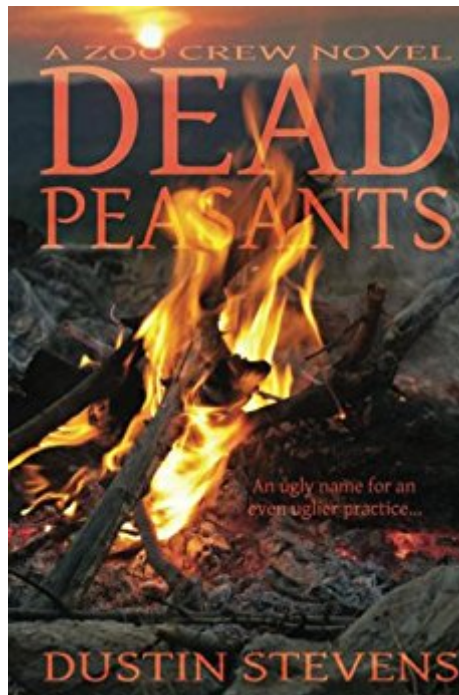




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# **Dead Peasants - A Thriller: A Zoo Crew Novel (Zoo Crew Series Book 2)**



## Synopsis

Bargain Mart, long a fixture in the Missoula economic structure has fallen on hard times. Things are dire, and if a financial windfall doesn't arrive soon, their doors will close. Across town, a woman grieves her recently deceased husband. Sitting alone at her kitchen table trying to put her life back in order, a call arrives asking where his quarter million dollar life insurance policy should be sent. A quarter million dollar life insurance policy she never knew existed. Answering the phone on the other end of her call for help is Drake Bell, third year law student at the University of Montana. Joined by his partner Ava, and his loyal friends the Zoo Crew, Drake must attempt to make sense of the case Alice presents him. A case that only grows more complex as people continue to pass in Missoula, all with ties to Bargain Mart, all with large life insurance policies attached to them. Policies known in the corporate world as Dead Peasants |

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Having trudged through The Zoo Crew, I hoped Book 2 in the series would show improvement. Yikes, it's worse. Again, a decent enough storyline, but the writing - HELP! Having read that the author is a screenwriter, I can see where the choppy writing is coming from, but somebody needs to tell him that screenplays and fiction books require different styles of writing to "work". The poor

grammar and word useage continue - I guess when what you write is going to be translated into a visual and oral story, those things don't matter. But when the written story is the only story, take the time and trouble to get it right, please! I had to force myself to finish this book. I'll try Book 3, but don't know if I'll finish it or not.

Dustin pens "Dead Peasants" in a fast paced, original plot that flowing nicely. I found his characters to be well developed and believable in this legal thriller. I was a bit lost at first since I haven't read the original story 'The Zoo Crew' but caught on pretty quickly as I read along. A must read for everyone. This review is based on a complimentary copy from the author which was provided for an honest review.

We start in Montana where we learn of a group that has called themselves the Zoo Crew. The beginning of the book isnt slow at all, you will be thrown right on into the story. It's got legal drama for those of you who like legal or even mystery books, though it's more on the legal side. Also it's not your typical story, it's not a crew where they go out and do things, but you never get to know them. Here you actually get to know whats going on, know the people and with that, you know this story is just going to flow well. Drake and Kade were two characters that I enjoyed. Kade, I felt that he should have gotten a bit more attention at times, though he is very well written. He's quite the character, and you can easily fall for Kade. Drake is this law student and works at a clinic. He's a big character in this book, and you'll learn so much from him. Ajax, and Ava are two other characters you'll meet in the story. Ava is lovable from the star and Ajax is sort of the funny one in the group. All these people together are such an awesome group! With their personalities put together you can't help but enjoy and fall for the book. You might even find some parts funny, well at least I did. Drake will have to be my favorite, not because hes the main dude, but because he is down to earth and who doesn't like a down to earth character? Those are usually the best ones! Mainly because they are tricky. Either they are really down to earth, or they use it as a cover for something more sinister. Love having twists in any book, and this book there will be a bit. Just when I thought something was going to happen, it totally went the other way! Got so into the book, that I was screaming at it for ending and at parts that didn't end up the way i'd like. Well, we can't have a book go the way we want, otherwise that would make books boring right? So anywho I will give this book 5 stars and hope you all go out and read this book!

Good novel. Dustin Stevens writes interesting stories with unexpected twists. The "Peasant" was a

new idea for me, and I enjoyed it. The characters were all well drawn and developed. The murderers for hire were different with their moral code of respect for their skill. The ending was predictable and not very realistic.

Another of the Zoo Crew series has Drake & company investigating why a newly-widowed woman isn't receiving the payout of an insurance policy on her late husband. The crew look into some other strangely coincidental events that may or may not be linked, but finding the common denominator is Drake's goal. Good plot, likeable characters, and no slow parts...the story moves along swiftly from page 1 through to the end. Not only do I enjoy these books, but I now know more about Missoula, Montana than I ever thought I would!

Big Business figures out another way to rip people off. First of all a really good book, second of all very informative, Dead Peasants has such a satisfying ending you will stand up and cheer. I'm really enjoying this series.

I've just become acquainted with Dustin Stevens' works recently. His characters are so likable that as soon as I finished the Zoo Crew, I was ready to dig in to the next one in the series, Dead Peasants, which I knocked out in a couple of days. And as soon as I finish this review, I plan to start the next book. I particularly enjoy the setting, Missoula, which is far removed from any environment that I am used to (hot and hotter, with spring and fall so inconsequential as to easily miss if one blinks, and mild winters in which the rare snow shuts down all the schools and most of the businesses). It's easy to identify with Ajax's reaction to the biting cold that Mr. Stevens describes so well. I've always wondered how one can survive in the frigid north. I do love reading about it and will continue to enjoy it vicariously. I like the peripheral characters, such as Jinx, unique and memorable, who pop back up in subsequent books. You'll also discover that Mr. Stevens creates most interesting bad guys (like Notch in the first Zoo Crew novel) - but I'll say no more, so you can have the pleasure of discovering them for yourself. Finally, the main characters are young adults: law students, a nurse, a firefighter, a computer entrepreneur, a hockey coach - who have admirable character traits. In the America of today, the family structure, Christianity, ethical behavior, patriotism, respect for our elders, the work ethic, are slowly being eroded away. It is a pleasure to read about characters with integrity, bonds of friendship, a willingness to help others, to do the right thing, even in the face of danger.

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