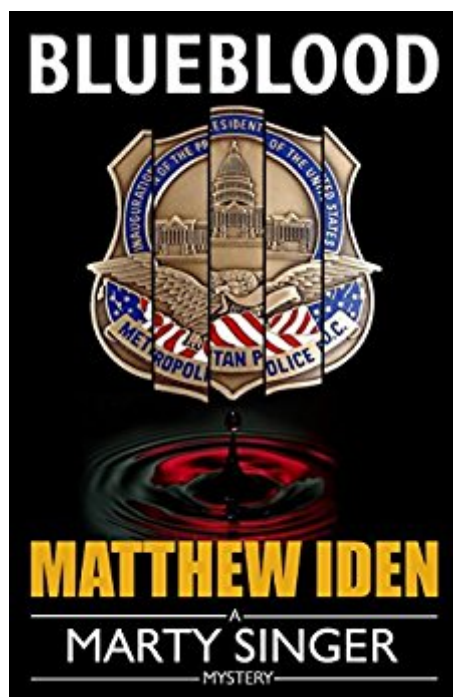


The book was found

Blueblood (A Marty Singer Mystery Book 2)



Synopsis

Four unrelated murders. Nothing special in Washington DC. Not even good enough to make the evening news. But then a concerned police lieutenant approaches retired homicide detective Marty Singer with a simple fact that changes everything. They were all cops. In a race to stop the killings, Marty tackles the homicide investigation from the outside, chasing the killer from deadly Southeast DC to the heart of the Virginia gangland, on a mission to stop the spilling of yet more Blueblood. Revised edition: This edition of Blueblood includes editorial revisions.

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Customer Reviews

Rating: 4.5 stars *Print copy won in Author giveaway* Marty Singer is at it again in this sequel to A Reason to Live. Retired homicide detective Marty helps investigate a string of murders, however this time the victims are cops. The murders occur in DC and Maryland and are not seemingly connected until he begins digging into the facts. The more he discovers though, the more he worries the killings will continue. I enjoyed the pace of Blueblood and again felt like Marty was an old friend. He is equal parts sarcastic and completely likeable. The story is centered around gang activity in the DC area

which I knew nothing about other than what I have heard in the news, so this was interesting and truthfully, a bit scary. The plot line keeps you guessing until the very ends as to who is the killer(s). I highly recommend this series to anyone who enjoys crime fiction.

I beta-read and reviewed the first Marty Singer book, *A Reason to Live*. I thought it was excellent. I went through a phase of reading all the Michael Connelly books I could get my hands on. I also adore Jonathan Kellerman. My point being I love a well-written, gritty, crime novel. Iden does not disappoint. I honestly would put him up there with those 2 authors, and better than some others. Any publisher that didn't sign this guy should be regretting it now. The Marty Singer novels are superb. Marty Singer, if you remember from the 1st novel, is a retired homicide detective fighting cancer. It means, our hero is unique. He has the knowledge and the experience as a 1st rate detective, but his illness leaves him easily tired and weakened overall. It means that, not only are you on the edge of your seat wondering who-did-it, but you are wondering if Marty is going to be able to complete the case with or without assistance. Not to mention wondering how his cancer is doing. And I'm not lying when I say I was on the edge in this one. At one point I thought I was to the wrapping up stage. And this tends to be where I get bored. And I started relaxing and just wanted to see what Marty still had to do and if there'd be more news from his Doctor, when something so shocking took place I literally jumped. It's the 2nd novel in the Marty Singer series, and fully worth the read. And BTW folks, that's not all he's done. He has several short story collections and other books that I found free at . Probably not free anymore, but reasonably priced since he's a self-published author. A diamond in the ruff, for sure!

The story was very involved, the characters well-written, and the book enjoyable. The only thing that kept me from giving this story five stars is that it seemed sort of dry. It seems as though the author should read some Alex Delaware or Harry Bosch novels. Both of those protagonists are juicy, with great supporting casts. While this book is of the same genre, the storytelling is not quite the same caliber. Nonetheless, it was a well-written, entertaining read. I look forward to reading more Iden stories.

I admit I'm a hero junkie. I'm always searching for a new, likable, reflective, strong hero who doesn't take himself too seriously, and that is Marty Singer in *Blueblood*. I can't wait to read another Singer mystery. The plot was engaging and fast moving, which I appreciated. I also loved Singer's relationship with his unofficially adopted daughter Amanda. She is nice, upbeat, caring, and

somewhat innocent and a wonderful contrast to Marty, who has seen so much ugliness that he could easily give in to negativity and moroseness. Amanda keeps him sane. I'd recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a good mystery with likable characters.

I picked this up through a book deal on (either it was free or 0.99 cents) and since I'd never heard of the series or author, I had no idea what to expect, but the book just drew me in to a one-sitting read. I liked it so much I wanted to make it last, but I had an even stronger compulsion to keep reading. I found the main character so realistic and relatable -- a fiftyish retired cop with few close emotional ties and a lot to worry about. This character had real depth and three-dimensionality. Wonderful sense of place in the Washington DC area. The setting just came alive for me. Written from the perspective of someone who really knows the city. And the plot was excellent. Very twisty and unexpected but structured like a classic mystery with the villain layered in among the red herrings and not just introduced out of thin air near the ending. There was a real sense of urgency and darkness about this story that made the solving of the mystery compelling, and yet it was not overly gruesome or unbelievably over the top. The whole thing just felt so authentic and realistic. Several of the supporting characters like Rhee the undercover cop were very colorful and vivid. Also, I loved the main character's way of scanning things like a cop and noting immediate vivid details about someone's appearance or the appearance of their house and putting a perceptive interpretation on the details. Main character was also terrifically curious about people in the best way and always asked several penetrating questions to everyone he talked to that uncovered a wealth of fascinating information. I'm buying the next book in the series and if it's as good as this one, I will probably have a new autobuy author to keep up with.

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