

First to Die by Alex Caan

4 stars

Why was this man poisoned? And will others follow?

On Guy Fawkes Night, a thousand anonymous protesters are in St. James' Park in a stand-off with police. The next morning a cloaked man is found with horrendous pustules and his skin has been eaten away. Zain Harris and Kate Riley are called to investigate. A quarantine is set up as it is soon discovered that the man died from a potentially contagious virus.

The victim is a senior civil servant with a formidable reputation for bullying. Soon more people disappear, all pharmacists and all connected in some way.

Who is targeting these people and is there a possibility that they will release the virus on the unsuspecting populace?

I enjoyed this book as it was a bit different from the normal murder story. It was well written and well researched, and very topical now. It had me thinking about how easy it would be to unleash a contagious virus. I haven't read any of the Harris and Riley series which put me at a disadvantage.

My only reason for 4 stars was it went on a bit and slowed down in the middle and speeded up again at the end.

Chester.

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.