

Question and Answer with Rachel Amphlett, author of *Her Final Hour*

1. What can you tell us about *Her Final Hour*?

When a championship jockey discovers the body of a young woman during a cold morning's training ride, the local racing community is shocked to its core.

Everyone says she was the perfect friend, the perfect daughter and the perfect fiancée.

However, as Detective Mark Turpin delves into the girl's fateful last hours, he discovers a past full of lies and mystery.

Investigating the truth behind her savage death, Mark uncovers jealousy and ambition within the tiny community, accompanied by a disturbing reluctance to help the police.

When another death takes place only days later, Mark realises he is running out of time to stop a killer who will do anything to keep a dark secret hidden...

2. What was the inspiration behind *Her Final Hour*?

I grew up around the Vale of the White Horse where the series is based and lived there in my early 20s while I was playing guitar in bands.

There's a centuries-old horseracing industry in the area with lots of different trainers and breeders along the Berkshire Downs, and one of my enduring memories from living there is seeing the strings of horses being led back and forth from the gallops morning and afternoon for training sessions.

It's a harsh existence for the jockeys and stable lads, and the setting of those foggy mornings and freezing fingers and toes with the associated memories sparked the initial idea for this murder mystery where not all is as it seems...