



The Psalmist: A Bowers and Hunter Mystery

James Lilliefors

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Luke Bowers is in the good and evil business.

On a cold, late-winter morning in the Chesapeake Bay community of Tidewater County, Bowers discovers a dead woman seated in a pew at the church where he is pastor—her eyes open, her hands clasped as if in prayer.

Nothing at the scene identifies the woman or explains why she was at the church. And when state police homicide investigator Amy Hunter comes to town to head up the case, not everyone is pleased that a young, female outsider has the job. The only lead in solving the crime is a sequence of numbers that has been carved into the victim's right hand, which Bowers suspects may be a reference to the Book of Psalms.

With Bowers's help, Hunter follows a chain of seemingly innocuous clues to track down a deranged serial killer and unravel an elusive criminal enterprise that is more powerful than they ever could have imagined.

The Psalmist: A Bowers and Hunter Mystery Details

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Author : James Lilliefors

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From Reader Review The Psalmist: A Bowers and Hunter Mystery for online ebook

Glenda says

Great story

Intriguing story. Great character development. A good read overall. Bowers and Hunter work well together to resolve the case. Sneakers and Win s ton bring comfort to their humans.

marcy says

Couldn't stop reading this book!

A strong suspense thriller, complex but intriguing, just the right blend of mystery, emotion and character involvement.

Where is the sequel. What happens next? I need to read more!

Get this book....you won't be sorry.

Wanda Gossett says

Attention to details.

I did not want to put this book down. I did not like the way it ended. I am sure there is a sequel and if so I want to read it. It offers mystery, chills and plain old detective work with just a hint of religion. Good reading.

Patricia Miller says

Good read with twists and turns that keep you guessing.

Was not the ending I was expecting. But still worth you're reading. Will probably read more Bowers and Hunter books.

Ruth Hill says

This is probably one of the most unusualmystery books I have read in quite some time. To be certain, I could have done without the superfluous profanity, but I can overlook this for the purposes of this review. I am happy to report that there are no bedroom nor intimate scenes--always a bonus. Though some of the descriptions might be a bit much for unduly sensitive readers, they were never gory nor excessively violent.

Although the author chooses to take the realist view of mysteries like this and leave the case open and partially unresolved, I was not bothered. Typically, I prefer for all the "bad guys" to come to justice. I feel certain that in time, everyone involved will receive their just rewards (and punishments).

For me, the most intriguing portion of this story was the Psalms tie-in to the murder investigations. The inclusion of the pastor and his insights made the mystery quite interesting for me. Media fascination with serial killers makes me realize that this case is not out of the scope of reality. At times, the Biblical correlations were rather eerie and chilling.

Unfortunately, most mysteries written along these lines rarely have any comedic relief. They are typically filled with darkness and evil. This book accomplishes the amazing feat of including the dramatic elements as well as some cleverly-written comedy between the characters--I truly loved that!

For the true mystery fan that is not bothered by profanity, this book is a perfect fit. I would enjoy reading more from this author, and I can certainly recommend his work.

I was sent a copy of this book in exchange for my honest review. I was not financially compensated, and all opinions are 100 percent mine.

anna Valenzuela Goldthwaite says

Wisely Thought out and written

The writer nailed it . The book has character, keeps you thinking about how a person can manipulate the truth. And all the right moves are being played, like a game of chess only the pieces on this board are deadly. 16+

Joy says

Luke and Amy are very different but they work together so well. These two are the most enjoyable characters! Pastor Luke finds a dead body in his church and the state investigator assigned to the case is Amy Hunter. The local law enforcement are not happy the investigator is a woman and they do give Amy a hard time. Luke is helpful and together they unearth something really BIG!

A great mystery with the right amount of suspense, written well, fast paced. This is an author I'm going to keep reading!

I received an ecopy of this book free from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Karen Gielen says

To understand the ending you need to crack open your Bible. Not sure why this was lost on some people. The entire plot was based off of verses referenced in Psalms. Go do it, read what it says, that's your ending.

Storm Reads says

The Psalmist is the first book in the Bower and Hunter series. It's about a pastor Luke Bowers who helps homicide detective Amy Hunter figure out what some numbers means a dead body that the pastor finds in his church.

