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Jussi Adler-Olsen
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This laconic cop quietly suffered bureaucracy, a guilty conscience and a new partner, Assad Fares Fares , as he barreled ahead to solve an intriguing crime. Kaas as watchable as before, though a few well-intentioned attempts to lighten up his character — an orphaned cat is brought in,

a speech about his motivations is given — are clumsily executed, and instead divert from his terse and magnetic personality. In the story, Morck and Assad investigate the deaths of a brother and sister whose supposed killer confessed immediately after the crimes. It completely explains his friendships and involvements in this story which are only skimmed in passing. Feb 21, Jaksen rated it really liked it. Excellent second book in this series by Danish writer Jussi Adler-Olsen. The fact that Carl takes the job seriously is surprising to his superiors, but his successful first case - Book 1, the Keeper of Lost Causes - establishes Carl's reputation.

Almost to his own surprise. In this second book, Carl does an even better job, determined to find the real killers behind the deaths of a young woman and her brother which happened twenty years ago. Kind of a warning here: there is rather graphic sex AND murder in this book, but nothing that most readers couldn't handle. Assad, a recent Syrian immigrant is back again as Carl's civil servant assistant, along with a 'secretary,' Rose, an interesting addition to the cast of regulars.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book, another of my 'read-it-in-two-days. Plus the writing is terrific; there's humor between the regulars, but it's not overdone. There are undercurrents and a few subplots which only add to the tension and reality of the series. So far I am loving it. Apr 17, Tara rated it it was ok. Unfortunately, I didn't find this one nearly as engrossing as the first book in this series.

As a matter of preference, I tend to prefer books where the culprit isn't revealed until the very end as opposed to ones where the reader knows from the start who the villain is, and the story is all about the detective finding the proof -- so that was one disappointment with this book. A worse disappointment was the story of the crimes -- bored, sadistic rich people hurting people just for the rush -- Unfortunately, I didn't find this one nearly as engrossing as the first book in this series. A worse disappointment was the story of the crimes -- bored, sadistic rich people hurting people just for the rush -- which is a story that's been done FAR too many times for this to be anything but a boring reread of something I've read and watched before. Rose isn't really a great character, and I found Assad more annoyingly wrong-headed as opposed to sneakily competent as compared with the last one.

And since all the baddies, and almost every other character in the book, are so completely contemptible, their story didn't give me any more than sweeping sense of indifference and an urge to finish this thing as soon as I possibly could. So all in all, a disappointment. I guess I'm still interested in Carl and some of the other characters in his life, and I'll probably read the third book at some point, but it will have to be a significant improvement for me to keep going from there. Dec 13, fleurette rated it liked it Shelves: crime. This is my first book by Jussi Adler-Olsen and I believe that I will read another book by this author one day. The beginning of this story is rather slow and I had some trouble with getting into it.

But after a while I really enjoyed the whole thing. The plot is very good. The whole idea This is my first book by Jussi Adler-Olsen and I believe that I will read another book by this author one day. However, in my opinion one of the best things about this book is Kimmie. At first I underestimated her importance for the story. But later on I noticed the whole complexity of her character. She is such a complicated, ambiguous, tormented person. Definitely one of the best and most interesting characters I found in a book lately. He may not be the most distinguish hero to me he is a lot like some other detectives I read about but nice to follow and likeable after all. This my by my first book by this author but, like I already said, probably not my last one. Almost 5 stars - I enjoyed this audiobook very much, and liked the narrator much better than the first one of the series.

This series is a pretty dark police mystery, starting off with a person being hunted by a group of people with various deadly weapons. Like the first one, we don't really know who it is, or the context until late in the book, but I guess it's done that way to let you know right away that there will be violence. And there is. Along with a large number of psychotics from all walks of life. In fact, it's pretty hard to believe there are this many murderous psychos at one time in a place like Holland. Probably not, but it makes for pretty exciting reading. If you're a fan of dark fiction, serial killers, police mysteries, etc, you should give this series a try. There is some comic relief in the form of Assad, his assistant from the first book, and a new secretary Rose, who is outspoken but competent, both of which Carl has trouble dealing with at times, especially when she starts buying office furniture.

There is indeed a noir theme throughout the book with respect to all the perpetrators who are right nasty pieces of work. Or will something else befall them Jan 01, Becky rated it really liked it. The Danes and Swedes and Finns and Norwegians write great detective novels. The detectives are always intense, conflicted, troubled, real. In this case, the detective Carl Morck and his Dept Q are also quite humorous. Assistants Assad and Rose are complements to Morck's darkness. Morck himself is a one-man Greek Chorus whose comments, both internal and explicitly verbal, made me laugh out loud more than once. But the mystery itself is gruesome. It's one of those where the guilty parties are known to us almost from page 1. The point of the story, then, is how Morck and his team discover adequate evidence to prove guilt. Perhaps by coincidence this story also included a seriously insane woman, after I'd just finished the Dublin Murder Squad 4 which shared the slow and steady descent of one of the suspects into a dark and irrevocable hell of mental illness. I've gotta find something less dark. Next up is Henning Mankell and Kurt Wallender. That should help. The first book in the Station Q mysteries, set in Denmark, was a pleasant surprise last year. I was worried about the sophomore jinx with this second book, but I needn't have been. The story was different and excellent. Detective Inspector Morck is such an interesting character, intelligent, troubled, thoughtful and funny. His assistant, Assad, is a wily, hard working character and I still want to find out more about him.

