

Blue Water Hues (Ashley Grant #2) by Vicki Delany

Date Read – 20190117

Rating – 3 Stars

A quick and quite enjoyable book that I read out of order because of the 2019 Arthur Ellis entrant for Best Novella. Although Vicki Delany is one of my all time favourite authors and I have read most of her books and series or have them on my TBR list I don't think I can rate this as one of her best efforts. It's a very good story that I liked but I found it a bit predictable and I had the perp identified very early in the story. I also didn't find as much humour in this book as in some of Ms Delany's other books. Some good characters especially Ashley, Sergeant Alan Westbrook and Simon and a fairly well described setting all of which I probably would have found better if I'd read book 1 first. Anyway I now fully intend to read that book perhaps even interrupting my AE project when I need a short filler or laundromat book.

The B-Team: The Case of the Angry First Wife by Melodie Campbell

Date Read – 20190117

Rating – 4 Stars

I really liked this book and it's nice to be able to read an Arthur Ellis 2019 nominee for Best Novella which is actually the first book in a new series by Melodie Campbell as I've read and really liked all of her Goddaughter series and I didn't have to start this series out of order. I'm not sure I found this story quite as funny as the Gina Gallo series but it had lots of chuckles and it sure has a fabulous cast of characters in the B-Team and it's hard to single any of them out as the best but I think Kitty comes in as number 1 with Del a close 2nd. Now one of the things I really liked is all the interactions between the characters in this book and the characters from the Goddaughter series which, of course, is very logical because the stories take place in the same location but even more than that these people are actually all of the same family and "family" here takes on all meanings you want it to! I did find a very close resemblance between part of the plot premise of this book and that of the Gina Gallo's "The Artful Goddaughter" and it's kind of strange that all of Del's great plans go sideways, just as Gina's do, and with the usual funny but eventually successful results. I'm now looking forward to the next entry in this series and I hope it has even closer ties to the Goddaughter series and even more laughs.

Murder Among the Pines: A Maxine Benson Mystery (Rapid Reads) by John Lawrence Reynolds

Date Read – 20180920

Rating – 3 Stars

No Review But this was a much better read than the first two books in this series.