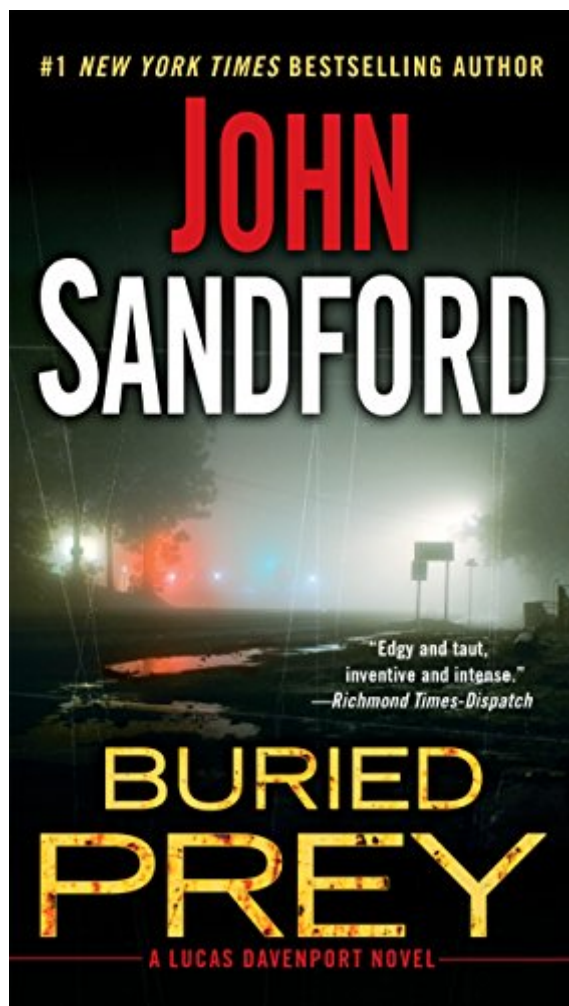


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Buried Prey (The Prey Series Book 21)



Synopsis

For twenty-five years the unsolved kidnapping of two young girls has haunted Minneapolis homicide detective Lucas Davenport. Today, the bodies have been found. Today, he returns to a crime "and a nightmare" darker than any before.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

There's nothing like Sanford's "Prey" series to get you out of the reading doldrums. In *Buried Prey*, Sanford is at the top of his game, featuring fan favorite Lucas Davenport. Over the years, Lucas has risen from patrol to detective, now a top investigator in the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension. And like every seasoned detective, one case has burdened Davenport's conscience, the abduction and assumed murder of two young girls that occurs just as Lucas is breaking out of patrol work, angling for detective. Davenport accepts his superior's resolution to the case in spite of serious reservations. Now, twenty-five years later, the bodies of the Jones sisters are discovered at a construction site and Lucas is reexamining the case that has haunted his career. How many other victims have died through his willingness to acquiesce to authority? In an inspired plot device, Sanford reintroduces the young and ambitious Lucas Davenport ("Then"), walking him through the

Jones investigation, his eagerness to advance and the political realities he has yet to appreciate. Unfortunately, lack of training and seniority hamper Lucas in a system that doesn't reward renegades. "Now" examines the consequences of Davenport's decision not to buck the system, the found bodies a grim reminder that the real killer has remained free. Balancing his personal life with the finely-honed instincts of a successful career, Lucas is not exempt from the risks in this particular investigation, nor immune to the violence that follows in the killer's wake. Of all his characters, Lucas Davenport is the most iconic, Sandford developing his protagonist over time, his personal and professional life grist for the series. This novel is a skilled blend of personalities and circumstances, pitting the mind of a serial killer against the determination of a dedicated career detective. Once the chase is on and Davenport scents the killer, it's only a matter of time. As fans of this series know, getting there is the best part, from the outrageous crime to the final confrontation, a cold-blooded killer matching wits with a BCA agent who needs to close a painful period in his history and grieve a heartbreaking loss. Luan Gaines/2011.

Before "Rules of Prey," before the Porsche, before the kids, before Weather, Lucas Davenport was a street cop in uniform. It was fabulous to get a solid look at the "rook" who was zapped-full of ambition -- even when he was doing the dumpster-diving dirty work while the police brass looked on. Reading "Buried Prey" was just grand fun; I feel it is one of the most riveting entries into the series. While fans have read the progression over years of once-rookie Davenport as he settled down, got older, got family, this was a terrific chance to see him as a rookie in his early police days. The start of the book is the present, as a construction site yields up two skeletons of young girls. Lucas thinks back and remembers the case. Even way-back-when, his instincts were sharp. The young Lucas always believed that the truth of the disappearance of the Jones sisters was never satisfactorily resolved. With the discovery of the girls' remains, this cold-case comes front and center, and Davenport is a man with a mission. I LOVED this book! I notice that some reviewers cite a discrepancy in the background of one of the characters. I haven't read the series for some time, so I wasn't aware of it. (I gave up the series for a bit, once Lucas went family-guy), I'm glad I returned to the series! I enjoyed this as a first-class thriller which involved real detective-work; the cold-case taps the full mature depth of Lucas's instincts. He's always disliked coincidences, views them suspiciously, and peers closer. I LOVE that Lucas! And I'd recommend this book to anyone: Even if you haven't read any prior books of the series, you'll still enjoy the process of detection, as layers of time are uncovered to bring a killer to justice.

Hats off to John Sandford for Buried Prey! He does something in this read, that we ALL wish for in real life for ourselves.....he makes Lucas "Young" again. We actually go back in time and start all over with rookie Lucas Davenport. The story line is credible and the roller coaster ride, is quite often, mind blowing. I'm always overjoyed when a writer can fool me, shock me and make me say out loud, "I never saw that coming!" Hopefully, John Sandford will do this again and again, take us back to the past, give us a youthful rookie Lucas and blend it with our seasoned Detective Davenport. If Sandford continues in this way.....the possibilities of story lines could be endless excitement and fun, for all us "Prey" fans!

I am an ardent John Sandford fan. I recently purchased and read the complete Prey series and then the complete Flowers series in order, and I'm only sorry I'll have to wait for the next book in both series. Sandford is a novelist with the rare ability to carry over characters and plot elements with complete believability while allowing both to develop in interesting, unexpected but natural ways - the only other "serial" novelist who does this nearly as well is Anthony Trollope, and he avoids murders. I re-read these books with pleasure as great or greater than the first reading because the fast-paced narrative and unexpected plot developments pulls you to read fast the first time; the second or third you can pay attention to atmosphere (he's great on significant landscape detail), character growth, and situation development. Sandford writes like a real novelist, not like someone trying to impress academia with his literary exclusivity.

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