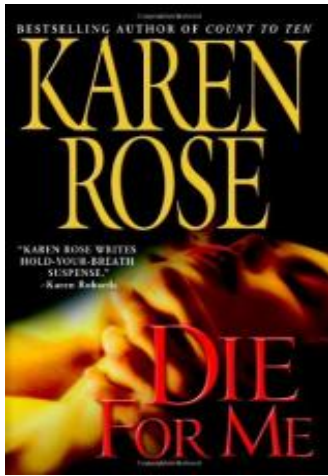


Die For Me

by Karen Rose



About the Book

COME TO ME

The first victim is found in a snow-covered Philadelphia field. Detective Vito Ciccotelli enlists the aid of archaeologist Sophie Johannsen to determine exactly what lies beneath the frozen ground. Despite years of unearthing things long buried, nothing can prepare Sophie for the matrix of graves dug with chilling precision. The victims buried there haunt her. But the empty graves terrify her-the killer isn't done yet.

SCREAM FOR ME

He is cold and calculating, the master of a twisted game. Even with Vito and Sophie hot on his trail, he will not stop. One more empty grave must be filled, and one last scream must be heard-the scream of an archaeologist who is too close for comfort and too near to resist?

DIE FOR ME

Discussion Guide

1. On grieving. Vito still grieves the woman he loves and Sophie still grieves her sister Elle. How much of their grief is really guilt?

2. On sacrifice. Many of the characters in *Die For Me* have sacrificed for others. What is the nature of their sacrifice? Have you ever sacrificed in a similar way for someone or something you held dear?
- * Sophie gives up the career opportunity of a lifetime to return home to care for Anna.
 - * Yuri Petrovich Chertov sacrificed his freedom.
3. On falling in love. Sophie listens to Vito sing and realizes later "it was an odd moment" to have fallen in love.
- * Have you ever been in love?
 - * Do you remember a moment in which it "happened" or was it gradual?
4. On evil versus insanity. Simon is willing to cross any societal more to achieve his goal.
- * What is Simon's goal?
 - * Does Simon's true goal transcend fame and recognition?
 - * Is Simon crazy or just evil?
5. On the "Big M"?Murder. Claire Reynolds is Simon's first murder.
- * Why do you think Simon waited so long to take his first life?
 - * Was it merely the fact that the need had not presented itself or was there a line even Simon hesitated to cross? Or could it been perhaps a bit of both?
 - * What do you think goes through a killer's mind as they commit their first murder?
 - * Do you think the second murder is as hard as the first?
6. On sociopathy. **Die For Me** is chock full of sociopaths?Simon, of course, but also Jager Van Zandt, Stacy Savard, Claire Reynolds, and Simon's father, Arthur Vartanian.
- * Who is the worst?
 - * Of the other sociopaths, only Simon committed murder. Are the others guilty as well?
7. On sin by omission. Several characters commit no overt crimes, but are they guilty as well? Of what sins are they guilty?
- * Derek Harrington
 - * Connie Vartanian, Simon's mother
8. On Daniel Vartanian. Daniel is a man with a grave secret.
- * If you'd been in Daniel's place, what would you have done about the pictures he'd seen his father possess and presumably destroy?
 - * Did he do the right thing by turning the pictures in to Vito?
9. On technology. *Die For Me* is as chock full of technology as it is of sociopaths. Ground penetrating radar, prosthetic limbs, video games, computer-wiping viruses...
- * Did you learn anything new?
 - * Did you find the use of technology effective in moving the plot ahead?

Author Bio

Karen Rose fell in love with books from the moment she learned to read, with Jo from **Little Women** and Nancy Drew becoming close childhood friends. She started writing stories of her own when the characters started talking in her head and just wouldn't be silenced. When she's not writing stories for readers, Karen writes stories for computers?programming keeps the other side of her brain out of trouble. She lives in sunny Florida with her fantastic husband, an avid fisherman, and two wonderful daughters who also love to read?and write!

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