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Psychiatrist confronts mental health and murder in crime novel *Terror 404*

CARDIFF, UK - Novelist and junior psychiatrist Rosie Claverton combines her intimate knowledge of psychiatry and Cardiff's killer secrets in *Terror 404*, the fourth thrilling instalment in her Welsh crime series The Amy Lane Mysteries.

Released on 8th June 2017, this compelling mystery sees agoraphobic hacker Amy Lane isolated in a private psychiatric hospital, forbidden to access any electronic device. When one of her fellow patients is murdered, Amy has to find a way to solve the murder and save herself, with her friend and partner – ex-con Jason Carr – stuck on the outside.

Terror 404 asks the question of whether a person can truly die from fear, while exploring the interactions of mental health, criminality, and justice. Previous novels in the series have involved a serial killer (*Binary Witness*), drug trafficking (*Code Runner*), and art theft (*Captcha Thief*).

Rosie juggles a career in psychiatry with writing crime novels, which offers her a unique perspective on people. She says “I see a lot of people under stress, when their emotions are at the fore, and that emotional honesty is vital to my work.” This insight also enabled Rosie to create Amy, a woman struggling under the weight of her agoraphobia and depression, yet travelling the world through her homemade supercomputer.

Rosie Claverton's other work includes short film *Dragon Chasers*, which aired on BBC Wales in Autumn 2012 and starred Alex Reid. *Terror 404* is published by Crime Scene Books.

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Full media press kit, including high-resolution images and latest updates, available on [The Amy Lane Mysteries website](#).

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About *Terror 404*

In the fourth in The Amy Lane Mysteries series, Amy Lane, agoraphobic grey-hat hacker, has been isolated in a private psychiatric hospital, away from friends, associates and every form of connection to the web.

Jason, her trusted companion and co-conspirator, is in hiding and on the run.

When a fellow hospital patient is mysteriously murdered, Amy and Jason must find a way to join forces to solve the murder and save themselves.

Praise for *Terror 404*

“Rosie Claverton has produced a highly original heroine with truly authentic strengths and flaws, in this stunning addition to the psychological crime thriller genre. Definitely recommended.” Zoë Sharp, creator of the bestselling Charlie Fox thriller series

About the Author

Rosie Claverton grew up in Devon, daughter to a Sri Lankan father and a Norfolk mother, surrounded by folk mythology and surly sheep. She moved to Cardiff to study Medicine and adopted Wales as her home, before studying psychiatry in London.

Her first short film *Dragon Chasers* aired on BBC Wales in Autumn 2012. She co-wrote the ground-breaking series of short films *The Underwater Realm*. Her debut novel *Binary Witness* was published by Carina Press in May 2014, with the sequel *Code Runner* published in September 2014. Crime Scene Books continued publication of the series with *Captcha Thief* in February 2016, followed by *Terror 404* in June 2017.

Between writing and medicine, she blogs about psychiatry and psychology for writers in her Freudian Script series and created the online chat #psywrite, advocating accurate and sensitive portrayals of people with mental health problems in fiction.

Recently returned to her beloved Cardiff, she lives with her journalist husband and brand new daughter.

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Sample Q&A for *Terror 404* by Rosie Claverton

Why did you choose to write The Amy Lane Mysteries?

Amy is a technological genius who can travel anywhere in the world via her computer, but can't leave her apartment due to severe agoraphobia. Jason is an ex-con who ran with the wrong crowd and is trying to turn his life around. Amy and Jason took up residence in my head and wouldn't get out!

I had to tell their story in Cardiff. Wales has a murder rate of three per year – with serial killers, gang slayings and art heists, my detectives are out of their depth and attract national media attention.

Where did you get the idea for Terror 404?

This is one of those books where the title definitely came first. Once that was fixed, I decided I wanted to ask the question: could a person die from fear?

From a series perspective, Amy has been struggling with her mental health and the shadows of her past for three books and now she has reached a crisis point. I felt it was important to sensitively and accurately portray the effect of that crisis on her and her friends, as well as how that shapes her future as a private investigator.

How do you juggle writing novels with working as a doctor?

I try to write a little each day, even if it's only a few hundred words or a small piece of planning. It requires a lot of discipline, sitting down to write after a day's work whatever job you do, but sometimes psychiatry can be emotionally draining too. However, I find my work a great source of inspiration too, particularly for three-dimensional characters. I see a lot of people under stress, when their emotions are at the fore, and that emotional honesty is vital to my work.

What experience do you bring into this novel?

My knowledge of mental health was key to *Terror 404* – from Amy's journey to three-dimensional patients, the doctors and nurses to the medication and buildings. This book is, in many ways, the fruit of both my careers – in writing and in medicine.

I lived in Wales for seven years, and I was in Cardiff for five of those, having also recently returned to it. I have intimate knowledge of the city and its atmosphere. I've met a number of Jasons – and a fair few Amys in my online haunts.

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Excerpts from *Terror 404* by Rosie Claverton

Excerpt #1 – Fear the Reaper

She tried to be brave and remember to breathe, to concentrate on the breath moving within her body, the sensations that were real.

That's what her therapist told her - concentrate on reality, on what you can feel within you. But her body felt too tight, too hot, her arms and legs throbbing with the beat of her racehorse heart. She tried to contain herself, but her body was flooded by fear.

She wanted to cry out, to scream for help, but the sound wouldn't leave her mouth, her throat closing under the pressure of the weight around her neck. A warm, sticky trickle ran down from her left nostril and onto her lip, the salty iron taste telling her she was bleeding. She had been right all along - she was dying, and they were coming for her.

She had no recourse, no escape.

Lights started flashing above her head, the red fires of hell rising, and she could smell burning flesh, the thick smoke invading her nose and throat, choking her. One eye was enveloped in fire and she could see no more. Her limbs left her control and shook violently, ceaselessly.

This was the end and she had predicted it.

Hell on Earth.

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Excerpt #2 – Personal Question

With the body missing and without access to the patients, how were the police to learn the truth about Ffion's death? Amy was living at the crime scene, in the perfect position to obtain answers from all the witnesses locked in with her - a captive audience.

But they were all strangers to her, all except Emma. Could she really walk up to someone and start interrogating them? Wouldn't she die from embarrassment, their laughter killing her as effectively as any knife?

She knew a few nurses, enough to nod to and mumble "I'm fine", but they wouldn't disclose information about their patients. Of course, if she had her usual technological capabilities, she could plant bugs, tap into cameras, and spy on their casual conversations. Except she was stranded here with nothing but her trembling hands.

Could she break into the nursing office and their computer system, accessing patient records and cameras, undetected? Her hands longed to touch a computer again, and she kept an eagle eye on every visitor that entered the unit, coveting their smartphones and their tablets.

The patients often kept their toys locked in the office but Amy was always aware of exactly where they were at all times. Longing for that vital connection to be restored to her.