

*Night Shift* by Robin Cook

Though it's been a while since I read a book by Robin Cook, I again enjoyed joining the "inner workings" of a hospital as the author weaves a suspenseful tale. Dr. Jack Stapleton has demanding pressures both at home and in his forensic lab, and now finds himself often in conflict with his wife, as she balances the new demands of a new and very challenging administrative position. On top of all this, a colleague and good friend of both spouses dies suddenly and mysteriously in the hospital parking garage, and Dr. Laurie Montgomery must ask her husband to take special care with the case.

A bit strangely, Stapleton's first theories about the cause of death all come up short, with no evidence from the autopsy. As he pursues other possible explanations, he gradually becomes aware that there may very well be a medical employee of the hospital who is also a serial killer. Racing against time, the forensic investigator and the killer have to outsmart each other. Very fast-paced, along with a realistic look into the world of a large hospital system and the people that make it happen. I'd certainly rather read about it than be there!