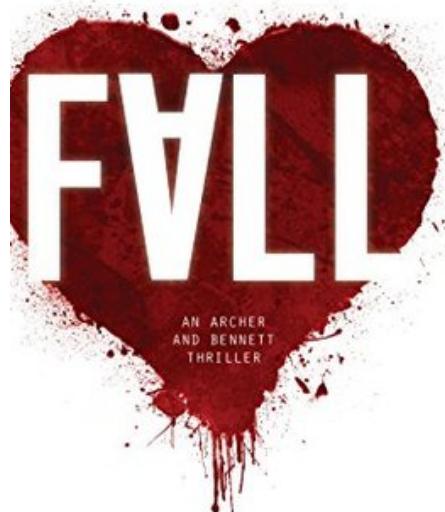


"SIGN ME UP AS A BIG-TIME FOX FAN!"
—LEE CHILD

Two-time Winner of the Ned Kelly Award
Co-author with James Patterson of *Never Never*

CANDICE FOX



Fall

Candice Fox

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Fall

Candice Fox

Fall Candice Fox

A chilling, exhilarating new thriller from the award-winning Candice Fox, described by the Sydney Morning Herald as 'an important new voice in crime fiction'. 'I'm sure every day Eden looked in the mirror and wondered if she should kill me...'

If Detective Frank Bennett tries hard enough, he can sometimes forget that Eden Archer, his partner in the Homicide Department, is also a moonlighting serial killer . . .

Thankfully their latest case is proving a good distraction. Someone is angry at Sydney's beautiful people - and the results are anything but pretty. On the rain-soaked running tracks of Sydney's parks, a predator is lurking, and it's not long before night-time jogs become a race to stay alive.

While Frank and Eden chase shadows, a different kind of danger grows closer to home. Frank's new girlfriend Imogen Stone is fascinated by cold cases, and her latest project – the disappearance of the two Tanner children more than twenty years ago – is leading her straight to Eden's door.

And, as Frank knows all too well, asking too many questions about Eden Archer can get you buried as deep as her past . . .

Fall Details

Date : Published August 29th 2017 by Pinnacle (first published December 1st 2015)

ISBN :

Author : Candice Fox

Format : Kindle Edition 352 pages

Genre : Mystery, Crime, Thriller, Fiction

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From Reader Review Fall for online ebook

Marianne says

Fall is the third book in the Archer and Bennett series by Australian author, Candice Fox. As Eden Archer satisfies her bloodlust on night forays without her brother, her police partner, Frank Bennett seems to have caught the nesting instinct: he has a steady girlfriend in police psychologist, Imogen Stone, and a wreck of a house to renovate. But Imogen is not all she seems. Her focus on Eden could have dangerous results.

Meanwhile, young, fit, agile female runners are dying: Sydney's parks suddenly seem to be the hunting ground of a brutal predator that the press names the Sydney Parks Strangler. Frank and Eden are making little progress, although young police consultant, Amy Hooker offers some useful contributions. Their task is not made easier when lifestyle coach and women's spokesperson, Caroline Eckhart organises a Take Back the Parks night run which attracts thousands of participants.

Once again, Fox has produced a page-turner with plenty of twists, some of which will leave the reader gasping. Her characters are multi-faceted, and she touches on topical and age-old themes: the emphasis on appearance; animal cruelty; internet paedophiles; missing persons. The final events of this page-turner will have readers wondering if there is more to come from Fox about this unusual duo. A riveting read.

Pat says

4.5 stars - that was excellent.

This was the best book in the series of three. I'm sorry to get to the end of this series as it has been most entertaining and deliciously different, although I'm not sure the door has been completely closed on another sequel.

Eden and Frank are investigating a series of murders of women joggers in Sydney parks. We learn who the murderer is pretty early on but this does not detract as we are slowly fed their backstory. There are also side plots where some of the real interest lies. Eden's nature is not glossed over in this book. She is a stone cold predator and will do anything to protect her real name and her unusual lifestyle. When Frank's girlfriend, Imogen, gets too close to the truth anything could happen. This book is quite dark. It is peopled with predators and even Imogen is not what she seems. Is Frank even safe?

