



Dead Harry - Ken Catran

Published by Scholastic, RRP \$19.50

Dead Harry deals with death, grief, getting on with life - against a background of the paranormal, war criminals, people you think you can trust - but can you?

Trust, loyalty, boy-girl friendships and attitudes, adult support (both parents, teachers, police): all are covered.

There is plenty of good humor throughout - with Harry in particular playing tricks on his best friend Sam, appearing at embarrassing moments and butting in to conversations where he may or may not be heard by others. In fact, this is basically one laugh-out-loud book for just the right reader.

Ken Catran has balanced suspense with humour, using realistic dialogue and actions throughout. Harry's mother's monologue when Sam visits is a sympathetic portrayal of a mother's grief.

Tension builds, as Anna attempts to help both Sam and Harry understand a little of the situation Harry finds himself in - dead, but earthbound - for the meantime at least. Not just dead, but murdered - but by whom? And why? Why is Sam in danger too?

**Reviewed by Bookrapt Committee Member
Chris Wright**

