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PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR SERIES BOOK 1)  
BY PAUL MACDONALD**



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A CHUCK RESTIC MYSTERY

# SMILE NOW, CRY LATER



PAUL MACDONALD

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When you are hurried of job target date as well as have no concept to obtain inspiration, **Smile Now, Cry Later (Chuck Restic Private Investigator Series Book 1) By Paul MacDonald** book is one of your remedies to take. Schedule Smile Now, Cry Later (Chuck Restic Private Investigator Series Book 1) By Paul MacDonald will certainly offer you the right source as well as point to get inspirations. It is not just regarding the tasks for politic business, management, economics, as well as various other. Some ordered works to make some fiction jobs also need inspirations to get rid of the work. As what you require, this Smile Now, Cry Later (Chuck Restic Private Investigator Series Book 1) By Paul MacDonald will most likely be your choice.

## Review

"I found myself outright laughing at some of his antics."

- Linda Strong "booklover"

"...imagine a guy with a corporate job (think "Dilbert") falling into a stint as private investigator (like Columbo, or Magnum PI, with maybe a little Inspector Clousseau of The Pink Panther)."

- Carol Kean (Amazon Vine Voice)

"Goodbye Harry Bosch, hello to the new investigator for the 21st Century!"- Annie Carroll

"...I found myself laughing at the main character's cynical take on the corporate life. For anyone who has spent time in a corporate setting, it's absolutely true. One of my new favorite detectives--sort of a modern day, passive-aggressive version of Glen Cook's Garrett P.I." - Andy Peloquin

"...author reminds me of Brad Parks."

"...[Chuck] isn't a macho man with all the charm that makes each female sown to the ground. He isn't a hero with skills in Karate or an expert marksman the likes of a Matrix character. He is a BORING OFFICE WORKER, and you know what that's okay, he gets beaten up, and threatened, but doesn't go back to avenge his manly pride, he feels vulnerable, sad, and motivated to help another human being, his only weapon is his knowledge of psychology and HR skills (which is awesome by the way)."

- AudioBookReviewer.com

"...a fast moving thriller and one I can see up there this summer in the top ten."

- top Goodreads reviewer

From the Inside Flap

176 million people work in Corporate America.

According to recent studies, 86% are miserable.  
Chuck Restic is one of them.

From the Back Cover

The first mystery in a new series that might just get you to quit your day job.

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# **SMILE NOW, CRY LATER (CHUCK RESTIC PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR SERIES BOOK 1) BY PAUL MACDONALD PDF**

176 million people work in Corporate America. 86% are miserable. Chuck Restic is one of them.

Chuck is wasting away in a soul-crushing job. As an HR exec he spends his days avoiding lawsuits. But when Chuck ventures out of his Los Angeles skyscraper to investigate the disappearance of a colleague, he starts to feel alive again.

Chuck's not your typical Private Investigator (he prefers a passive-aggressive approach over the old-fashioned fisticuffs kind) but he is amusingly effective at solving crimes. And at last he is able to apply that HR experience -- the same one that gives him so much consternation -- to a finer purpose.

This first book in the humorous mystery series takes Chuck from the shady underworld of Armenian mobsters to the billion-dollar land developments that serve as the lifeblood of Los Angeles. Murder lurks at every turn and this amateur sleuth needs to find the killer before his name is added to the list.

The Chuck Restic Series is a fun romp that mashes traditional mystery with a scathing send-up of Corporate America. It's a new kind of noir that delivers a fresh take on the classic Los Angeles detective novel.

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Most helpful customer reviews

20 of 21 people found the following review helpful.

An unusual new sluth

By TicToc

Posted first to Blog Critics as Book Review: 'Smile Now, Cry Later', a Chuck Restic Mystery by Paul McDonald.

The business of human resources is often fraught with personalities and unpopular decisions. The people that hold these positions must be diligent and knowledgeable, able to make good decisions, often at a moment's notice.

In *Smile Now, Cry Later* by Paul McDonald, we meet one such individual. Chuck Restic is in the HR profession and often moonlights as a private detective. His personality is very passive-aggressive based off his real life persona. He uses his corporate skills to solve crimes, which he finds a bit more interesting than his actual corporate job.