This was a good series which ended on a nice high note (as in bravo Ms Fox). That's not to say it was a nice, neat, happy ending. There are dark days ahead for the survivors of this little tale. If we're lucky we might get another book. HINT, HINT Ms Fox.

Judy Collins says

Another winner by Fox! *Review to follow.*

??Jülie ? says

This is the third book by Candice Fox in this Archer and Bennett series, and once again she delivers.

Action packed right from the start, you are not left waiting for things to start happening as homicide detectives Frank Bennett and Eden Archer are called upon to investigate the discovery of a body in a popular Sydney park.

It soon becomes apparent that they may be looking for someone with a grudge against female joggers, and one particular celebrity within the jogging community is thwarting investigations by orchestrating a frenzy of fear mongering through the media.

Meanwhile we get an intriguing glimpse into the private lives of our lead characters and the things that drive them making for compelling reading.

Candice Fox has proven herself to be a formidable contender for a place among the best of Crime/Mystery and Thriller writers with her penchant for delving into the dark side and shining a vivid light onto the dark traits of her characters.

She doesn't shy away from the macabre or grotesque, yet even this somehow manages to make it all the more intriguing to the reader.

Her talent for keeping several storylines flowing nicely between chapters is also laudable, and this in turn makes for easy continuity between books.

As with the first two books, this one is also set in and around Sydney (Australia).

In the last book, Eden, I made mention of what was for me, a niggling point about the character of Frank being somewhat of the stereotype "alcoholic cop with issues" which I felt gave his senior position as a homicide detective a lack of credibility.

In Fall, I am happy to say that, although he still struggles, he appears to be coming to terms with his issues and may soon find his mojo.

This book introduces some new characters and prospective lifestyle changes for others which keeps it interesting and current.

I anticipate and look forward to some dramatic changes in the next book.

4★s

Many thanks to NetGalley and the publishers for my copy to read and review.

Cristine Paquette says

Yet another incredible murder mystery from Candice Fox, I think this might be my favorite of them all so far! Candice Fox has quickly become one of my favorite crime authors!

Carolyn says

Fall is the thrilling third instalment in the continuing story of Detective Eden Archer and her adoptive parent Hades Archer. In this episode, the focus is very much on Eden who is recovering from grave injuries that almost killed her in her last undercover investigation. When a jogger is found murdered with her face savagely attacked Eden and her partner Frank Bennett must try to find a merciless killer who likes to hunt down their prey. Frank suspects that Eden also likes to hunt and kill people who escape criminal justice in her spare time, but is wary of confronting her as she is careful not to let anyone get too close to her. Eden is also feeling threatened as she feels that someone is looking into her past.

Eden is as complex and vulnerable a character as you could wish for as a Detective. Frank himself is still recovering from the death of his girlfriend and his own near brush with death but is has a new girlfriend, Imogen his previous psychologist, who likes to play at being an amateur sleuth solving cold cases. Amy Hooke (Hooky), a 17 year old computer whiz who saw her family murdered is an interesting new character working part time for the police trapping pedophiles through internet chat rooms. When she becomes interested in Frank and Eden's investigation Frank takes her under his wing and Eden senses something of herself in the younger girl. In a parallel stream of the story we are also introduced to Tara Harper, daughter of the mother from Hell, Joanie Harper a rich socialite who has tortured and bullied her daughter in her attempt to make her thin and beautiful, something she will never be no matter how hard she tries.

I felt this book was paced very well with the tension building slowly as Eden and Frank work to prevent more joggers dying, Imogen investigates a cold case involving two missing children and Hooky gets tangled up in her own investigations. Hades is more in the background in this novel, slowly going into retirement, but still sitting atop his rubbish tip keeping an eye on Eden. Fox writes such wonderful, complex but damaged characters that this sends the plot in some unexpected directions and delivering some surprises right up to the last page. In sum, another excellent instalment of the Archer/Bennett series that fans of Candice Fox will really enjoy.

With thanks to Netgalley and Random House Australia for an ecopy of this book to read and review

Anne says

Großartiges Finale!

Auf den dritten Band der Trilogie habe ich sehnsüchtig gewartet. Nach allem, was auf der Farm und dort mit Eden passiert ist, konnte ich es kaum erwarten zu lesen, wie es weiter geht und auch was Imogene herausfindet und wie Eden reagieren wird...und Frank.

