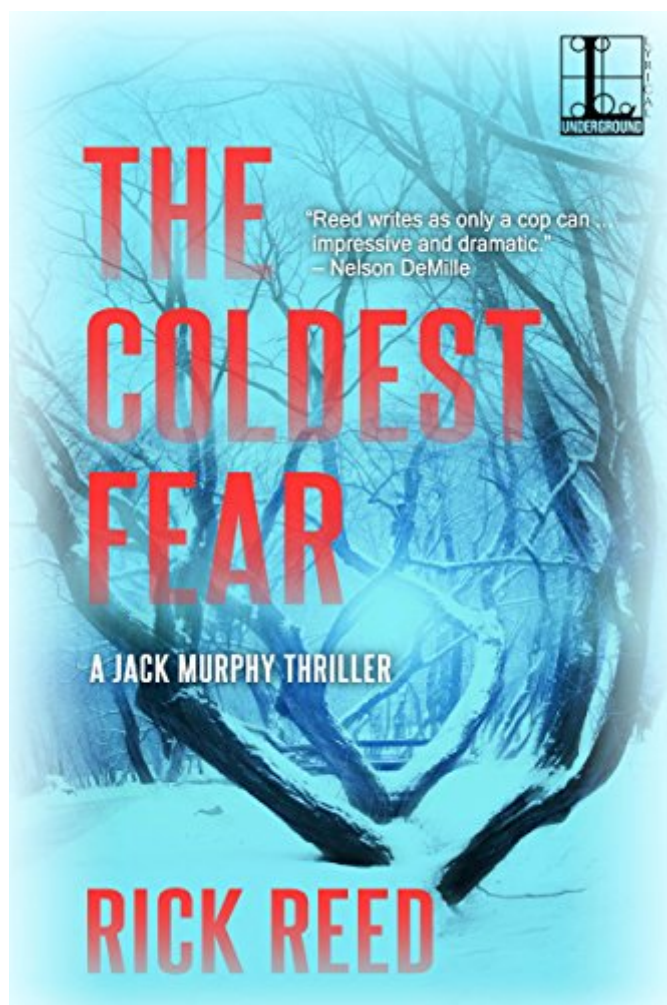


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The Coldest Fear (A Jack Murphy Thriller)



Synopsis

Take One Deranged Killer. Add One Determined Cop. You Get One Deadly Obsession. From the moment he sees the young woman's body in her hotel bathtub, homicide detective Jack Murphy knows he's looking at a truly demented but brilliantly designed puzzle. She's been drained of blood. Missing her left hand--and the killer left a special message just for him. Hours later, he sees her severed hand arranged on a second victim's body. The newspaper has the gruesome details. The FBI has a theory. But only Murphy knows how hard he'll have to push--and how much he'll have to risk--to thwart the killer's twisted game.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'Tis surprising but true. In the short space of two books, Rick Reed has moved onto my must-read list of authors. THE COLDEST FEAR, his sophomore effort in the fiction department, is the propelling force that has landed him there. It has everything you want in a thriller, a crime novel and a mystery: strong characters, plenty of gory story, witty dialogue, and a narrative that demands you keep turning those pages. THE COLDEST FEAR features the return of Evansville, Indiana homicide detective Jack Murphy, who was first introduced in 2010's THE CRUELEST CUT. Murphy is a bit of

a maverick, his saving grace being that he gets the job done. His partner in homicide, Liddell "Cajun" Blanchard, also known as "Bigfoot" and "Yeti," functions as a bit of a straight man, so that the two often trade some light-hearted if occasionally inappropriate repartee at crime scenes, the police station, and all points in between. And indeed there are many crime scenes. A young man who has been on a multi-state tour of slaughter and mayhem has returned home to settle scores with his family, and he makes his presence known quickly by committing two horrific murders in the first couple of chapters. A word of warning: Reed is stunningly imaginative and wonderfully descriptive. He can make your stomach flip upside down and sideways within the space of a sentence or two. I won't give anything away, other than to say that you'll never look at your bathtub drain while it's doing its job in quite the same way again. But Reed doesn't rely upon the gruesome to propel his story. Instead he gives the reader a bit more information than the police have and just a little less than the killer has.

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