



The Fire Witness: A Novel (Detective Inspector Joona Linna)

By Lars Kepler

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The Fire Witness: A Novel (Detective Inspector Joona Linna) By Lars Kepler

The authors of *The Hypnotist* and *The Nightmare* deliver their most thrilling novel yet

Flora Hansen calls herself a medium and makes a living by pretending to commune with the dead. But after a gruesome murder at a rural home for wayward girls, Hansen begins to suffer visions that are all too real. She calls the police, claiming to have seen a ghost, but only one detective puts aside his skepticism long enough to listen: Joona Linna.

Linna has spent more time at the scene of the crime than any other detective would. The case seems obvious on the face of it: One of the girls at the home escaped in the middle of the night, leaving behind a bloody bed with a hammer under the pillow. But why does Hansen insist that the murder instrument was a stone, not a hammer? And what's the story behind the dark red grain of sand, almost like a splinter from a ruby, stuck beneath the dead girl's fingernail? As Linna refuses to accept easy answers, his search leads him into darker, more violent territory, and finally to a shocking confrontation with a figure from his past.

Just as Lars Kepler's *The Hypnotist* and *The Nightmare* did, *The Fire Witness* has spent months at number one on the Swedish bestseller lists. As the newspaper *Dagens Nyheter* put it, you start the thriller "on the subway home, keep reading at the dinner table, and then don't stop until well into the wee hours." Kepler writes with the force of Stieg Larsson and the plotting of Jo Nesbø. *The Fire Witness* is an unflinching page-turner, sure to join the ranks of its predecessors as an international sensation.

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The Fire Witness: A Novel (Detective Inspector Joonas Linna) By Lars Kepler Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #186758 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Sarah Crichton Books
- Published on: 2013-07-02
- Released on: 2013-07-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .36" h x 1.65" w x 6.40" l, 1.65 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 512 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

While technically on administrative leave, detective Joona Linna is assigned to a case in a Swedish town where a young girl at a residential program has been found dead. He checks and double checks the curious circumstances of the death and tries to find information from the victim's housemates, but Linna is also willing to hear what Flora Hansen, a local medium of questionable skill, has to say. This dark mystery is rendered even more haunting by Mark Bramhall's performance. His deep and crackling voice not only heightens the book's significant suspense but also grabs listeners' attention and refuses to let go. Bramhall practically growls at times, but despite speaking in lower registers, he manages to ably convey a range of voices, including those of women, young and old. A Sarah Crichton hardcover. (July)

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review In Sundsvall, Sweden, police responding to a distress call at a girls' group home discover a brutally murdered teenager posed with her hands covering her eyes. Blood-soaked bedding in an adjacent bedroom conceals a hammer, and that room's occupant, Vicky, has fled through an open window. While police collect evidence, a figure resembling Vicky emerges from the forest nearby and steals a car with a preschooler strapped inside. Joona Linna, recently sidelined by an internal-affairs investigation but still widely recognized as Sweden's premier investigator, is ordered to respond as an "observer" to the local investigation. When the car is found submerged in a river, both children are assumed dead, and the official scenario paints Vicky as a savage killer and kidnapper. Inconveniently, Linna finds evidence that they're still alive, and he begins poking holes in the police scenario. At the same time, he faces personal dilemmas upon learning that the wife and child he sent into hiding years ago are once again facing danger. This third novel featuring Joona Linna is a knockout example of the thoughtful plotting and character development, genius investigation, and unflinching examination of human evil common in Scandinavian crime fiction. But it's the mixture of relaxed, witty dialogue and raging action scenes that will draw American readers who believe the Scandinavian subgenre is too moody for their taste. --Christine Tran

Review

"Action-oriented, inventive, with over-the-top plots and larger-than-life heroes and criminals." *?Los Angeles Times Magazine on Lars Kepler*

"[Kepler's] ability to inhabit the workings of psychotic psyches is authentically shocking. Larsson is destined to have many heirs . . . Kepler is by far the best." *?Lev Grossman, Time on Lars Kepler*

"Outrageously entertaining . . . Methadone for readers suffering from Stieg Larsson withdrawal." *?Laura Miller, Salon on Lars Kepler*

"Kepler's characters are admirably flawed . . . It's a smooth collaboration . . . with frequent surprises and grace notes amid the carnage. With any luck, we'll hear more of Lars Kepler." *?Patrick Anderson, The Washington Post on Lars Kepler*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ryan Neal:

Here thing why that The Fire Witness: A Novel (Detective Inspector Joona Linna) are different and reputable to be yours. First of all reading through a book is good however it depends in the content of the usb ports which is the content is as delightful as food or not. The Fire Witness: A Novel (Detective Inspector Joona Linna) giving you information deeper and different ways, you can find any e-book out there but there is no publication that similar with The Fire Witness: A Novel (Detective Inspector Joona Linna). It gives you thrill reading journey, its open up your own personal eyes about the thing that happened in the world which is probably can be happened around you. It is possible to bring everywhere like in playground, café, or even in your means home by train. For anyone who is having difficulties in bringing the branded book maybe the form of The Fire Witness: A Novel (Detective Inspector Joona Linna) in e-book can be your choice.

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Anthony Vice:

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