Die Story geht schon geheimnisvoll und spannend los, so dass man gleich wieder umgehend in Edens, Hades' und Franks Welt gezogen wird. Ein Mörder treibt sich des nachts in Parks herum, greift Joggerinnen an und tötet sie brutal, wobei er ihre Gesichter bis zur Unkenntlichkeit verstümmelt. Frank und Eden, und ihre kleine "Assistentin" Hooky, haben einiges zu tun, um den Mörder rechtzeitig dingfest zu machen, was ihnen aber nicht allzu leicht gemacht wird. Hinzu kommt noch, dass Imogene Eden und ihrer Vergangenheit auf der Spur ist, aber Eden noch nicht wirklich wieder in Topform ist, so dass Frank ein ums andere Mal durch ihre Mauern blicken kann. Kann Eden ihr Geheimnis bewahren? Wird sie Frank endlich alles erzählen? Und können sie den Mörder rechtzeitig aufhalten?

Ich konnte das Buch kaum aus der Hand legen, was nicht nur am grandiosen Schreibstil lag sondern auch an

der gut aufgebauten und umgesetzten Story. Man hat seine Vermutungen, wer der Täter ist und bekommt auch immer wieder mal eine Bestätigung, aber es wird trotzdem nicht langweilig bis es endlich zum finalen Akt des Mörders kommt. Gelegentlich wirkten einige Szenen etwas in die Länge gezogen, da mir aber die Protagonisten allesamt (bis auf Imogene) sympathisch sind, störte es mich nicht allzu sehr. Man merkt hier, dass Eden noch deutlich angeschlagen ist, aber sich auch wieder in die alte Form zwingt und kämpft. Das Ende hat mich sehr überrascht, aber auch zum lächeln gebracht. Eden ist einfach ein dunkler Engel, den man doch irgendwie mögen muss. Frank ist das totale Gegenteil, passt dadurch aber auch perfekt zu Eden, so dass sie ein eingespieltes und klasse Team ergeben. Ihre Geplänkel und Unterhaltungen lese ich immer wieder gern. Franks Passagen haben mir mit seiner sarkastischen Art auch immer mit am Besten gefallen. Alles in allem rundet "Fall" die Trilogie perfekt ab, auch wenn einiges am Ende noch offen gelassen wird, was ein wenig auf ein Wiedersehen hoffen lässt. Ich kann diese Reihe nur empfehlen und werde sie bestimmt bald noch einmal lesen.

Matt says

Returning for a third instalment of the Archer-Bennett series, Fox takes readers down the more precarious of thriller rabbit holes while keeping things as sinister as her past two novels have exemplified. After almost losing her life to a serial killer and admitting her moonlighting as a killer herself, Eden Archer must rely heavily on her partner, Frank Bennett. Their latest case sees women targeted while out for a run, tranquillised and their faces pummelled. With little but CCTV footage that shows a shadowy figure, Archer and Bennett struggle to make any progress. Bennett's girlfriend, police psychologist Dr. Imogen Stone, has a project of her own on which she is working; seeking to bring closure to long-ago cold child kidnapping cases in Australia. Using her numerous connections, Stone is able to focus her attention and acquire the large rewards, though she does so anonymously. Her most recent project is to nail down whatever happened to Morgan and Marcus Tanner. The deeper she digs, the more her inclination leans towards Eden Archer as an adult Morgan. Piecing together what Heinrich 'Hades' Archer might have had to do with the kidnapping and murder of the children's parents proves to be Stone's central focus, which puts Eden on the defensive when she learns of this through backchannels. This is one secret that cannot be revealed, no matter what. While working the 'Sydney Park Strangler' case--poorly named, but catchy for media sound bytes--Bennett encounters a victim with whom he worked in the past, young Amy 'Hooky' Hooku, a tech-savvy seventeen year old whose skills have her working off the books for the authorities. While Bennett liaises regularly with Hooky, this puts Imogen Stone in the awkward position of being jealous of a child. While the killer's backstory is told throughout the novel, it is only when a strong-willed woman seeks to take the city back for those women who enjoy running in the city's parks that it becomes the greatest cat-and-mouse game that Archer and Bennett have ever witnessed. Over seven thousand potential victims and one killer who has offered little to identify them. Will Stone uncover Eden's true identity while the killer remains on the loose, thereby distracting the detective from her job to sweep the breadcrumbs under the table? And how can Archer handle her partner's constant discussion of the moonlighting she has been doing, questioning every dead body that turns up in Sydney as perhaps being one of Eden's kills? Poignant down to the final sentence, Fox pulls her readers into a vortex from which there is no exit, save a fall into the abyss of confusion.

