

The Gilded Ones by Brooke Fieldhouse

3 stars

Debut thriller novel doesn't really cut it

A man called Pulse has a dream in which he foresees a death. Attending an interview the following day, he comes to the conclusion that his prospective boss killed his wife and that he, Pulse, would bring him to justice.

Without giving away any spoilers, he has very limited evidence, very limited resources and very limited chance.

All in all this was not a very convincing book. It lacked any cohesive wholeness and was sparked by a very tenuous premise. It seemed as though Brooke Fieldhouse was enjoying playing with words rather than building a real plot with real characters.

We had words such as 'aesthetic voluptuary', 'conglobation', 'ensorcelled' and phrases like 'beacon of hi-tech modernity set against the Piranesi world of charred and leprous brick.' In 20 pages we were treated to - 'his mouth adopted the dark fissured appearance of', 'as if it were the fissured texture around' and 'his mouth had the appearance of' - all finished with 'the anus of some unknown creature'. Then, to cap it off the author ends with a flourish - 'FINIS'!

The one thing I did like about the book was the quality of the paper. In fact, it was probably only the pleasing tactile nature of this book that kept me going until the end.

Sméagol

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review