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The Queen's Accomplice: A Maggie Hope Mystery



Synopsis

Spy and code-breaker extraordinaire Maggie Hope returns to war-weary London, where she is thrust into the dangerous hunt for a monster, as the New York Times bestselling mystery series for fans of Jacqueline Winspear, Charles Todd, and Anne Perry continues. England, 1942. The Nazis' relentless Blitz may have paused, but London's nightly blackouts continue. Now, under the cover of darkness, a madman is brutally killing and mutilating young women in eerie and exact re-creations of Jack the Ripper's crimes. What's more, he's targeting women who are reporting for duty to be Winston Churchill's spies and saboteurs abroad. The officers at MI-5 quickly realize they need the help of special agent Maggie Hope to find the killer dubbed the Blackout Beast. A trap is set. But once the murderer has his sights on Maggie, not even Buckingham Palace can protect the resourceful spy from her fate. Praise for the Maggie Hope series "You'll be [Maggie Hope's] loyal subject, ready to follow her wherever she goes." O: The Oprah Magazine From the Trade Paperback edition.

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Customer Reviews

Detective Maggie Hope, fresh from solving her last case in "Mrs. Roosevelt's Confidante," has returned to World War II-damaged England and is ready to take on the mysterious "Butcher Beast," who is committing serial murders in the style of Jack the Ripper, with the graffiti "Jack Is Back," (in case anyone is confused as to his role model). Luckily, Maggie, who is working at a Special Operations Executive's office and trying to convince her superiors that their women employees need the same salary and pension as the men, is available to help. In this case, it's Mark Standish of the MI-Five and Detective Chief Inspector James Durgin who enlist her help (albeit cautiously) to track down the killer. The team believes that the perpetrator is a young man with a vendetta against women who don't know their "place" is in the home and who can be manipulated by the press. Meanwhile, a young woman who had an interview at the SOE office is being held hostage, as the body count rises. In addition, Maggie's half-sister, Elise Hess, has just been released from the Ravensbruck concentration camp, but may be faced with the choice of returning or bearing witness against her organization. There's also the problem of the unexpected gas leak and possible line tampering that almost caused the death of a friend and her young son. Will Maggie be able to solve the case, perhaps with the help of her old ally, Queen Elizabeth, in the face of danger and plain old ordinary sexism from her colleagues? Having enjoyed "Mrs. Roosevelt's Confidante" (through Vine), I was looking forward to reading the sequel and was not disappointed.

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