He matches up the numbers on her with a book of Psalms and it relates to how the person was killed. With this new information they make some startling discovers to some past cases that were unsolved and have similar numbers referencing other scriptures in Psalms.

Now not everyone is happy to have this young detective who is an outsider come into their town and take over things. Especially the sheriff, so she doesn't get a lot of good local help so it's a good thing she has pastor Luke Bowers to help her figure out things. The trail leads to a deranged serial killer who is killing for a criminal mastermind.

They thought they had figured out who was behind things but things just don't add up and then some things goes a little haywire and don't go as they had hoped.

I am a little scatchy on the details because I listened to this one during the 24 hr read-a-thon and I should have put down some ideas because if I don't right a review right away I forget things. :(

I do know that it was a good mystery crime novel and I am curious to see how the next book will play out as I really liked Luke and Amy.

Luke Bowers is a pastor who is married and seems truly devoted to his wife and their dog. He gets wrapped up in these murders because he finds the body in his church. I don't think his wife much likes him working with the younger female detective whom she calls Nancy Drew. Amy is a state police homicide detective and she doesn't make many friends from the local police as they don't seem to like outsiders. She is single, which could be one reason the pastors wife doesn't like her, but she is hard working and very determined to see the case through to the end.

Speaking of the end, it was left a little open but it gives you a clue to look for yourself if you check out Psalms and look what Amy figures out at the end.

Bernadette Williamson says

Good start

Really liked the main characters. Story kept my attention and the ending paved the way for the next book in the series. I do have to say that I wish the ending was more definitive, since it may be quite awhile before I get to the second installment. Otherwise, enjoyable.

Jenny Knippa says

Mr. Lilliefors wove a beautiful setting, realistic dialogue and intriguing characters into a wonderful mystery. The team of Hunter and Bowers is unconventional in the genre given they don't get imbroiled romantically which was refreshing. "The Psalmist" was a page turner for me, I was enthralled from the beginning with nearly every aspect of the work. So why a 4 star rating you ask... chapter division. Chopping scenes (especially containing continuous dialogue) in the middle and then shifting to new characters in another local in the middle but not changing chapters is a big pet - peeve of mine. Overall I would recommend "The Psalmist" to anyone who likes a good crime drama and those who would but don't like the sometimes gross details and over-wrought violence.

Leigh Podgorski says

Weak with No Ending

If this the introduction to a series, I would caution you to skip the entire series. Unfortunately, I have to agree with many previous reviewers, I found the book to be tedious, dull, and worst of all to have no ending. What? What a rotten subterfuge to pull on your readers! Plus this detective does no detecting! She complains a lot and reiterates and speaks to a very dull Pastor who seems to have come to be a Pastor by a throw at a dart board. The characters are two dimensional and lifeless save for the four-legged one. Really not worth the effort to plow through- especially when you are not even rewarded for your effort with a satisfactory end to the most basic answer to the most basic question...do they get the bad guy? Skip it.

Ila says

I read a LOT of books, at least 8 a week. Mysteries are my favorite and its rare for me to leave a review. There aren't many that I read that intrigue me, make me care about what's happening, pull me in and really keep me guessing until the very last sentence. This book did all that and even more. I didn't go right through it just to be entertained and to be occupied, I read it carefully, I took my time and I did not want it to ever end.

I have not read a book by Mr. Lilliefors before but I will certainly read more by him. I found the Pastor's wife, Charlotte very entertaining and Sneakers (her dog) added greatly to the book as well.

The main characters, Luke Bowers (the Pastor) and Amy Hunter, State Police Homicide Detective were great and worked well together though to me Amy seems less talented at her job, less sure about what's going on than Luke does.

I wondered in quite a few instances if she would have been able to solve as much as she did without him or other males in the book. I myself was a Police Officer and its necessary to be sure about what you're doing. I'm not sure what purpose it serves to have Amy so weak and unsure? However it was a minor distraction from the enjoyment of the book for me, and I can't recommend this book highly enough for anyone who enjoys a book containing a true mystery, a great puzzle and with exceptionally well written characters in it.

Sharon DeVault says

A little slow-moving, but very intriguing!

Peggy says

I enjoyed the book until the last page and then I just was left with a huh? Also, the reference to something that happened to the detective in the past were too obtuse.
