, the seventh novel to feature DI Jack Caffery and the fifth in the *Walking Man* series. We have a convoluted plot that uses as its backdrop the visceral – in all senses of the word – murder of two teenagers 14 years previously, where a killer was brought to justice. Cut to a wealthy family in the present day, living in the vicinity of said murder, held hostage and terrorised by two intruders, but able to send an SOS message out secreted in their dog's collar.

The dog is found by the *Walking Man* – a traveling man searching for the remains of his murdered daughter – who contacts Jack Caffery. The two men are linked by the disappearance of Jack's brother years ago, and the *Walking Man* is a motif in the series bringing new information now and again. As a pay off for further information Caffery agrees to track down the dog's owners, and solve the mystery of the ominous message that simply says, 'Help us.' Caffery has no idea who or what he is searching for, but is certain that it is a race against time.

We all know what to expect from Edgar award-winning Mo Hayder in terms of violence, brutality and graphic death, and *Wolf* will not disappoint. Not only is there an inordinate amount of tension throughout, but you can rest assured that if someone is to be tortured or murdered, the author will always pay the greatest attention to shock value, including the most artistic use of intestines you will surely encounter. The majority of the book is played out with Oliver and Matilda Anchor-Ferrers' incarceration in their own home, and their emotionally damaged daughter Lucia. They're held by for by two unknown individuals who are in no way, shape, or form who they appear to be.

Not wanting to reveal any more about the plot than necessary, all I can say is that Oliver Anchor-Ferrers has been involved in a top secret arms project involving a missile called the Wolf, and that Lucia had a personal attachment to one of the teenagers murdered so brutally all those years ago. That's all you're getting, because with the gasp-inducing and clever twists, turns and reveals of the plot, I will not spoil the fun! The sheer claustrophobia and terror aroused in the lives of this family by this intrusion is devilishly well played out, and enough to send a chill down the spine of even the most hardened of crime readers. I particularly enjoyed the knowing nature of an account of the hostage situation written in secret by Oliver to a detective of his own imagination. You'll see why, and how, but when you think you have it all sussed, prepare to be wrong-footed. Possibly more than once.

DI Jack Caffery is once again the maudlin, self-doubting and emotionally intense character we know so well. He's still on the hunt for clues relating to his brother's disappearance, still totally incapable of connecting with women except in a brief physical way, and yet still mooning about his unresolved feelings for 'Flea' Marley. If you were getting slightly weary of the whole Jack/Flea storyline, never fear, she's not in this one, but still in Jack's thoughts. However, the heightened interaction between Caffery and series stalwart, The Walking Man, added an enjoyable distraction to the lack of Flea, and the intensity of the overall plot.

With sublime pacing and plotting once again from Hayder, there is little to disappoint here. I can safely say that Wolf will keep you reading until the wee small hours. If you're brave enough...

Karin Slaughter says

Oh, how much I love Mo Hayder! I think that the Treatment and Devil in Nanking (also called Tokyo) are two of my favorite books of all time. I love everything she writes, but some I love more than others. Wolf catches us up with Jack, and the interesting thing is that he's very changed from the guy we first met all those years ago. As an author, it's really difficult to slowly let a character grow up, and I think Mo has done that beautifully. Oh, and also there's some good murder and stuff in this one. And a nasty twist, which is the sort of thing you expect from Mo.

I think I need to make sure I added her other books to my list.

Diane S ? says

Hayder takes your worst nightmares, translates them into words and sets them down on a page. Grisly, gritty and oh so dark, but her character Inspector Caffery is a character that I am drawn to. He is haunted by his brother's death when they were young, convinced he was taken by the pedophile that lived very close to them, and he has never stopped looking for his body or information on what happened to him. The walking man is another great character, with a difficult sorrow of his own.

The case in this book will find Caffrey solving a horrible crime on his own, with a side deal made with the Walking man. The case itself, has many twists and turns, revelations that shock, and a resolution as horrible as the crime itself. In other words, this is Hayder true to form, doing what she does best. Giving human faces to our deepest fears.

