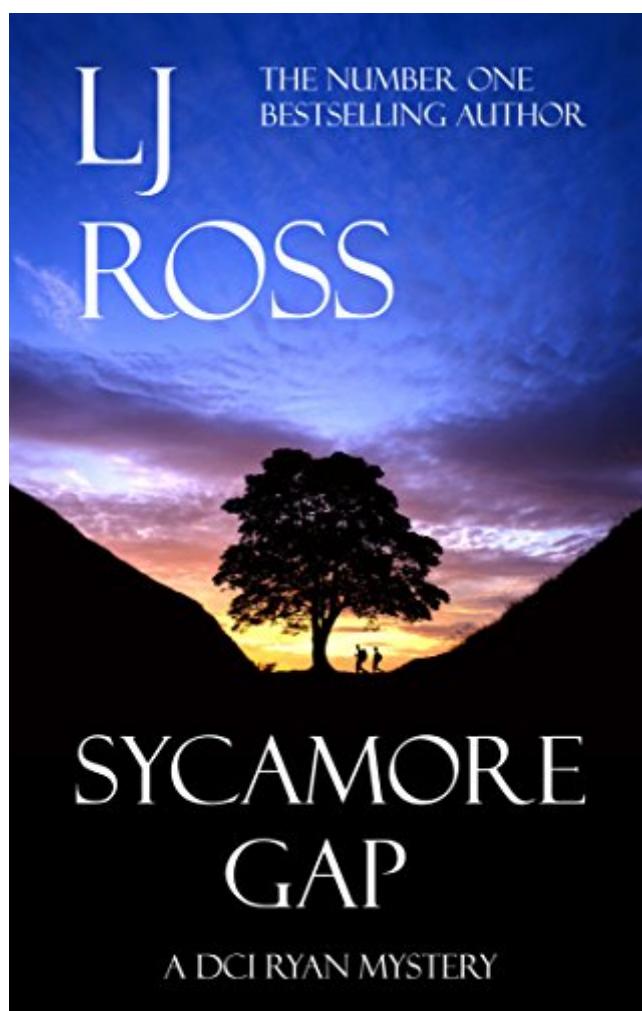


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# Sycamore Gap: A DCI Ryan Mystery (The DCI Ryan Mysteries Book 2)



## Synopsis

THE EXPLOSIVE SEQUEL TO THE UK #1 BESTSELLER HOLY ISLANDThe past never stays buried for long...Detective Chief Inspector Ryan believes he has put his turbulent history behind him. Then, in the early hours of the summer solstice, the skeleton of a young woman is found inside the Roman Wall at Sycamore Gap. She has lain undiscovered for ten years and it is Ryan's job to piece together her past. Enquiry lines cross and merge as Ryan is forced to face his own demons and enter into a deadly game of cat and mouse with a killer who seems unstoppable. Murder and mystery are peppered with a sprinkling of romance and humour in this fast-paced crime whodunnit set amidst the spectacular scenery of Hadrian's Wall country in Northumberland.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This could be a good series IF each book finished the story. Instead, Sycamore Gap was the sequel to Holy Island and the reader is still guessing who some of the bad guys are? A sequel to this book is in the works. The plot is somewhat far fetched, about a large band of pagans hiding in plain sight in the local area. Here it is 6 months after the murders on Holy Island and Ryan doesn't seem to

have solved any other cases. All the members of the Circle should have been arrested in Holy Island, and Ryan should have had another case to solve in Sycamore Gap. One thing which made no sense at all was that Ryan's girlfriend was allowed to be in the incident room when the detectives and CSI were working on the case. No way would any civilian be allowed that freedom, and later be left alone with all the evidence while the police went chasing after a suspect. With so many pagans living close by it might be possible for Anna to be one of the members of the Circle, and she would be privy to all the evidence the police were collecting about them. It just didn't make sense. I will not be buying the next book. The search for the Pagan leader has already gone on way too long.

Actually, I would give a 4.5 rating. The narration goes from one person to another very smoothly. The plot, story line and characters are really interesting. The forensic detail is in-depth while also being clear and not boring. You can learn a lot of detective work from these books. Overall a very enjoyable read.

Oh yawn! So the good inspector is good looking. His girlfriend is a prickly little witch. The characters are one-dimensional and flat. And on with the satanic stuff again. Too much for me. I won't be reading another book by this author.

