



Dead Simple

By Peter James

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Dead Simple By Peter James

A special edition of Dead Simple, the first book in the Roy Grace series by Peter James, reissued with a bright retro design to celebrate Pan's 70th anniversary. It was meant to be a harmless stag-night prank. A few hours later Michael Harrison has disappeared and his friends are dead. With only three days to the wedding, Detective Superintendent Roy Grace - a man haunted by the shadow of his own missing wife - is contacted by Michael's beautiful, distraught fiancée, Ashley Harper. Grace discovers that the one man who ought to know Michael Harrison's whereabouts is saying nothing. But then he has a lot more to gain than anyone realizes, for one man's disaster is another man's fortune ...

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Dead Simple By Peter James Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

British author James's far-fetched but terrifying thriller is the first of a new series featuring Det. Supt. Roy Grace. Michael Harrison, a successful real estate developer with a penchant for practical jokes, gets a horrible taste of his own medicine. As a prank, four of his friends bury Michael alive in a coffin equipped with a breathing tube and a bottle of whiskey and leave him, ostensibly for a couple of hours. But when their van crashes head-on into a truck and three of them are killed (the fourth dies later "in hospital"), Michael is trapped. His cell phone doesn't work, but he does have a two-way radio whose companion is in the hands of Davey, a mentally challenged young man who finds the phone near the scene of the accident. Grace, a detective with a taste for the supernatural (he uses mediums to help him solve crimes), gets on the case and discovers just how devious Michael's friends have been. The "buried alive" trope is undeniably powerful, and Grace shows promise as a hero—but the crime and the plot surrounding Michael's plight are just too cumbersome and transparent to really engage the reader.

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From [Booklist](#)

James, the executive producer of the recent film adaptation of *The Merchant of Venice*, brings his filmic talent to a suspense tale that is almost excruciatingly easy to visualize. His opening premise is startlingly simple, that of the trickster tricked. Four friends celebrate one of their members' impending marriage by embarking on a pub crawl through several Sussex villages. What the groom-to-be doesn't realize is that his pals plan to play a payback prank on him by burying him alive (with a breathing tube and a walkie-talkie) for a couple hours. They leave the scene and are killed by an oncoming vehicle. Enter Detective Superintendent Roy Grace, assigned to investigate the missing-bridegroom case. Grace finds the case difficult, both because of the dearth of clues and because of his own wife's disappearance some years before. Achingly well plotted, with suspense that has no letup. *Connie Fletcher*

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Review

A terrific tale of greed, seduction and betrayal Daily Telegraph Ingenious plotting, high suspense and tight writing Daily Mail

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ariane Gray:

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Harry Anderson:

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Carl Brinkley:

As a scholar exactly feel bored to reading. If their teacher asked them to go to the library or make summary for some guide, they are complained. Just small students that has reading's heart and soul or real their leisure activity. They just do what the teacher want, like asked to go to the library. They go to generally there but nothing reading very seriously. Any students feel that reading is not important, boring along with can't see colorful pics on there. Yeah, it is being complicated. Book is very important for you personally. As we know that on this age, many ways to get whatever we wish. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this Dead Simple can make you truly feel more interested to read.

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