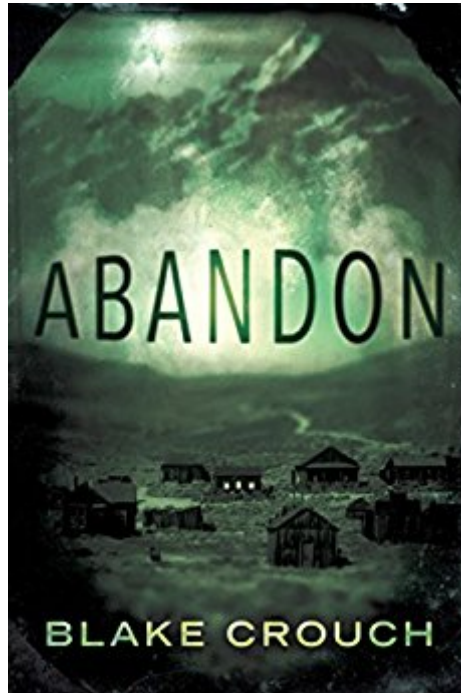




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Abandon



Synopsis

On Christmas Day in 1893, every man, woman, and child in a remote gold-mining town disappeared, belongings forsaken, meals left to freeze in vacant cabins—and not a single bone was ever found. One hundred sixteen years later, two backcountry guides are hired by a history professor and his journalist daughter to lead them to the abandoned mining town so they can learn what happened. Recently, a similar party had also attempted to explore the town and was never heard from again. Now the area is believed to be haunted. This crew is about to discover, twenty miles from civilization with a blizzard bearing down, that they are not alone, and the past is very much alive. Revised edition: This edition of *Abandon* includes editorial revisions.

Book Information

File Size: 1585 KB

Print Length: 532 pages

Publisher: Thomas & Mercer (September 1, 2015)

Publication Date: September 1, 2015

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00UCLPC6E

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #300 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #2 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Historical > Thrillers #2 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers > Historical #4 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery > Historical

Customer Reviews

I liked this book well enough, but wouldn't go out of my way to buy more from this author and I'm glad that I got it for free. It was hard to really sympathize with any character in the book, as they were all greedy or pathetic in one way or another, and apart from being quite wooden, they just weren't very likeable. The author also stretched credibility when one character had his ankle "all

busted up," but was able to go hiking after a few minutes, another one donning a backpack and hiking for 20 miles soon after being stabbed in the gut and left for dead, and yet another one with an injured tailbone who was able to take a 20+ mile hike out of the woods, most of it at a dead run. The plot was a good one, though I didn't like how the story kept jumping from the original inhabitants to the modern day - it was distracting, and without good character development, it was hard to remember who the characters were or what the situation was without referring back to an earlier chapter. As another reviewer pointed out, much of the language used by the pioneers was difficult to follow. Not even Webster's dictionary lists the word "shadowgee," though it was used many times in the book without ever being clearly defined. All that notwithstanding, it was entertaining to read and deserving of 3 1/2 stars. Those who enjoy Clive Cussler would enjoy this book, too. I just wish that the author had taken more time to polish his writing and work more on the character development. It's so much more interesting when the reader can really "connect" with the characters. The ending was a bit far-fetched, as well. Still worth a read if you're in the airport and needing some escape fiction that isn't too deep. Please, if you give me a negative vote on this review, leave me a comment and let me know why. I try to make my reviews helpful to those who are considering purchasing this book and feedback is appreciated.

Very complicated set of plots, sub-plots, sub sub-plots, and other directions. The author is either mentally gifted or somewhat crazy depending on your viewpoint! Had an idea of guilty characters early on, I was right and wrong. The shifts between time periods was tough to follow, as well as the character shifts native to each time shift. Fairly good character development for both eras. Good development in current period. There was only one negative for me but I am coping with it by writing this review. Worth buying from it will either delight or?Ward

I was pleasantly surprised by this title. Splitting the timeline of the novel between the 1890's and almost present day, although not unique, was done particularly well. The characters were well written and believable, although at times, especially near the end, they seemed to be a bit super human in their ability to endure the hardships hurled their way. There was a lot of profanity which I actually like. I don't particularly use a lot myself, but being a former Teamster it's something that I'm very used to hearing in everyday language. The pacing was very good, nothing dragged, but that was more due to the fact that the whole book covered such a short period of time, almost like it was streaming live. The one slight complaint I might have is the ending which seemed a bit rushed. I can't say too much, but after everything the characters went through it seems as though the

outcome happened quickly. All together I enjoyed it, looking forward to his other novels.

Starts slow and tedious. This is one of those rare reads where perseverance pays off. The last third needs to be read in longer sessions to fill your soul with the anticipation of an unprescribed ending. Didn't see it coming. Very poignant and emotional. Take your time readers, but not too much.....

I didn't know what to expect with this book...my curiosity was piqued because I've been enjoying Blake Crouch's *Wayward Pines* on television, and wanted to read something else of his. I didn't know if this would be science fiction, horror, action, or what. And I won't spoil it by telling you now! But it was certainly suspenseful, surprising, and interesting, and I greatly enjoyed it. Having read some other reviews here, I was concerned about the possible level of gruesome scenes depicted. There was a bit of disturbing and gruesome imagery in a few places, but I would not describe the book as being overall gruesome at all. Perhaps rather disturbing in places, but only very moderately gruesome. I pretty much plowed through this book because I had to see what would happen next, and I just almost never do that. I'd usually rather read slowly, a bit at a time, savoring the story. But this, THIS, was something else. I scored it four stars rather than five because after speeding through the first third of the book, I came to a place in the narrative where I would have been satisfied to just stop because the story somewhat resolved itself. I knew, though, that with two thirds of the book left to go there must be a lot more, so I continued, and was so glad I did, picking up speed once again. But that sort of stopping point kind of took me out of the story for a bit, and then the last chapter is a tiny bit rushed. So those are my criticisms. But really, the book is very, very good. Give it a try!

The book is structured as alternating between two timelines, a harsh mining town in 1893 and the "current" team investigating the same abandoned mining town in 2009. The historical aspects of the book have obviously been well researched and the author does a good job of detailing how rough day to day living was in the mining town. However, in my case the novel just didn't resonate - there were a half dozen characters introduced in each timeline and very little effort to develop them. The protagonist seemed to live a unrealistic charmed life, surviving multiple life threatening situations with just a backache. It's a challenging book to rate in a review - in some ways the book is a "five" and others ways it's a "one".

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