His coworkers are often not as caring as he would like, and many of the conversations he has with those working within his company are uncomfortable, but usually necessary. There are sometimes those caught up in circumstances, yet still must be dealt with to keep the company above the law. Ed Vardaresian is one of those, a quiet unassuming man, yet he wears an excessive amount of cologne, which leads to the complaint filed. The accuser is noted for her complaints and the circumstances are those that make it necessary to deal with this issue in a timely manner.

What really creates Chuck's concern is when Ed, an employee that never calls in sick, disappears not long after his conversation with him. Due to his perceived connection, Chuck determines that he will find out what is happening with the missing employee.

It is here that Chuck gets a dangerous surprise, for Ed is much more than a simple employee. He owns some property and has somehow come up against a billionaire real estate developer as well as the Armenian mob, and his disappearance is decidedly worrisome. His family has no answers and when Chuck digs deeper he finds himself in danger, and that old friends may actually be enemies in his search for Ed. Can he find the answers before another body is found or has his meddling created a murder fest that is cavalcading out of bounds?

MacDonald has given us an interesting private investigator, one that seems unlikely at first glance but quickly wins your confidence. His background in HR is at times a boon, but in other areas a danger. He trusts often too quickly which makes him seem easy. But once he determines the truth, he is like a dog with a bone, digging to find the answers where ever they lead, regardless of the people involved.

The characters are interesting and the mystery is well set, leading the protagonist in directions that sometimes get very dizzying. Yet he sticks with it and keeps you along with his wit and humor.

If you enjoy mystery and people you will find Chuck Restic in Smile Now, Cry Later, a great protagonist. This is a solid work for your library.

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful.

Terrific thriller/mystery

By M.A. Stanley

Chuck, an HR supervisor discovers one of his more valuable employees is missing and he decides to approach the family under the guise of delivering the missing man's possessions (after it becomes clear the employee won't be returning). Upon meeting the employee's family, Chuck is drawn into the mystery of the man's disappearance and launches his own semi-investigation which quickly pulls him into an intriguing tale of real estate scams, shady developers, not-so-honest cops, the Armenian mob and a variety of other variables that make this tale a terrific thriller that I thoroughly enjoyed.

I should confess, in an earlier life I had a long career in the commercial real estate business, managed a handful of employees and thus dealt with HR frequently and I grew up in the LA area, so for me this book was incredibly easy to follow – but don't let the complicated nature deter you, the plot is intricate (and in my opinion educational to those that aren't experienced in the above), the characters are well developed and interesting and the vivid descriptions through-out the story are well done and accurate.

This book was provided to me for free for an honest and unbiased review (see all our reviews at <http://www.bookexplosions.com/> or on Goodreads at <https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/131875-book-explosions> )

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful.

Only Chuck's bad emotional state (his very near divorce) and his free ...

By AudioBook Reviewer

Smile now, cry later is the first book in the series "Chuck Restic Mystery" by Paul MacDonald, which is Published in January 2015, narrated by Paul Dake. The genre of this book is modern detective.

Chuck Restic is a normal office worker in Human Resources for a large corporation, when a man in his corporation disappears suddenly. Only Chuck's bad emotional state (his very near divorce) and his free time, made him start looking in this case, where he discovers that this disappearance is just the surface for something much bigger than he could have imagined.

The settings are very real, it screams bureaucracy of corporate America. However, what was really realistic was the characters, they were very, logical, understandable, and cool (and I'm talking about a bunch of NORMAL BORING peoples) .... Let me take a moment to explain how much I liked the style of the characters in this story (sorry about that, but I have to rant or I won't be able to sleep tonight.)

So here we have the protagonist "Chuck" who is unlike most heroes in detective stories. He isn't a macho man with all the charm that makes each female swoon to the ground. He isn't a hero with skills in Karate or an expert marksman the likes of a Matrix character. He is a BORING OFFICE WORKER, and you know what



that's okay, he gets beaten up, and threatened, but doesn't go back to avenge his manly pride, he feels vulnerable, sad, and motivated to help another human being, his only weapon is his knowledge of psychology and HR skills (which is awesome by the way).

okay I'm done....

The events here are told from Chuck's narrative point, they are fast paced, but not so predictable as part of the plot, we can see the plot is logical, fun, and surprising.

The narration of Paul Dake was very good at moving along with the events, he showed the suitable voice for each scene, he really could deliver the emotional states and the thoughts of Chuck with ease. However, there were some moments I just laughed out loud, he really did a great job with the story.

Audiobook provided for review by the author.

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