VERVE BOOKS



DEAD FLOWERS

NICOLA MONAGHAN

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MARKETING & SALES POINTS

Shortlisted for the UEA Crime Fiction Award 2019

Nicola Monaghan is a previous winner of the Betty Trask Award, the Authors' Club Best First Novel Prize, and the Waverton Good Read

First novel in new cold case series, for fans of Kate Atkinson's Case Histories and British TV Dramas like *Unforgotten* and *Line of Duty*

Inspired by true stories from two decades of history

Dual timeline in 1970s and modern day woven intricately together and culminating in a satisfying denouement

THE BOOK

She doesn't trust the police. She used to be one of them.

Hardened by ten years on the murder squad, DNA analyst Doctor Sian Love has seen it all. So when she finds human remains in the basement of her new home, she knows the drill.

Except this time it's different. **This time, it's personal...**

A page-turning cold case investigation, *Dead Flowers* is an intriguing, multi-layered story perfect for fans of Kate Atkinson's Case Histories and British crime dramas like *Line of Duty* and *Unforgotten*.

PRAISE FOR NICOLA MONAGHAN

'Monaghan's novel is direct and deceptively simple. In spite of suffering there are surprising touches of humour and tenderness that bloom like flowers on asphalt' - ***Times***

'Monaghan's convincing characters swing unpredictably between terrifying and tender, and the often violent encounters usually have a bleakly funny edge' - ***Independent (London)***

'Monaghan's is a powerful, loving, and honest new voice' - **A. L. Kennedy, author of *Paradise* and *So I Am Glad***

'A gripping, mile-a-minute British debut... Enthralling' - ***Kirkus Reviews***

'Tension builds slowly but surely in this dark gripper' - ***Sunday Sport***

'This is an intriguing murder mystery... Monaghan has a flair for leading the reader in a certain direction only to shift path further along' - ***NB Magazine***

'Old murders, family secrets and long-told lies are the ingredients of this splendid, gripping crime debut' - **William Ryan**

'Nicola Monaghan has a talent for making characters real in remarkably few words' - ***The Bookbag***

NICOLA MONAGHAN (Location: Nottingham, UK)



Nicola Monaghan has lived and worked in London, Paris, Chicago and New York but returned to her home town of Nottingham in 2002 to pursue a masters in Creative Writing. She graduated from Nottingham Trent University in 2004 with a distinction, and went on to write her first novel, *The Killing Jar*, set on the council estate where she lived as a child. This debut novel was highly critically acclaimed, and won a Betty Trask Award, the Authors' Club Best First Novel Prize and the Waverton Good Read. She has written several other novels, novellas and a collection of short stories. She also teaches Creative Writing at De Montfort University, and online at YouTube, Udemy and Skillshare. Follow Nicola on Twitter @nicolanovelist