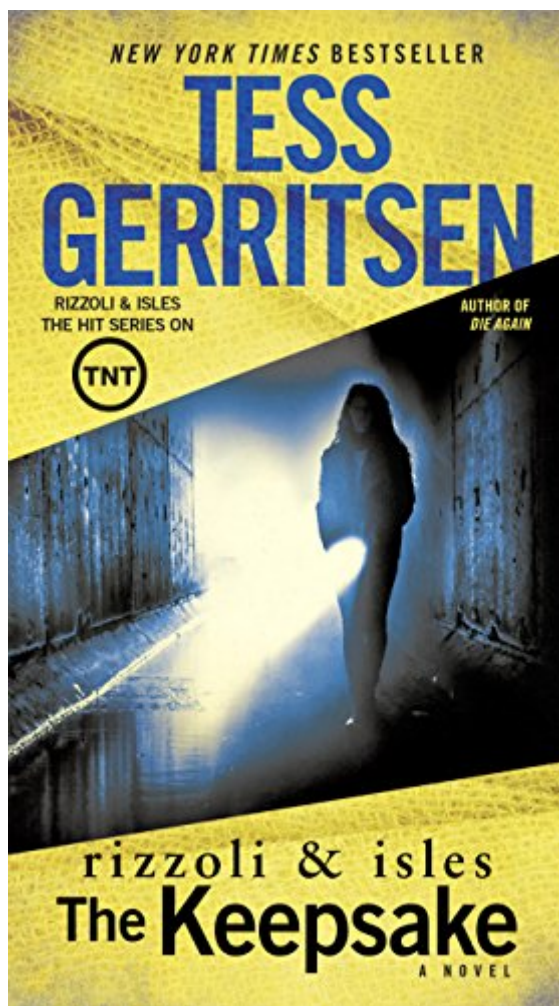


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The Keepsake: A Rizzoli & Isles Novel



Synopsis

This ebook edition contains a special preview of Tess Gerritsen's *I Know a Secret*. For untold years, the perfectly preserved mummy had lain forgotten in the dusty basement of Boston's Crispin Museum. Dubbed "Madam X," the recently rediscovered mummy is, to all appearances, an ancient Egyptian artifact. But medical examiner Maura Isles discovers a macabre message hidden within the corpse—a horrifying proof that this "centuries-old" relic is instead a modern-day murder victim. When the grisly remains of two other women are found, it becomes clear to Maura and Boston homicide detective Jane Rizzoli that a maniac is at large. Now Maura and Jane must unravel a murderer's twisted endgame before the Archaeology Killer adds another chilling artifact to his monstrous collection.

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Customer Reviews

This was my first experience using Whisper-sync, so bear that in mind. I found the book intriguing, and that was in spite of the distractions that come with listening while doing other things, as opposed to sitting and reading. Some things I found predictable perhaps might not have been to

someone with less experience with the author or the genre. If I had read this 20 years ago, I think I would have rated it "full of surprises." As it was, I found the predictable parts comfortable in their familiarity, and in keeping with the characters. Sometimes too much "surprise twist" just strains credulity, and that never happens in the book. The characters remain human, and having characters the reader cares about builds suspense better than surprise twists, because being invested in the characters makes the reader worry about them, as though they are friends in actual peril. That happens in this book.

Gerritsen is the master of putting all of the little pieces together to form one large puzzle. Her earlier novels displayed her penchant for lifelike and likable characters, dramatic issues, and surprising plot twists. This book marks a step forward in her development as a writer in the detective/mystery genre as she spins riddles and clues with ever increasing skill. As with classic mystery novels, there are red herrings and layers of plot development that intertwine. It started a little slow, but quickly picked up speed as Gerritsen displays yet again her talent for creating tense, creepy scenes utilizing setting and atmospheric elements to build suspense. All of the characters/suspects are introduced early in the story, and when the end arrives it left me feeling like I could have solved the puzzle but did not. It reads quickly and easily, the skill not in the complexity, but rather in the twists and turns of deft plotting. I also enjoyed the Mephisto Club appearances and theories. Highly recommended for fans of the mystery genre.

Please read this series of books by Tess Gerritsen, you will love the mystery and the twists in this books. Also the characters are really great.

That's all I can say. The series started out so promising but the last two books have killed it. Perhaps I want it more like the tv series.

My third Rizzoli & Isles novel and each one is better than the last as I develop a relationship with the characters. Obviously the tv show is only loosely based on these books, which have much more depth (and less humor) than the program, but that's to be expected. I love Tess Gerritsen's R&I series, but *The Bone Garden* is still her best novel.

I have only read a few of Gerritsen's books and confess to being disappointed in them in that in every case Rizzoli takes over the book, she becomes the main character. I had hoped Doctor Maura

Isles would be lead and there would be more fascinating discoveries, that a less competent M.E. would never have noticed or known what they were, and thus added more interest instead of degenerating into a conventional multiple murder mystery. But a thousand year old mummy becomes a centuries old mummy, and other fascinating and off beat body preservation methods are mentioned, if head shrinking can be classified as a body preservation method. A discussion of these preservation's means is given but is not necessary to the solution; I wanted them to be more meaningful even if it meant only one method were chosen for all, however the explanation of them did contribute to my interest in the book. However tracking down of the killer is what the book really is all about, isn't it? After all, it is a suspense novel and the customary conflicts, false trails, hidden motives, and, hopefully, the killer is kept concealed from suspicion up until near the climax or end of the book. The above is a general review to explain the three rating, and why not a four or five although the interest is at a higher level. It is now necessary to be more explicit and follow the book. A mummy is found in a private museum with little provenance to guide the caretakers. It is found to be only hundreds of years old, not thousands and has advanced dental fillings and a bullet in its ankle. These discoveries cause the entire holdings of the museum to come under scrutiny. Bog preservation and skin shrinking are found in other artifacts. A recently hired archaeologist gets tangled in the investigation, we are informed that she holds a false name, that she and her mother had been fleeing undisclosed pursuers for years. Peelings are slowly unwrapped from these discoveries, the woman is kidnapped and detective Rizzoli goes into high mode and finds out facts about the museum owners and donors, eventually leading to a resolution and Doctor Isles gets lost in the rush. All these complications hold our interest and create suspense, however why they happen when they do is not always explained satisfactorily. Still, it did make an interesting read.

Could not put it down, what a page turner right to the end. Thanks Tess for another intriguing mind blowing thriller.

One of the better books in the series, the Egyptian antiquities aspect was a interesting take.

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