

ROSEANNA

Student's Name

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Roseanna

In the book *Roseanna*, the authors narrate of a young woman who is dredged from a canal in the inland waterways. The setting of the story is Sweden. Martin Beck is a detective with the Homicide Squad that operates under the National Police, and he is based in Stockholm. Beck is assigned the case of this young woman to reveal the circumstances that took part. Initially, Beck finds it hard to carry out his mandate. He and his team could not easily identify who she was and how she ended being locked. However, with time, the team began obtaining leading evidence of who she was and the events that happened in the last few days of her life. With all the evidence about events she had been involved in and her identity, Beck and his team could not identify who killed her. As detectives in the national police, they needed data from eyewitnesses or forensic evidence but that was lacking.

The book is a police procedural detailing how the police are slow in action. In this case, the whole murder case is complicated by how witnesses are widely dispersed. The police took time before they could discover the woman killed leave alone the killers. The investigations too took a long time, one week after the woman's body was found, the detectives were still scratching their head with no usable details. However, the novel achieves to put together the procedure in a solid way. Though it might have taken long, they managed to put all details together.

In my view, the authors introduced a new way of crime writing. They managed to bring out police procedures that served as evidence of the everyday life of police officers, their struggles, and their success. The book reveals how various agencies interlink and work together. It has succeeded in revealing the tedious process of detection and the struggles that detectives go

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through before they compile evidence about a case. The most striking thing about Roseanna that I got was how police officers are brought out; it is a way to reveal the interaction between work and personal life. The authors depict the police as ordinary people who do difficult jobs; they struggle to balance between being committed and the demands of being a detective.

In reading the book, I felt as though the book is understated considering the slow pace and the delayed climax. The story is told in a more functional way and this I feel might be a distraction to the audience. Additionally, the authors tell the audience nothing concerning the back story details of the characters and at the same time no excess details about them are provided. The characterization was well done, but I did not feel as though I did not feel as though I got to know each one of them in a great way. The authors also succeeded in the plotting because they crafted it carefully in such a way that any reader would easily narrate the order of events.

Further, in a crime story, one would have expected tension and fiercer unfolding but that does not happen in Roseanna. Bearing in mind the type of story it is, any reader and similar to the case, after reading the first fifty pages, one is still looking out for when the events will change because the story is told in a soft way. Therefore, Roseanna has achieved to put across several themes that are crucial in the working of society and explain the work and struggle of the police. However, there are many questions that are left in the reader's mind. In my case, I would have desired to see a more spiced story, a higher pace of the events, and more tension to bring out the notion of crime.