Before I go any further, the title and progress of the narrative hint towards this being the final novel in a powerful trilogy, one that should not be read out of order if the reader enjoys a captivating story that develops over time. Fox has utilised all her skills and shows why she was awarded some key Australian literary honours for this series, as she places two detectives, polar-opposites to one another, together and has them fighting crime on the streets of Sydney. The choice of characters and the backstories they are given is

all purposeful and plays into the larger narrative and the storylines as they fuel the series' momentum. There is little to say other than that there is much to enjoy in the banter between characters, sarcastic and jilted as it can be. The narrative takes twists and turns, while revealing much from the outset. Fox seeks not to create a 'whodunit' but more a 'how with they get to the answer' situation, which places the reader in the driver seat from the get-go. The inner struggle each character possesses helps to construct a larger and more uncertain central foundation that propels the narrative into countless directions. One could also comment that the lack of formal chapters (though breaks in momentum create natural places for them) helps to show that the entire novel is a single fall, slow in the beginning, but quicker by the last third. Fox does not shy away from surprises, some of which will hit the reader from unexpected directions. This only goes to strengthen the argument that Candice Fox is rising from within the genre to make a sensational name for herself.

Kudos, Madam Fox for another powerful novel. While I know you are co-authoring with James Patterson, I hope your voice is not muted pairing yourself with a juggernaut. You are a force to be reckoned with in the thriller genre.

Like/hate the review? An ever-growing collection of others appears at:
<http://pecheyponderings.wordpress.com/>

Tien says

Wow-Wee! Candice Fox delivers once again! This series is one that I would gladly re-read again and again. It is THAT good. I've rated all 3 five stars as each were unputdownable; I couldn't wait to find out what's going to happen next from one page to the next much less from one book to the next. I am hopping from one foot to another in impatience for the next instalment of *Archer & Bennett*.

Eden ends with a threat hanging over Eden's secret identity. I was truthfully anxious to find out how this will pan out; I was afraid of what this will mean to Eden's nocturnal activities, her 'relationship' with Bennett, and also afraid for the safety of the person who's about to blow it all out. And just how did it turn out? Well! You really must read it for yourself since I couldn't believe what happened & had to read it a few times over before it actually sunk it that she did it... when a few minutes before I was wailing, 'No... No... Noooo...'

Eden, as the antiheroine, has a void inside her when it comes to empathy. This was highlighted very much in this novel. Bennett, on the other, appears to be a desperate case but there's a little light of hope for him... What's happened in this novel though dimmed what little hope there was and I'm not sure exactly whether I'm excited or nervous as I believe we are about to witness the dark-side of Bennett. Or are we?

If you love antiheroines, if you love your crime novels, you MUST read Candice Fox. I highly recommend this series, *Archer & Bennett*, to everyone. There are baddies and there are baddies. There's the twist and then there's THE twist. This series has utterly won my heart and Candice Fox my loyalty.

Thanks Random House Australia for eARC via NetGalley in exchange of honest review

Brenda says

When Detective Frank Bennett and his partner Detective Eden Archer attended the gruesome murder of one

of the night time joggers in Sydney's parks, all indications pointed to the woman being killed by someone she knew. It was quite obviously personal – the destruction of the victim's face told them that. But when a second body turned up, more brutally beaten than the first, they realised the race was on to find the killer before more bodies were found.

Frank's girlfriend was Imogen Stone, psychologist for the police department. But Imogen was tenacious – and her latest project was cold cases and solving them. When she dug up the twenty-plus year old case of the missing Tanner children, her interest was tweaked. She was determined that she would find answers – but would those answers put her and others in danger?

With the joggers' case keeping Frank and Eden on their toes, the occasional absences by Eden didn't go unnoticed by Frank. His suspicions and fears were heightened – he knew he needed to keep his wits about him – was her coldness intensifying? Or was it his active imagination once again? And what was the ongoing mystery about her past?

