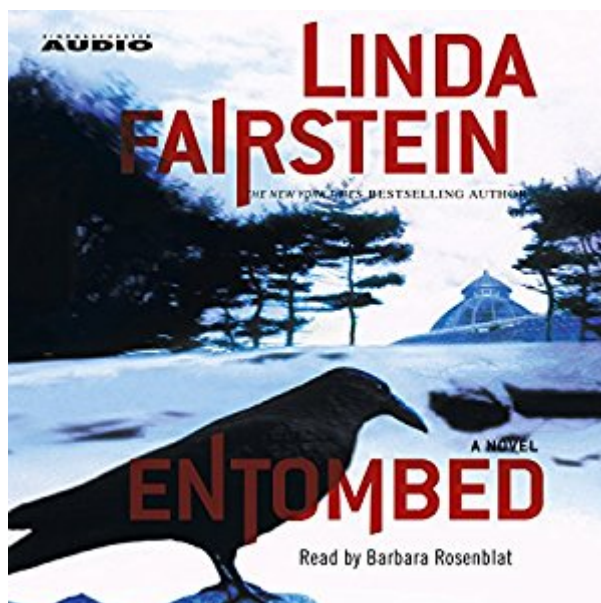


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# Entombed



## Synopsis

New York Times best-selling author and famed former Manhattan prosecutor Linda Fairstein delivers a chilling Alexandra Cooper thriller, in which Alex matches wits with the master of detective fiction himself: Edgar Allan Poe. Workers demolishing a 19th-century brownstone where Poe once lived discover a human skeleton standing - entombed - behind a brick wall. When assistant district attorney and sex crimes prosecutor Alexandra Cooper hears about the case, it strikes her as a classic scene from Poe's fiction, except that forensic evidence shows this young woman died within the last 25 years. Meanwhile, Alex is furious at the news that an old nemesis may be preying on women once again. The Silk Stocking Rapist first struck four years ago, leaving a string of victims in his wake, then abruptly disappeared before Alex and the NYPD could identify him. Now, with improved forensic technology and a national DNA databank to draw from, a fresh attack may give Alex a new lease on many old crimes, just in time to beat the statute of limitations. Masterful and exhilarating, this heady thriller combines dramatic New York City lore and the macabre world of Edgar Allan Poe with the authentic legal and forensic detail that only Linda Fairstein can offer. Entombed is electrifying crime writing at its very best.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Fairstein is terrific. Makes Kellerman and other favorites read like high school. Very savvy, very sophisticated.

This is my first Fairstein novel but I will read her again. The characters are well-drawn, although the law enforcement characters seem a bit stereotyped, as does the language. She tells a good story. My career spanned more than a few years in the criminal justice system, so I am not sure that I have ever seen such a mix of dual roles and fraternization to this level, but it all makes for a good and compelling read nevertheless.

I can't say enough about Linda Fairstein's series of Alex Cooper Mysteries. I bought the tenth, *Killer Heat*, by accident and after reading it immediately bought the first nine in the series. I have read all but one of these in the past few weeks. Fairstein ran the sex crimes unit of the New York City District Attorney's Office for over 20 years which speaks to her credentials. There are five reasons to read her Alex Cooper books:

1. Each book is wrapped around a compelling case which is based on a real crime situation. One or two other cases are also introduced which may or may not be directly related to the main case. You won't know until the last couple of scenes in the book.
2. Each book focuses on some cultural, historical, and/or geographical theme about the New York City area. The book I just finished, *Entombed*, contains a fascinating look at the life and literature of Edgar Allen Poe who lived in New York and who becomes an integral part of the main crime story. Other books focus on the history of Governor's and Roosevelt Islands off Manhattan, the art world centered in New York, Lincoln Center, Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Natural History, King Farouk or Egypt, etc. I read her books with a detailed map of New York by my side and break for frequent Google episodes to delve further into the non-fictional elements in her stories. I not only enjoy a good read but benefit from the educational experience. These are not crime stories for dummies or lazy readers.
3. There are three main characters in the book and each book in the series revolves around their personal and professional lives which works to humanize the characters and add a sense of reality to the fictional events in the story. One cannot tell how much of Alex Cooper is really Linda Fairstein since both are University of Virginia Law School graduates with family money who work for the DA and maintain residences on Martha's Vineyard. By the way, all of the locations referenced in the story are real and described in such a way that you feel that you are there with her enjoying a meal at Patroon's, walking the area of Foley Square or experiencing a storm lashing the shore line of Martha's Vineyard. Some readers may find the details about the "lives" of the main characters a bit tedious or distracting but I enjoy the way she develops her characters and puts flesh on their bones.
4. There is an abundance of police and judicial procedural information to satisfy the "needs" of readers of crime stories. There are also enough "CSI" scenes to satisfy crime techies who like the forensic aspects of police work. Unlike many

authors, Fairstein has extensive real world experience in such matters and can write authoritatively. She published a non-fiction book, Sexual Violence, in 1994 that I have not read but mention it as one of her credentials.<sup>5</sup> There are plot twists and surprises a plenty that demonstrate that Fairstein's credentials as a legal authority are matched by her abilities as an author and that keeps me turning the pages. I am a little distressed that I have but one book of hers left to read. While the ten books in the Alex Cooper series are sequenced by time, they are crafted in such a way that one can read them in any order without sacrificing any significant sense of continuity. Of course, those of us with "Monkish" tendencies would find that impossible to do. I usually give my crime story books away after I read them but the Cooper mysteries will remain a permanent part of my book collection to be read and reread with more detailed maps perhaps and more extensive Googling. I also have this almost uncontrollable need to plan an extended visit to New York. I really want to visit Poe Cottage in the Bronx Botanical Gardens. Needless to say, I highly recommend, Entombed, and the other nine books in the Alex Cooper Mysteries all of which are available from ,com. Bob Davis

I've enjoyed reading the Alex Cooper series. I picked up Cold Hit first, which was the 3rd book (if I remember correctly) in the series. I went back and read the previous books and now I'm on the 10th book. The stories are well written. If you like policing/law whodunnits, you will probably like this book.

A little on the scary side is the way I refer to most of E. A. Poe 's work. The other term would be depressing. With Poe being the "lesson material" in this Linda Fairstein novel, I would still rate it as a great read! I love the way the characters come together and share their secrets. I have read many of the books in this series over the years, but reading them in order has been a great treat!

BeSo glad to b a part of the continuing adventures of alex & mike. I am also a fan of Poe, so double the pleasure, great adventure, great inference to history's fables.

Well written and interesting. Even included some historical information, which I always enjoy. This was the second Fairstein I have read and I will be purchasing more.

MNGood read; true to Fairstein style story. Will keep you entertained and learning new facts about NYC. Enjoy the suspense of who done it.

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Entombed

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