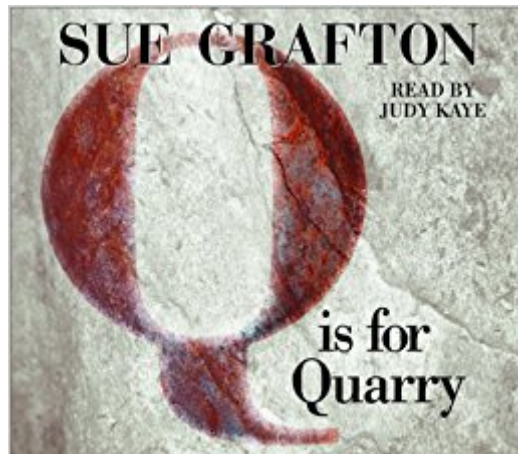




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Q Is For Quarry (Sue Grafton)



Synopsis

A Kinsey Millhone mystery. . . She was a "Jane Doe," an unidentified white female whose decomposed body was discovered near a quarry off California's Highway 1. The case fell to the Santa Teresa County Sheriff's Department, but the detectives had little to go on. The woman was young, her hands were bound with a length of wire, there were multiple stab wounds, and her throat had been slashed. After months of investigation, the case remained unsolved. That was eighteen years ago. Now, the two men who found the body, both nearing the end of long careers in law enforcement, want one last shot at the case. Old and ill, they need someone to do the legwork for them, and they turn to Kinsey Millhone. They will, they tell her, find closure if they can just identify the victim. Kinsey is intrigued by the challenge and agrees to work with them. But revisiting the past can be a dangerous business, and what begins with the pursuit of Jane Doe's real identity ends in a high-risk hunt for her killer.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Private investigator Kinsey Millhone has served Sue Grafton well through 16 letters of the alphabet in a perennially popular series that occasionally breaks new ground but more often traverses familiar territory, as is the case here. Two old, ailing cops--one retired, the other disabled--try to breathe some life into an 18-year-old mystery that haunts them both for different reasons. They enlist Kinsey's help in identifying the victim, a young woman who was murdered and left for dead in the old quarry of the title. Neither they nor Kinsey expect that reopening an old case will incite the

killer to strike again--not once, but twice. And while the real case of the still-unidentified victim that inspired this fictionalized scenario continues to languish in the cold case file in the Santa Barbara sheriff's office, Grafton's solution is as plausible as any. While the unlikely trio of Millhone and her cranky geezer sidekicks offers a few chuckles, the inner reaches of Kinsey's soul remain largely inaccessible to her as well as to the reader, which will probably not bother most of Kinsey's or Grafton's many admirers. --Jane Adams --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Although this latest Kinsey Millhone novel features all of Grafton's tried and true elements of suspense and humor, there's something unusual here: the story-of an unsolved homicide that occurred in 1969-is based on a real event. Grafton became interested in this case, of an unidentified white female whose decomposed body was discovered near a California quarry. While Grafton was writing the novel, Jane Doe's body was exhumed and a forensic artist did the facial reconstruction, in the hopes that seeing the victim's image might trigger someone's memory. Kinsey is pulled into working on the case when her old friend Con Dolan asks for her help as a favor, to help Stacey Oliphant, an aging, ailing policeman, fulfill his dream of solving the mystery of Jane Doe's murder. There's not much to go on, as the case has been cold for years, yet the trio-Kinsey, Dolan and Stacey-persevere; slowly, leads begin to turn up. Kaye gives a fine performance. While she's well accustomed to reading Kinsey (she's been the audiobook reader for the entire series) and performs that part with gusto here, she also deftly handles the craggy old voices of Dolan and Stacey (although at times it's hard to distinguish between them). By turns sassy, professional and heartbreaking, her portrayal of Grafton's beloved heroine will delight fans. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book was from start to finish a real gripper. I have read all the previous books from A to Q. This book was different from the previous books because Kinsey worked with two police detectives one from Santa Teresa Police and the other from the Sheriff's department. She work well with them even though she normally a loner. Both were older men very much her senior. They both had very serious health issues, one Lt Dolan had heart trouble and the other was cancer patient in remission. Lt Dolan did end up in the hospital because of a heart attack. Previous to that Stacey was in the hospital for a check to see if his cancer had returned. Kinsey continued organizing and working the case to find who killed "Jane Doe" 18 years ago. They find out who she was and meanwhile another murder was committed to conceal the murderer's identity. I was very surprised who the murderer

was. Good read my favorite so far.

This was the best book in Sue Grafton's alphabet murder mystery series yet. It was based on a real life unsolved homicide that occurred in Santa Barbara County in August 1969. It included illustrations of how the young woman may have looked created by a retired medical illustrator. Even though the plot was fictional, Sue included many details of this case. Sue hopes that someone will recognize the young woman and come forward with information about her. Fantastic!

This story will sharpen your skills as an investigator. Grafton's wit and humor are tops. She develops her characters with the skills of a sculptor who brings them to life in the mind's eye. Any reader with imagination becomes part of the investigation that follows the reopening of a cold-case that begs for justice. I've been reading Sue Grafton since "A is for Apple" (just kidding) and I would have never been able to pick a favorite except for one night I fell asleep while reading "Q" and dreamed that I was a part of the investigation. I didn't get to meet Kinsey in the dream because she had some family business to take care of and I became a third wheel with two other detectives in the story; they unceremoniously invited me to butt out of the investigation after I threatened to hold a rather uncooperative witness' head under water for two hours. When they discovered that Kinsey had no idea who I was, I got booted off the team. That's when I woke up and finished this marvelous story. Had they been available I would have voted for 6 Stars. Have fun!

I have currently read books A through R. And I would say hands-down that Q is the best out of the entire series, thus far. I have always been drawn to mystery novels and TV shows. However, I am still drawn to times where the internet couldn't do all the work. PIs still had to pick locks and dust for prints. With Remington Steele being my all time favorite tv show, I was naturally hooked to this series of books for the nostalgia of it all. What sets this book apart from the rest is the detailed and in depth sleuthing Kinsey has to undertake to get to the bottom of a cold case without the help of Google and Facebook. In some of the books, it feels that a lot of the breakthroughs rest in the hands of accidental discoveries. Not the case for Q. I am amazed that with the amount of action in this book, Ms. Grafton was able to fit it in under 1,000 pages!

Another good Kinsey Millhone mystery. On to "R". I can't wait to see what is next. I don't want the series to end.

Another good mystery from Sue Grafton. I love the politically incorrect lady PI in this book. She is tough and she gets the job done. She is somewhat dysfunctional, which makes her all the more believable and likeable. After reading this series, I got my mother hooked on the series. After my mother read all the "Kinsey Millhone" stories, she discovered the Joe Gunther Mystery Series, which she loved. The first book is: *An Open Season* (Joe Gunther Mysteries) If you are looking for exciting adventure books for kids / teenagers, my mother recommends *Jake Johnson And The Half Bloods* (Quest 1) (Jake Johnson And The Greek Gods) and its sequel *Jake Johnson And The God Of War* (Quest 2) (Jake Johnson And The Greek Gods).

One of her best!

Well, I'm a fan of this series, but this one's probably my LEAST favorite of the Sue Grafton mysteries. All the Q-words seemed forced and phony. The plot was quite weak and uninteresting. There seemed to be a lot of "filler" and low-mood as she helped the two aged cops - sick and dying, in and out of the hospital ... all that coughing. OK - I am reading all of the Grafton books, and I see that they do vary - from book to book, in quality and interest. That's ok ... The characters are interesting, Grafton writes well, and I generally get a "good read" from her alphabet series.

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