

SOMEBODY THAT I USED TO KNOW

我從前認識的某個人

When a string of murders unfolds shortly after their long-delayed reunion, six childhood friends are forced to search for a motive that lies buried in a past that most of them would rather forget.

Six childhood friends gather for the first time in over a decade: a full-time stock trader, a cab driver who sees visions, a police officer, a tour guide/aspiring writer, a brilliant lawyer, and a book editor. Clearly their experiences growing up have had profound impacts on their later lives, but only after one of them brings up a long buried name from the past do they begin sharing the real stories that have shaped them: the scars of being seduced by a trusted teacher, an unforgotten first love, the shame and rage that led to a double-life, the sense of justice so overpowering that it keeps one of them shackled in darkness, constantly striving for the sake of a better world.

After their reunion, one by one the friends meet with misfortune. What at first appear to be independent murder cases are revealed to be linked by that forbidden name from their childhoods. Stalked by death, the remaining friends search their memories for the keys to the past, hoping that the truth of long-forgotten events in their hometown will unveil the identity of the murderer. But can they be sure everyone is telling the truth? Whom among them can they really trust? After so many years, can any of them be certain the others are still the people they remember them to be?

Effortlessly juggling narrative perspectives and timeframes, *Somebody That I Used to Know* will have readers guessing at true motives as characters alternately disclose, obfuscate, and distort the truths buried deep in their personal histories. Masterful in its deployment of suspense, this smart and pacy thriller revels in probing the dark corners of the human heart, and interrogating



Category: Crime

Publisher: MirrorFiction

Date: 3/2023

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Pages: 384

Length: 176,041 characters

(approx. 114,400 words in English)

the roles that power, justice, and class structure play in the stories we let define us.

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Wolf Hsu is a novelist and editor and worked for Taiwan's biggest online bookstore for many years. He has published several books of fiction, including *Boulevard of Broken Dreams*, *Call Me Up in Dreamland*, *FIX*, and *The Replacement Chef*. His crime fiction *FIX* has been adapted into a TV series and a comic book.