

Die Last by Tony Parsons

5 Stars

Human trafficking. Will the authorities ever stop it?

DC Max Wolfe, his partner DC Edie Wren and their immediate boss, DCI Pat Whitestone, have been called to Chinatown after a lorry has been abandoned. It's a lorry that would normally carry products requiring refrigeration. This time the cargo is young girls, frozen to death. It appears from the passports that they recover in the cab, that the girls have been picked up while passing through Europe.

There should only be twelve passports, but they find thirteen. Their priority is to not only trace the missing girl, but of course who the people are involved in this depraved trade.

The subject of this book is tragic. We have no idea how many people are trafficked right across the world. Tony Parsons has taken this subject and with his magical way with words, captured the very heart of the investigation as Max, Edie and Trainee Detective Constable Billy Green go about unearthing the perpetrator.

I love this series! DC Max Wolfe is everything I'd hope an inspector of the Crime Division would be. He's a family man, raising his daughter Scout as a single parent with the wonderful Mrs Murphy there to help in times of need. But there's so much more that we're introduced to through characters who are so real, they feel tangible. One who I've grown to cherish is Sergeant John Caine, who is the curator of Room 101 (or the Black Museum) of New Scotland Yard.

The plots that we've seen not just in this book, but the previous books in this series, are always complex, always going to produce a huge surprise when you least expect it and always have the one thread that holds Max Wolfe sane and empathic - his daughter Scout and their Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Stan. It is the art of a true author who can transport readers from some very disturbing images back into the "real" world of home and normality.

Please keep writing Tony Parsons, the world needs authors like you to tackle difficult subjects and yet also maintain a sense of normality for their characters.

Treebeard

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.