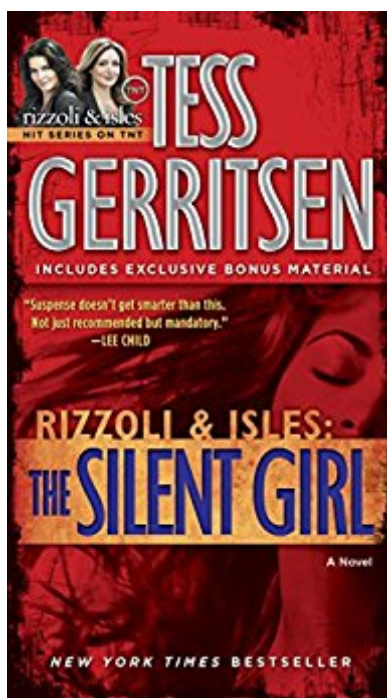


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# The Silent Girl (with Bonus Short Story Freaks): A Rizzoli & Isles Novel



## Synopsis

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • Rizzoli & Isles now a series on TNT • In the murky shadows of Boston's Chinatown lies a severed hand. On the tenement rooftop above is the corpse belonging to that hand, a red-haired woman dressed in black, her head nearly decapitated. Two strands of silver hair "not human" cling to her body. They are homicide cop Jane Rizzoli's only clues, but they're enough for her and medical examiner Maura Isles to make the startling discovery: that this violent death had a chilling prequel. Nineteen years earlier, a horrifying murder-suicide in a Chinatown restaurant left five people dead. One woman connected to that massacre is still alive—a mysterious martial arts master who is now the target of someone, or something, deeply and relentlessly evil. Cracking a crime with bone-chilling echoes of an ancient Chinese legend, Rizzoli and Isles must outwit an unseen enemy with centuries of cunning—and a swift, avenging blade. Don't miss Tess Gerritsen's short story "Freaks" in the back of the eBook.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A woman is found in on a Chinatown rooftop, her throat slashed and her hand sliced clean off. What's her connection to a nineteen year-old massacre in a Chinatown restaurant and martial-arts instructor Iris Fang? This one starts off with Dr. Maura Isles under fire for sticking to her guns and following the facts which could send a police officer to prison. That makes for an interesting side story for the novel. Another interesting subplot is the introduction of Detective Johnny Tam, a Detective from the A-1 District brought in to aid Rizzoli and Frost in their investigation. As the bodies pile up, so do the questions. What do two hired killers have in connection to missing girls? Is there really a creature of vengeance lurking in the shadows? When you get to the last page you will be surprised by the shocking revelations answering all the questions. I like the descriptions of Chinatown and use of slightly extra police lingo. The side stories of Frost being a bachelor; Rizzoli's Mother and Korsak; and Maura spending time with Rat help paint a human picture of these characters. This is definitely one of my favorite books in the series. This one's a keeper. I have not yet read the short story "Freaks" but once I do I will update this review to reflect that.

Rizzoli is called in to investigate a dead body with a decapitated hand in Chinatown. This begins a case that involves more murder, an old case, justice and missing girls. Meanwhile, Dr. Isles is feeling shunned by police after giving facts of a man being killed in police custody. Well-written and I didn't want to put it down. Very interesting history of Chinese folktales and culture as well. Suspenseful. A few crude words and some violence

A severed hand discovered by a tour group in Boston's Chinatown leads Rizzoli into an investigation of murders,, missing girls and a mysterious massacre that occurred years before. Assisting are a distracted Maura Isles, a heartbroken Detective Frost and a Chinese detective with a chip on his shoulder and a hidden agenda. But the true star of the novel is the main suspect, a mysterious Chinese woman named Iris Fang. Fang's daughter disappeared and later she lost her beloved husband to a violent massacre in the Chinese restaurant where he worked. Although the massacre is blamed on the chef, who was a close friend of the fangs, Iris does not accept it. As the bodies pile up, Rizzoli closes in putting her own life in jeopardy. Tess Gerritson demonstrates her affection for the Chinese culture. She interweaves the mystery and mythology of this closed culture into the story. The focus here is on the Chinese characters and Rizzoli plays only a supporting role. As a result her annoying family is also somewhat limited. Isles is merely an afterthought and the side story of her testimony angering the police was unnecessary and uninteresting. Similarly, the appearance and quick exit of Rat and his dog was clumsy and did nothing to contribute to the story.

I could have also lived without the appearance of Isles' priest ex-lover, but at least that was a cameo. As I was able to figure out whodunit fairly early on, I deducted a star. I read this book on a long and tedious flight from Wisconsin to New York and must say, despite its flaws, it kept me engrossed. Definitely worth a read.

I never grow tired of these books. Each stands on their own merits. The main characters are the same but have so much depth, you never get tired of reading about them. The story like always has twists and like each can stand on its own.

I really enjoyed reading this book. It starts off with a female professional killer being killed in China's town. It is later realized the current murder is actually connected to another mass killing nineteen years ago. Rizzoli gets caught up in Chinese history about honor and justice while Maura is trying to learn how to deal with a new relationship with a teenage boy named Rat that previously saved her life. The main take away from this story: when do you draw the line between good and bad? Rizzoli isn't certain she is ready to make that distinction where the lines of right and wrong are always drawn. With Maura, the line is perfectly clear it is simply a yes or no. Black or white there will never be an in-between.

I LITERALLY ... COULD ... NOT ... PUT IT DOWN!!!!!! I am a retired cop. No writer can capture the reality of police work, but this DOES capture the essence of the investigator - AND in a shock for me - it is one of the first law enforcement books that captures the concept of the "spirit of the law". The "Legal" system in America has long ago forgotten that justice was the goal of our forefathers. Now, all that matters is that the letter of a law, a law that may or may not make ANY sense in the real world, gets satisfied. Finally, a writer has captured the essence of that conflict. Maybe Lady Justice should NOT be blindfolded. We should NEVER lose sight of mercy, and we should NEVER let Justice fail for the sake of the American Trial Lawyers Association..... Lawyers and politicians, the most destructive nightmare in my America. Great book!!! Read it!!! Think about the difference between justice and legality, and do something to reclaim justice. The world craves two things. Justice - and Mercy. We need both, in balance, and NO written code of laws will ever accomplish what must come from a human heart. Just my humble opinion.

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