

BOOK REVIEWS – APRIL 2019

Because Mummy Said So by Shari Low. (Published by Anima, January 2018).

As an ardent follower of Shari Low's weekly Newspaper column for years, many of the stories were familiar, but, it was great to refresh my memory and recall just how funny a writer she is. I have read quite a few of her novels and she holds nothing back, her storylines are good, often humorous, but, always sincere plots and well researched. In this book, now her 2 boys are older, the author has time to reflect on the Yummy Mummy days, the lack of sleep, the boys exploits and yes, the mistakes and how 'Mummy' dealt with them. It is full of her hilarious memories and is downright honest. We have all had similar incidents whilst trying to learn, often by trial and error, how to be the perfect parent. Family life at its best. Recommended.

A Prisoner of Birth by Jeffrey Archer. (Published by Macmillan, March 2008).

Was Danny Cartwright in the wrong place at the wrong time the night his best friend, Bernie Wilson, was murdered? The horrendous outcome finds Danny in prison, sentenced to over 20 years for a crime that he did not commit. This is a book about love, heartbreak and revenge. On the way we encounter fantastic characters, injustices and a brilliant twist that I for one did not see coming, when everything turns around. A page turner, a great story teller who keeps you riveted page after page whilst you race to the end to see if justice is won and if Danny is awarded the revenge he so desires. Brilliant read.

Beware The Past by Joy Ellis. (Published by Joffe Books, December 2017).

This was my first introduction to the author, Joy Ellis, and I really enjoyed this crime thriller. It is set on Lincolnshire Fens, dark and eerie, and takes us back 25 years when Detective Matt Ballard was just starting his career in the police force. Three young boys were murdered, horrifically and gruesome, leaving the Detective haunted as the main suspect was killed in a hit and run incident. Detective Ballard always had his doubt if the main suspect was the killer, but as he was now dead and the murders had stopped, he had to come to terms with the fact that the case was closed. Now, all these years later Matt and his team are receiving mysterious photographs of the crime scenes, worse, they are depicting only things the killer could know. Did they have the wrong suspect as originally thought? When another killing happens, similar to the ones that had taken place 25 years ago, it is aimed at hurting Matt and destroying his career, therefore he has to work out if the killer is back or if it is a copycat who is out to ruin him. With a very surprising twist at the end this was a page turner, well written and intense. Good read.