Clumsy Storyteller says

Minnet kable, Minnet with the emphasis on the first syllable. Usually the name is never spoken aloud in this household.

The one who must not be named? :O

Minnet is a white,british and the Anchor-ferrers have no idea how he came to be given shch a name. There is nothing in any of the legal transcripts to suggest his heritage.

Kable was insane, convicted over and over for a string of offences- arson, Sexual assault, car theft. No one knows what made him cross the line and turn to killing that summer night, or why he targeted Hugo Frink and his new girlfriend, Sophie Hurst-Lloyd. It happened about a mile away from the turrets, in a section of wood at the far end of the valley. Now it is used by youngsters to ride BMX bicycles. Back then it was just a piece of unchartered woodland called "the donkey pitch" because someone had once, years ago, kept donkeys there. The land was adjacent to Hugo's grandparents' property, but too far for anyone to hear the teenagers screaming. Kable's final signature was to remove the intestines of both teenagers. He twisted them together and used them to decorate the trees above the corpses in the shape of a heart. Which is exactly what has been replicated today, in the woods next to The Turrets.

The first 120 pages scared the crap out of me, like seriously! i had nightmares i became paranoid, i would wake up at 3 AM and check the front door's locks and windows, yup that kind of stuff. not everything worked in this book for me there were these Jack flashbacks or POV i don't know and i was like i get that this is a series about the detective (who in my opinion isn't so bright) but why are they in here? i get why they are in here, i get what point they ended up surving but they were boring as hell and wasn't just organically mixed. So the author was like 'i'm gonna tell this story and in between chapters i'm gonna interject some Jack Caffery Issues' just urgh. plus the book is a slow burn it takes a lot of pages for something to happen but it still good not the best thriller i have ever read but also not the worst. the Anchor-ferrers's is SO GOOD!! Jack Caffery's POV Meh.

Brenda says

I really enjoyed this book! Mo Hayder tangles things up so well! Then she slowly untangles and builds the suspense. What she's really good at is not just turning the tables, but really spinning the tables. I kept wondering what the heck was happening, who was really who, and how different scenarios might be in play. Then Jack Caffery, made more human in this book because of a dog, keeps digging and searching until all is revealed.

Now I'm up to date with this series!

Dimitris Passas says

Η Mo Hayder είναι μια ιδιαίτερη περίπτωση συγγραφέως αστυνομικής λογοτεχνίας. Έχει πει μια πρότη γέση του έργου της από την κινηματογραφική μεταφορά του "The Treatment" και από το γεγονός ότι ο πυρήνας της υπόθεσης ήταν η παιδοφιλία, με είχε εντυπωσιάσει η ατμόσφαιρα και η πλοκή του. Το "Wolf" είναι το τελευταίο βιβλίο της σειράς με πρώτα τον Jack Caffery και σε αυτό μαθαίνει επιτέλους την φρικτή αλήθεια για την τρέχη του αδερφού του, ο οποίος είχε απαχθεί ως παιδί από έναν σεσημασμένο παιδοφιλό, τον βασικό ανταγωνιστή του Caffery καθ' όλη τη διάρκεια ολόκληρης της σειράς. Πρώτα από αυτό, η ιστορία του βιβλίου αφορά μια κατάσταση ομηρέας μιας οικογένειας από 2 κατοίκους των οποίων τα κτήρια αποκαλύπτονται σιγά σιγά και στο τέλος μέσω ενός επιτυχημένου plot twist ανατρέπονται όλα που νομίζε ο αναγνώστης ότι είχε καταλάβει. Τα παιχνίδια σαδισμού και ταπεινώσης στα οποία υποβάλλεται η οικογένεια, θυμίζουν την ταινία "Funny Games" σε ακμάσκηρη έκδοχή και οι υποψήφιοι αναγνώστες θα πρέπει να ξέρουν ότι το συγκεκριμένο βιβλίο δεν συντάσσεται σε όρους είναι εύασθητοι στην απεικόνιση ακραίας βίας, είτε φυσικής είτε ψυχολογικής. Ποιος νομίζει ότι αντ'χει, οφείλει να δώσει τουλάχιστον μια ευκαιρία στην Mo Hayder και μπορεί να είναι σγούρος ότι δεν θα το μετανιώσει.