I am about two thirds of the way through this story and have found it quite riveting. I love detective stories, especially from the English authors, and this has certainly fulfilled my expectations. Well written and well read on the Audible edition.

A Good writer- story could have been better. It is just my own opinion but I am tired of the same old serial killer out to torment the detective who is after him/ them. Why does it always have to be murder? How about a robbery, cyber crime or something else? Then go sovereign the case. Other than that I liked the team and how they worked together.

The delectable DCI Ryan is kicking up the intensity a few notches in this atmospheric mystery. LJ Ross has cemented her reputation as a mesmerizing story teller with this one... and, deliciously, leaves us panting for more. Hope it is soon '

Once again this is well constructed with a good dangle at the end. The characters are well drawn. The drama is not quite at the level of the last one.

But, the book is also tiresome. I don't care AT ALL for "the Circle People", and remain perplexed that everyone in one town, high and low, famous and infamous, seems be a member of this Pagan group, regardless of their intelligence, success level, and knowledge of medicine, history, theology, and you name it. But, these geniuses (who all live on a TINY island, were SOMEHOW indoctrinated into this loony, pointless group of gasbags .The author seems to be irredeemably fascinated by this group of businessmen, scholars, clergy, History and Lore experts, and WE ARE NOT! Just about EVERYONE you meet turns up in an animal hood, jostling to be "High Priest", or master, or SOMETHING, goaty in the circle. BID DEAL! And, Why? They let silly men with sexual obsession issues conduct murders Willy-Nilly, based on unexplained sexual obsessions, THAT NO ONE SEEMS TO HAVE A PROBLEM WITH! They take advantage of the VERY system that made them leaders in the first place, now place ALL THEIR EGGS in a dime store Easter basket. With some endlessly reconfigurable agenda that all boils down to KILLING ANNA! Why? So, the gorgeous Ryan can worry for 300 pages? There's some sort of "code" that "Circle People (everyone) act out rather than follow. It reminds me of Civil War Reenactors, acting out personal vendettas, while pretending to TO REALLY BE TESTING THE LOYALTY OF THE OTHERS. WHY? ALL THEY EVER SEEM TO DO IS KILL people with brown hair. ENOUGH! They have no coherent PURPOSE or AGENDA! Described, one and all, as either vendetta killers who keep getting caught up in "their next challenge", or "gift killers who kill to prove loyalty to Satan, and It bores me silly! PLEASE let the third book get away from all this Mumbo-jumbo and goat heads and EVERYONE but two of our lead couples KILLERS! YAWN! Focus on NEW crimes (that have NOTHING TO DO WITH EDWARDS AND RYANS FAR-TO-OFTEN-MOURNED, AND NIGHTMARED ABOUT! That have nothing at ALL to do with inverted pentangles and chopped off limbs. The circle is a bunch of marginal, yet high-functioning, rich people who are desperate to wear a goat's head, and hold up a sword! EVERYONE is crazy and they act with no rhyme or reason, even self-preservation. ENOUGH! Crazy people are soNOT INTERESTING! Yet, For SOME reason, ALL the townspeople are TWEETIE BIRDS. They are, all of them, ambitious, selfish, rich, at the top of their field and mulerous. I'm also confused, I thought Greggson WAS the High Priest of the Woo-Woos! Who are 175 p out of 200 people! They have 175 motives to kill people and ANNA for NO INTERESTING REASONS, all conveniently connected to with Edwards, Edwards, Edwards, Edwards, Edwards, Edwards, who, at one point or another wants to sacrifice/kill one or other of the lead characters (ANNA) eventually. And ANNA. What a b&\$ch! After being drugged, tied nude to a sacrificial altar and almost hacked to death, constantly OBJECTS to her highly reasonable and loving police-genius

boyfriend, protecting her. "I can take care of myself, Ryan!" Well, CLEARLY NOT! This series has "Jumped The Shark WHILE being INCREDIBLY repetitive. Book one and Book two ARE THE EXACT SAME BOOK -- EXACTLY! MOVE ON! PLEASE! There are JUST TOO DAMN MANY RELIGIOUS FANATIC KILLERS. NO group of "elites" would EVER fall for this "Praise Satan shtick!, so please STOP dragging it INTO EVERYTHING! It is time to MOVE ON!

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