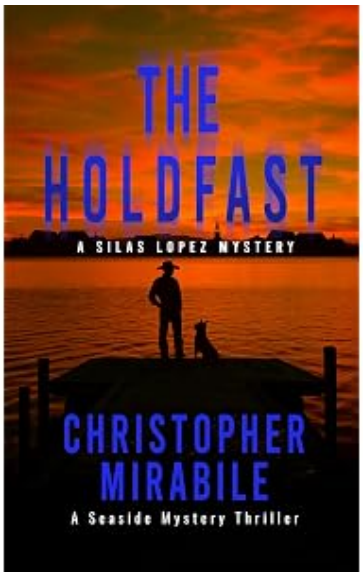
Readers' Favorite®
Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: The Holdfast

Subtitle: Silas Lopez Mystery Book 2

Author: Christopher Mirabile

Genre: Fiction - Mystery - Legal



Appearance:

5

The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

Plot:

5

The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

Development:

5

Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.

Formatting:

5

Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.

Marketability:

5

Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.

Overall Opinion:

5

The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

Review: Reviewed by Alma Boucher for Readers' Favorite

In The Holdfast Silas Lopez Mystery Book 2 by Christopher Mirabile, Connie is found face down, dead on her kitchen floor. It appears that she died of natural causes. Rumors surface that Connie had been caught up in a fight involving a property developer. Something does not feel right to Silas. He wants to find out what really happened to Connie. Silas and his team's investigation uncovers a disturbing connection. Several corporations own property in the area, but the same lawyer is listed as the secretary for all the companies. They also use the same PO Box. What is supposed to be a routine investigation quickly turns into something more complicated and sinister. Silas and his team want to find the truth about what is happening in their town while protecting the people who may be caught in the middle.

The Holdfast by Christopher Mirabile was a fantastic story. The pacing allows me to process every detail before moving on. The writing was outstanding and made me feel right at home in the community. Silas and his team worked well together to find the truth, and they made a great team. The mystery deepened throughout the story, and I had no idea what would happen next. The twists had me turning the pages as fast as I could, too afraid I would miss something important. The book was expertly written and hooked me from start to finish. I learned that some people will do anything to fulfill their greedy desires, no matter the cost. I liked the ending and could not have wished for anything better.