Καλή ανγνώση!

Janet says

I've done it!! I've gotten to the latest instalment of the Caffery series and sadly I'm a little disappointed with this one.

I'm not going to go too much into the storyline. A mature couple and their daughter are taking a break in their countryside residence in Somerset because the father, Oliver, is recovering from heart surgery. A good place to recuperate and all that. An unease starts building when some innards of what appears to be animal are found by the mother, Matilda, in the garden. This finding brings back memories of a deeply shocking and violent murder that had taken place in the woods nearby 15 years previously. A murder of two teenagers that had left people in the vicinity stunned by its viciousness. Cut to two men posing as police officers paying an apparently routine visit to the Anchor-Ferrers who turn out to be kidnappers wishing to torment and scare the family into a form of submission. But submission of what is what the family can't work out. And it's at this point that the book loses it for me a little because the resolution becomes apparent quite quickly, I'm not saying that everyone would see it but I did.

The Walking Man makes a return and he's the one that asks Caffery to help him as the Walking Man comes across the family dog that Matilda has set free with a note hidden under the dog's collar asking for help. What continues is a sometimes really thrilling sometimes quite tedious story. The whole Wolf scenario I didn't take to and found it all a little far fetched but the kidnapping interwoven with the history of before is what drew me in and kept wanting to read more and more. It's written well in the usual Hayder style of teasing and shocking but I found some of the plotline stretching the realms of plausibility. What I was happy to see, however, is Caffery at last laying some ghosts to rest. Again, the ethereal, mystical sage that is the Walking Man can finally give Caffery some answers to age old questions, not that he ever makes things easy for Caffery. I'm not convinced by the Walking Man, how is it he seems to know EVERYTHING?! It's a minor quibble and a forgivable one because I do like him but I feel like I don't know enough about him

maybe that's the point?!

So, to sum up, there were parts I really liked and some parts I didn't but as a whole not a bad read at all. Just not as good as some of the others. Whenever there is another Caffrey novel, I'll be there ready.

Much appreciation goes to the author, publisher and NetGalley for the ARC.

Jay Harris says

Mo Hayder is an incredible talent, with her latest 'Wolf', the seventh in the Jack Caffrey series, she proves this. Not only do you devour her words, but she has the ability to make you feel them.

With each page turned, a sense of unease grows, leaving you feeling that you are an onlooker, watching the story unfold, unable to help. When the story ends, you desperately wish it hadn't.

If you have never read a Mo Hayder book, do so, now! 'Wolf' is terrifying, provoking and utterly brilliant. Like a Wolf, this book has teeth, they are bared and sharp..

This 'Wolf' has bite!

Dannii Elle says

I am so sad that my relationship with Hayder has come to an end! I have spent the last few months binge reading all her writing and now I don't know what to do with my life!

This is the final installment in the Jack Caffrey crime series and, while not full of happy-ever-afters and fully explained summaries, I feel like the series drew to an acceptable close here. Hayder never gives her readers all the answers and I did not expect her to do so here but I feel like I received the closure I needed from the series and shall look back on my journey with Caffrey fondly. This book had its own crime story that took primary focus, but aspects from all previous novels made an appearance, which made me feel like I was saying goodbye to the story once and for all.

This book, for me, was probably her least sickening but most thrilling read and had one of the most shocking and unanticipated twists to the ending that had me gaping at it until long after I had turned the last page.

I can not recommend this series, and Hayder's writing in general, enough. She is not only a first-class crime story generator but a beautiful writer that ensnares my attention in every single thing she has ever written.
