Darryl Billups calls Baltimore the worlds biggest country town, and hes drawn to it like a magnet. He gained sensational success as a crime reporter for the (fictional) Baltimore Herald, where he exposed the neo-Nazi who tried to blow up the NAACP headquarters, an event chronicled in Up Jumped the Devil. Following this stint, Billups tried his luck as a reporter in New York. But the offer of a management job at the Herald and a $15,000 raise has brought him back to Baltimore, where he remains the hottest thing to hit that town since the Homicide television series. Darryls hopes for a quiet life are disturbed when someone begins killing people--all young, all African American, all upwardly mobile--and decorating their faces with decals of the Confederate flag. The tough old police detective who worked with him on the NAACP bombing case lets Darryl break the story to the country. Meanwhile, the killer--(who incidentally gets turned on by Jerry Springer)--gradually emerges from the shadows complete with a catalog of frightening surprises. The author knows his Baltimore, and he knows the inner-workings of a journalists mind. He makes Darryl a most human and very interesting kind of hero. --Dick Adler

My Personal Review:
HIDDEN IN PLAIN VIEW is an engrossing mystery set in Baltimore, Maryland.

Someone is killing a seemingly unrelated set of African-American professionals

in their late thirties. Each victim is found in the bathtub of his/her home

with a decal of the confederate flag attached to the center of his/her
forehead. The police are stumped and seem at a loss when it comes to solving a case which reveals no clear cause of death. Homicide detective Phillip Gardner seeks assistance from former reporter turned editor, Darryl Billups, who worked with him in the past on a case that won them national attention.

Darryl attacks the scene with a reporters curiosity and intuition which has him quickly stumbling into the killers path. It is not long before he earns himself a place on the killers hit list.

Blair Walker has written a fast-paced thriller that draws you in from word one. He gets into the minds of his characters in a way that displays the strengths and vulnerabilities of each. His style has you empathizing not only with Darryl and the victims, but the killer as well. Walker switches deftly between street vernacular and proper English seamlessly throughout scenes and dialogue. The characters are amusing, endearing and downright frustrating at times. HIDDEN IN PLAIN VIEW is a satisfying and encompassing read that is sure to please mystery lovers.

Reviewed by Diane Marbury of The RAWSISTAZ™ Reviewers

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Hidden in Plain View: A Darryl Billups Mystery by Blair S. Walker - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!