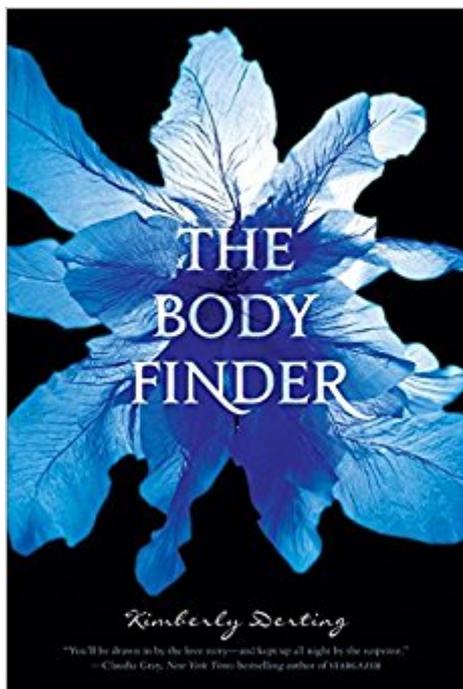


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The Body Finder



Synopsis

The first book in the Body Finder series from Kimberly Derting is equal parts romance and mystery. Sixteen-year-old Violet is hiding two secrets. The first is her confusing new feelings for her childhood best friend Jay. The second is her unusual ability to sense the dead...and the people who killed them. Violet has never considered her morbid ability to be a gift, but when a serial killer begins terrorizing her small town, Violet realizes she may be the only person who can stop him. Ever protective of her, Jay agrees to help Violet, and as they search, Violet realizes she isn't the only one whose emotions have changed. But as they fall in love, Violet is also getting closer and closer to discovering the killer...and becoming his prey herself. The Body Finder is the compulsive first book in the four-book Body Finder series by Kimberly Derting.

Book Information

Series: Body Finder (Book 1)

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Customer Reviews

Grade 9 Up • This story begins with an intriguing and promising premise: violent deaths leave a unique imprint on the victim and the killer, and Violet Ambrose can sense them. Add in the facts that her uncle is the local police chief and that a serial killer is on the loose, and you have the makings for an exciting suspense/horror novel. Unfortunately, *The Body Finder* never lives up to its potential. Instead, most of the book deals with the relationship between Violet and her lifelong best buddy, Jay, who has suddenly blossomed into the junior-class hottie. Does he know that she is attracted to him? Does he feel the same about her? Is he really oblivious to all of the girls throwing themselves at him? Could they, should they, will they be more than friends? These questions are

mulled over and nauseated. And when they are finally answered, the writing devolves into near-bodice-ripper style. "She surrendered to the onslaught of his deep, fervent kisses...

"The romance and the mystery in *THE BODY FINDER* were so intense that I didn't know whether to hold my breath or scream. I did know I wouldn't be getting anything done until I read the whole book." (Melissa Marr, author of *WICKED LOVELY*) "You'll be drawn in by the love story and kept up all night by the suspense." (Claudia Gray, New York Times bestselling author of *Stargazer*) "First-time novelist Derting has written a suspenseful mystery and sensual love story that will captivate readers who enjoy authentic high school settings, snappy dialogue, sweet romance, and heart-stopping drama. A real page-turner, this will have readers checking behind themselves and refusing to go anywhere alone." (Booklist) "Derting's first novel demonstrates unusual skill in weaving together contemporary teenage preoccupations with its paranormal plot twist. A strong debut from a promising author." (Publishers Weekly) "Several twists and turns keep the pages flipping." (Voice of Youth Advocates (VOYA))

Violet has a gift, although, some would say it's more of a curse. She is drawn to those who have died by violence; rats killed by the family cat, squirrels killed by owls, or fox, and then when she was only eight years old, the remains of a young girl. Buried in a shallow grave in the nearby forest she and her dad explore regularly, Violet finds her first murder victim. It won't be the last. Her mom, dad, uncle and aunt, and Jay, her best friend since first grade, are the only ones who know her secret. Since her uncle is the chief of police, he can protect her while still using the information she is able to share with him. When girls start disappearing from the area, he needs all the help he can get. Between the confusing new feelings Violet has for Jay, school, missing girls, and life in general, Violet has a lot on her plate. Jay is her rock, her protector, and she hopes much more. Even Jay, her family, and the police may not be able to keep her from finding a killer; the hard way! The authors' writing is highly readable, with a unique, and engaging "voice." Her characters are believable, her dialogue natural. She has captured this age group beautifully. Her building tension throughout the story is perfectly done, and even though I thought I had figured out "who done it", (and I had), I wasn't sure, so it didn't spoil anything for me. This is an excellent story, and I am ready to start the next in the series. I'm hoping it holds up to the promise!

