

BookBrowser Review:

The Shanghai Murders

by

David Rotenberg

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Genre: **Detective/Mystery**

Reviewer: **Harriet Klausner**

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Shanghai Inspector Zhong Fong realizes that he has more than just a grisly murder case on his hands. The mutilated victim is white, making the incident international. The deceased turns out to be a New Orleans cop. Soon, a second similar murder occurs; the victim is the Consul from Zaire. Fong does not see the link between the two dead foreigners.

As he digs deeper into the investigation, Fong finds little support from his bosses. When his dead spouse's lover arrives in town, Fong's doubts blossom over whether she ever really loved him. Still, he is a dedicated law enforcement official and he continues to seek the truth behind what appears on the surface to be a serial killer known as the "Dim Sum Killer", but finds that the truth is a somewhat more complex reality.

THE SHANGHAI MURDERS is an interesting police procedural due to the exotic locale. Though the story line is a bit of a stretch, it remains interesting and most readers will be satisfied if they make the leap. Fong is a wonderful police officer and his relationships add much color to the tale. However, the star of this book is the city with its conflict of a rich ancestry vs. the inroads of capitalism. David Rotenberg scores big time with this, hopefully, opening gamut.