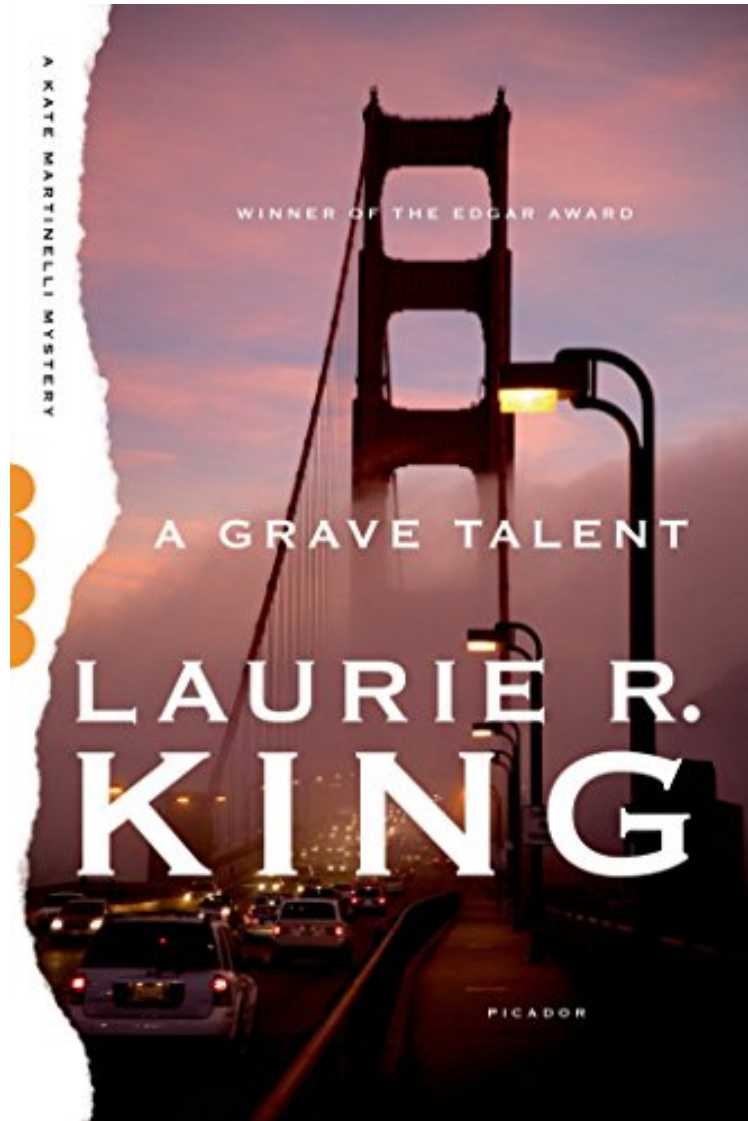


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## A Grave Talent: A Novel (A Kate Martinelli Mystery)

Von Laurie R. King

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**Von Laurie R. King : A Grave Talent: A Novel (A Kate Martinelli Mystery)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Grave Talent: A Novel (A Kate Martinelli Mystery):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A superior detective storyVon William SugarmanI'd read several of Ms. King's Mary Russell books and was very disappointed. "The Beekeeper's Apprentice" showed promise, but the next books in the series were real yawners. So I picked up "A Grave Talent" with very low expectations.Was I ever surprised! This is an incredibly good mystery that never lets up on the suspense. I had a problem for a while with the obvious intelligence and education of Kate