The Body Finder is book one in the Body Finder series by Kimberly Derting. I loved this book and stayed up until 2am to finish it! I then had to look up the next two books and buy them! This is about a high school girl and her best friend Jay. They grew up together but things are changing now that they are teens. Feelings are blooming and they are dealing with this. Jay is the only one outside the family that knows of Violet's secret gift of finding dead bodies. Well now she is going to need this gift because a serial killer is in town. Once the killer knows Violet's secret, he wants her. It is a very exciting story with lots of realistic interactions, dialogue, and the added fantasy of the gift even seemed so realistic that you forget it is fantasy. It has everything in this book; fantasy, romance, suspense, action, and a thriller. It is a fun ride that I enjoyed completely. Can't wait to see what is in the next books. Great job.

Pulse racing, heart stopping YA paranormal romance. It is rare for a book to elicit a strong physiological response but The Body Finder brought me to near hyperventilating. Twice. This book is a fine example of young adult, paranormal romance, mystery thriller, supernatural fiction. Kimberly Derting's characters are fully developed and three dimensional. Violet Abrose is at once lovable and vulnerable. Her best friend Jay Heaton is one of the most endearing characters I've had the pleasure of reading and his presence on the page almost always brings a smile. The challenges that they face together, and the secret that they must keep, feels entirely plausible. Violet was born with the ability to sense the bodies of the dead by visual and auditory imprints that their deaths leave behind. These imprints are stronger on those who have suffered a violent death and leave a similar imprint on the person who killed them. I'm often disappointed with the reasons given for a character to hide their supernatural talents but Derting does a fantastic job of demonstrating the dangers of discovery. This adds to the overall suspense of The Body Finder making it one of the most thrilling novels I have read this year. I would recommend The Body Finder to readers of paranormal romance, young adult, mysteries, and suspense thrillers. Though the romance of The Body Finder is filled with the innocence and discovery of young adulthood I believe it is enjoyable for readers of all ages.

The book had a great plot that flowed extremely well, it didn't progress too fast. It also had what most young adult books look for in the romance department as well. It seemed as though you could pretty much call what was going to happen in the end, and shocker Layla and Jay end up together. It seemed a bit anticlimactic in that aspect. Girl survives, everything turns out hunky dory, and the boy and girl end up together. The theme had more that could have been played with. All in all, I

enjoyed the book, and would recommend it, as long as you're not looking for any kind of massive plot twists. Looking forward to reading the next book in the series!

Kind of a suspense/thriller for YA. Violet has a "gift." She is drawn to dead bodies. She is also developing a serious "thing" for her best friend Jay. Together they are pulled into a serial murder investigation. The story was very enjoyable. Violet was likable w/o those stupid characteristics that are often given to teenagers to make them seem a little annoying instead of just young and less worldly. Violet and Jay's relationship is wonderful and makes you want it to work out.

This was a great read. I found it on a blog hop and loved the cover and the premise, but I wasn't expecting to love it right away. The characters are great, the plot believable (almost too believable) with a slight paranormal twist. This isn't heavy into the paranormal setting, which was refreshing from all the UF and PNR books I read. There is a romance aspect of it, but it focuses more on the plot. I was a little concerned at first, when we got to read from the bad guy's point of view because I didn't want it to be spoiled who it was. I hate knowing when no one else in the book knows (even if you are supposed to). It was well written to keep the identity a secret until the very end. The plot itself was very realistic, because it happens in real life. It drew me in. While I found it very sad, I found it very intense and riveting at the same time and I couldn't put this book down until I absorbed every last word written.

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