



PLAYED TO DEATH

by

BV Lawson

When a mutilated body is found on the stage of a rundown Opera House, the reluctant new owner, a former FBI agent, must untangle a web of betrayal, music, and murder to save the soul of a small coastal town.

About the Author

BV Lawson's stories have won the Dillydoun fiction prize, Short Mystery Fiction Society Derringer Award, *Noir Nation* Golden Fedora, and *Gemini Magazine* Awards. She's also been longlisted for *New Writers Flash*, *Fractured Lit* Elsewhere Prize, Bath Flash Contest, and Fish Publishing Short Story prizes; shortlisted for *Flash 500 Quarterly* and *Anthology Magazine* awards; and a finalist for the *Pulpfictional* Flash Contest, *Hammond Review* International Prize and Tucson Festival of Books Literary Competitions. BV's Scott Drayco novels have been a featured *Library Journal* pick and finalists for *Shamus*, *Silver Falchion*, *Daphne*, and *Foreword Book Reviews* Awards.

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Crime consultant and former classical pianist Scott Drayco reluctantly finds himself on Virginia's Delmarva Peninsula in Cape Unity, a dilapidated fishing village where vacation homes once provided a playground for the rich. In the center of town rises an imposing Opera House recently bequeathed by a grateful client to Drayco, whose hopes of a quick sale are soon dashed by the ambitions of townspeople looking for civic rebirth and a new client with dreams of his own personal redemption.

When the client is murdered in the Opera House, the letter "G" mockingly carved into his chest, Drayco, assisted by the local Sheriff and his attractive Deputy, navigates a maze of illicit love affairs, hostility over immigration and coastal development and a vendetta reaching across the Atlantic into some of the darkest days of human history. Along the way Drayco must overcome doubts about his own past that cost the lives of two innocent children on his last case—before the tensions in Cape Unity explode into more violence, and he becomes the next victim.

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Praise for BV Lawson's Fiction:

"Now this story was close to brilliance....loved the concept. The plot was fast, dark and thrilling." - IHeartReading.net

"One of the best I've read this year. Scary and triumphant in the bleakest kind of way with two of the best characters I've read." - AJ Hayes, author of the Mad Dog and Englishman series

"I'd recommend this book to experienced mystery readers who enjoy wrestling with skillfully placed hints that don't easily reveal their secrets." - Long and Short Reviews