Martinelli and Al Hawkin, but soon realized that I'd simply been reading too many 87th Precinct stories and watching too much "NYPD Blue". I just thought all cops were like that, and it's a pleasure to find out that I was wrong. The flow of the case was completely logical and totally believable. And the three main characters - Kate, Hawkin, and Lee - were also completely believable. I also appreciated the fact that King didn't even mention the nature of Kate's relationship with Lee until halfway through the story. It turned out to be important to the story, but still King never really made it the primary issue. I have one wish and one complaint. The wish is that I'd like to see more of Vaun Adams. She's a very interesting character and she's someone I'd like to see and hear more of. The complaint? Without giving anything away, the fate of Lee Cooper is a shock and a real downer. I hope that's resolved positively in future installments in this series. And I hope there are future installments. King should throw the Mary Russell series away (it's been going downhill since "Beekeeper") and concentrate on Kate Martinelli. If this is any indication she's got a great thing going.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This is NOT your basic murder mystery. Von Amy Whether you like murder mysteries or not, you will love this book. In a town outside of San Francisco, a series of shocking murders has occurred, each victim a child. Detective Kate Martinelli, just promoted to homicide, and her partner, Al Hawkin, are assigned to this initially impossible case. The only clue and only suspect is Vaun Adams, arguably the century's greatest painter, once convicted of strangling a little girl. Martinelli must explore this artist's dark past to find truth in the case now facing her. With side stories and surprising twists in a deeply engrossing plot, I found this book to be an entertaining and carefully woven mystery. A Grave Talent is an amazing, haunting work of art. King grabbed my interest forcefully; I was helpless to resist the story, despite its brutal topic. As the story unfolded, the plot development and different crime situations wove themselves into a truly compelling pattern. The description was absorbing and very relevant to the focused plot. For example, King's ample description of Vaun Adams' artwork served as a window to the potential criminal's personality. King did an outstanding job of character development. Also, she steps off the main path of the plot to develop side stories regarding the main characters' lives. This was entertaining and helped me to relate with the characters. This book instigated me to immediately read the sequel, To Play the Fool. Laurie King is a remarkable and talented author whose books I devour with excitement and delight. Her books are fabulous and I recommend them to all.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Lone Reader Reviews "A Grave Talent" Von scrump "Human voices wake us, and we drown." (T.S. Eliot, \_The Love Song Of J. Alfred Prufrock\_) In "A Grave Talent", Laurie R. King makes a vigorous and original debut in the "mystery" genre. The characters provided are immediately memorable (even the subcharacters resonate and possess their own existences after they have come and gone), and a meticulous attention to detail is enhanced by noticeably superlative research and scholarship. The plot is direct and unflinching; small female children are being slain and deposited in a remote but well-trafficked area near San Francisco. Others have covered this ground with chilling and eventually deadening precision. Where King shines is in the interleaving of superior human stories with the underlying "whodunit" suspense. It is unnervingly easy to lose the thread of the plot in interesting and tangential ways; I routinely found myself unable to distinguish whether I was reading the story for the culmination of a character's anecdote, or for the culmination of the mystery established. This, to me, is the essence of a good mystery. It delves into the murk of human motivations, and, without creating artificial tensions, allows the tension of the narrative to evolve from the minutiae of the characters' existences. You find yourself engrossed in the sidebar explanations of a character's life, and only afterwards realize that the motivation for their actions has been explained, without overt pedantry. The story starts rapidly and develops just as rapidly, changing voice periodically without being jarring. There is little to no diminution of the forward action of the narrative; flashback episodes are avoided, with narrative backtracking occurring through character-driven anecdotes. King vehemently avoids overexplanation, favoring historical brevity in her characters; of all her gifts in characterization, it is her willingness to allow her characters idiosyncrasy and enigmatic behavior that shines. If I were to sum up my reaction to "A Grave Talent", I would do so thus: Laurie R. King knows people, and in that knowledge lies the power of her narratives to engross, hold and eventually enthrall the reader. Given a rating of four stars because I covet a house on Russian Hill, and reviewers are supposed to be idiosyncratic. Thanks for reading, Ashton Treadway

Kurzbeschreibung THE EDGAR AWARD-WINNING NOVEL THE FIRST KATE MARTINELLI MYSTERY In Laurie R. King's Grave Talent, the unthinkable has happened in a small community outside of San Francisco. A series of shocking murders has occurred, the victims far too innocent and defenseless. For lesbian Detective Kate Martinelli, just promoted to Homicide and paired with a seasoned cop who's less than thrilled to be handed a green partner, it's a difficult case that just keeps getting harder. Then the police receive what appears to be a case-breaking lead: it seems that one of the residents of this odd colony is Vaun Adams, arguably the century's greatest woman painter and a notorious felon once convicted of a heinous crime. But what really happened eighteen years ago? To bring a murderer to justice, Kate must delve into the artist's dark past even if it means losing everything she holds dear. Pressestimmen "A Grave Talent" kept me reading deep into the night. "--The Boston Globe" [An] amazing first

novel with intelligence, intrigue, and intricacy...This work exhibits strong psychological undertones, compelling urgency, and dramatic action."--"Library Journal" "A Grave Talent" kept me reading deep into the night. "The Boston Globe" [An] amazing first novel with intelligence, intrigue, and intricacy...This work exhibits strong psychological undertones, compelling urgency, and dramatic action. "Library Journal"" A Grave Talent kept me reading deep into the night. The Boston Globe [An] amazing first novel with intelligence, intrigue, and intricacy...This work exhibits strong psychological undertones, compelling urgency, and dramatic action. Library Journal""A Grave Talent kept me reading deep into the night." --The Boston Globe"[An] amazing first novel with intelligence, intrigue, and intricacy...This work exhibits strong psychological undertones, compelling urgency, and dramatic action." --Library Journal

Kurzbeschreibung THE EDGAR AWARD-WINNING NOVEL THE FIRST KATE MARTINELLI MYSTERY

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