Fall by Aussie author Candice Fox is the third in the Archer and Bennett series, and as fast paced and gritty as the first two. Though I found it predictable at times and had worked out the killer quite early in the book, the plot was good and kept me interested to the finish. There was a fairly nasty twist near the end, but it wasn't particularly surprising (you'll have to read it to know why!) This series is a chilling one for thriller lovers, and I have no hesitation in recommending all three books.

With thanks to NetGalley and the publisher for my copy to read and review.

Dasha M says

I loved this gritty, clever and eloquent book. From the onset it is full of twisted turns and concise prose.

Deborah says

Fall by Candice Fox is the third instalment in her series featuring detectives Eden Archer and Frank Bennett. Fox's first two novels in this series, *Hades* and *Eden* received a myriad of accolades here in Australia. And rightly so.

Fall picks up where *Eden* (the book) left off. The character (not the book) is struggling to regain her strength after being almost sliced in half in the book bearing her name. Frank's still in the honeymoon stages of his relationship with psychologist Imogen, who we know has a secret penchant for solving crimes—but only if there's a reward on offer.

In the meantime Eden and Frank are investigating the murder of female joggers. And—as an aside—I **ALWAYS** knew running was bad for you. #justsayin

As usual there's a concurrent story unfolding, as Eden becomes aware that someone is looking into her history and she (in consultation with Hades) has to decide what she's going to do about that.

The strength of Fox's work again lies in her characters. Eden remains a complex enigma and Frank continues to be both impressed and horrified by his partner. His own humanity is also put on show this time around as we meet a fabulous new character - 17yr old prodigy Hooky (Amy Hooku).

Fox's words and phrases are easily read and absorbed, and there's a lot of beauty on offer. In fact, I gushed about the opening page of the prologue on Twitter. It was stunning and I had to stop and read it several times.

“The Black Mutt Inn attracted bad men, and had been doing so for almost as long as anyone could remember, as though the ground beneath it had somehow hollowed a vent to hell, the men who frequented it drawn in by the familiar heat of home.....

Sometimes a plot was hatched there – the corners of the inn's undecorated interior were very good for whispering, and the walls seemed to grow poisonous ideas like vines, spreading and creeping around minds and down necks and along legs to the rotting floorboards.”

How freakin' amazing is that?!

Fans of the series won't want to miss this latest offering from Fox (my series fave) and I'd recommend newcomers get hold of its predecessors and spend time this summer bingeing on some great Aussie crime fiction.

4.5 stars

I realise this is (still) pretty long, but the full review will be on my blog closer to publication date. (The link won't be active until 27 November 2015). <http://www.debbish.com/books-literatu...>

Lyn Haines says

Candice Fox's third book in the Archer & Bennet series delves into the murky Sydney which lies just beneath the sparkling harbour and manicured gardens featured on tourist postcards.

Predators are victims, ethics are nebulous, loyalties are shifted.

It's well crafted and creepy. Enjoy.

Rosalie says

I enjoy a good detective thriller and this one delivers a fast paced "can't put it down" read. 'Fall' is a psycho police murder mystery thriller set in Sydney. It is a sequel to two other books - 'Hades' and 'Eden' - but works well as a stand alone as I enjoyed it immensely and have not read the earlier books.

There are many strong female characters but the main protagonists all seem a bit mentally unhinged due to

PTS. Nevertheless describing all the gore and then the stress that the victims of crime and many police officers endure, makes the story more credible.

Candice Fox weaves contemporary issues into her story with a touch of cynicism and humour. For example she uses the common knowledge of high risk South East Asian cheap medical procedures, that sometimes go horribly wrong, to give her killer more depth. Also she demonstrates her skills in plot development when she introduces the mammoth fun run day and condemns the sensationalist media's sometimes macabre use of horrific crimes to create questionable events.

"Caroline Eckhart and the City of Sydney had turned three brutal killings into what would probably end up an annual fitness wankfest with all the associated sweat, glory and plastic participation medals."

Christine Bongers says

Candice Fox is a huge talent. Loved all of her dark thrillers, so treat yourself and get all three. :)