Added to the mix in this second story is Rose, an unwanted assistant thrust upon Morck by his boss. But we find that Rose, even though she is outspoken and irritates Morck to no end, she also proves to be a smart, independent thinking and hard working. I like how Olsen presents his stories, alternating from the point of view of Morck and that of the suspect s. It's a dark story, edgy and hard hitting but engrossing all the same. If you enjoyed the first book, you won't be disappointed with the next in the series.

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Give it a try. Jan 16, Nancy rated it really liked it Shelves: books , countries , waiting-challenge. I am loving this series. This is the second book in the author's Department Q series. In the first book he is given an assistant, Assad, who brings levity to the book. In this second installment he has been given a second assistant, Rose, who is equally entertaining. It's a dark story but engrossing and entertaining all the same. I loved the great 4. I loved the great characters, the humor and the suspense. I am looking forward to Book 3. I guess the follow-up to any successful first novel is doomed to receive some criticism. Mercy was without doubt a cracking debut and worthy of praise. Disgrace reflects the lives of a specialist Police unit looking into cold cases Department Q headed up by our main detective Carl Morck. Morck has lots of issues that are agitated in this second outing and we learn more; he gains a new assistant in Rose and his sidekick continues to struggle with the language and add a comic twist to some of it I guess the follow-up to any successful first novel is doomed to receive some criticism.

Morck has lots of issues that are agitated in this second outing and we learn more; he gains a new assistant in Rose and his sidekick continues to struggle with the language and add a comic twist to some of the well written dialogue. The good news is that you could read this without having picked up Mercy. Disgrace is a dark novel about the influence of an elite group of students from a very successful school were many of the great and the good of society attended over the years. The old school network appears to have stalled and suppressed the original investigation and attempts to re-open the case are met with opposition within the corridors of power and the police themselves; this makes the Masons seem to be amateurs in comparison. An original plot and difficult investigation reveals dark subjects that unsettle the reader and some of the violence is hard to comprehend as it is written as it happens without any excuse or attempt to justify itself.

You will struggle with the violence and the character's motivation or reasoning; who is good? As a result this a terrific novel asking a lot of questions, challenging our preconceptions and comfort zones. It is full of twists and thrills and drives you at a heart racing pace to the last page. If you pick up this one first, read it with enthusiasm it will not disappoint and Mercy will then give you a wonderful back-story. I can hardly wait for further books in this tremendous series and feel Jussi Adler-Olsen is a real force in this genre and a name to rival the leaders in this field. Apr 13, Lewis Weinstein rated it liked it Shelves: crime-and-thrillers. This book had its good points but also weaknesses. The criminals were among the most odious of characters and I got tired of reading about their disgusting behavior. Which brings me to the major flaw.

The better parts have to do with tracking them down and even more with the interactions between the lead detective and his most unusual assistants, which showed consistent intelligence and humor, as well as the difficulties of dealing with a complicated set of cold cases. The better parts have to do with tracking them down and even more with the interactions between the lead detective and his most unusual assistants, which showed consistent intelligence and humor, as well as the difficulties of dealing with a complicated set of cold cases.

View 1 comment. This was quite a disappointment after the first book. The bad guys were really, really bad, and the good guy girl wasn't very good. Assad wasn't funny, and neither was Carl. So much of the plot was so absurdly unbelievable, and a lot of the cruelty felt gratuitous and repetitive. There were also too many extra characters, and I refused to believe that someone like Rose could work in a professional setting don't you at least This was quite a disappointment after the first book. There were also too many extra characters, and I refused to believe that someone like Rose could work in a professional setting don't you at least have to try to get along with people?

I didn't laugh or even smile once, and there seemed to be these random reveals Assad fighting with another man, for example that went nowhere. I loved the first book and eagerly waited for this one, but I was let down. It was a throwaway. Disgrace is a fairly straightforward police procedural thriller that slowly builds to a suspenseful climax. The strengths of the book are the characterisation, pacing, and page-turning prose. Carl Morck, Assad his Syrian colleague, and Rose his new administrator, are all well constructed characters whose prejudices and personalities lead to some entertaining exchanges.

Where the book has some serious problems, depending on how much you want to suspend your sense of realism, is the plot. But to do so over twenty odd years with no rumours or accusations or cases is not credible. Nor is the fact that the cold case unit consists of three people - a detective, a non-police helper and an administrator, and they are afforded no additional resources, even when the scope of the investigation becomes apparent. In fact, there are loads of elements of the story that make little sense when reflected on.

And for the most part it is an engaging story. Nonetheless, an entertaining enough tale, with a strong central cast of characters. I came across this in the airport. I disliked the cartoony, manichean villains I came across this in the airport. I disliked the cartoony, manichean villains and the fact that their evil habits hunting were described over and over in a very repetitive way, instead of maybe shedding some light into their motivations, histories, justifications or views on themselves.

Other than a cliché both as a sidekick and as an immigrant, he didn't have any personality. The book developed in a typical and unoriginal way, the only unexpected thing being a display of corniness and sentimentality from a character that frankly I didn't care about. In other words I struggled to get through this book, and by the end I kind of wished the bad guys would win. I'm giving it a 2 because not having read the first book might have been part of the problem Oct 20, Skip rated it liked it Shelves: foreign-translated , crime-detective. Categories : films Danish films German films Swedish films Danish-language films French-language films crime thriller films s mystery films Danish crime thriller films German crime thriller films German mystery films Swedish crime thriller films Swedish mystery films Films shot in Denmark Films shot in Germany Films shot in Hamburg Zentropa films Nordisk Film films Department Q.

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