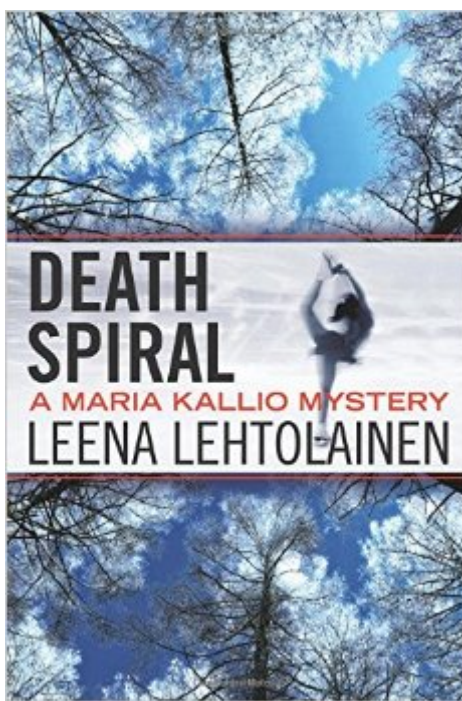


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# Death Spiral (The Maria Kallio Series)



## Synopsis

Noora Nieminen was destined to become a world champion. But when the sixteen-year-old skating sensation is found slain with her own skates, her promising career is unexpectedly cut short. Detective Maria Kallio is seven months pregnant, but that isn't going to stop her from putting everything she has into solving the murder. With a promotion on the line and her arrogant adversary, Pertti Ström, vying for the new job, Maria is determined to make an arrest. Could it be the deviant criminal who's lately been terrorizing the city? Is it the former lover of Noora's mother, who has been stalking the family since she rejected him? Or might the killer be someone even closer than that? With so much riding on Noora's success and so many people with motives to murder, the detective must sift through the long list of suspects before the case turns ice cold. *Death Spiral*, the fifth book in Lehtolainen's international bestselling Nordic crime series, is a chilling tale of hot tempers, high stakes, and the untimely death of a rising star.

## Book Information

Series: The Maria Kallio Series (Book 5)

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (47 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I really enjoy Lehtolainen's writing style and her character development. I also realize it's a dark world out there, but the death Moors was so very hard for me. However, I am looking forward to the next book in the series.

I've read the Maria Kallio series from the beginning and this is another solid whodunit. The plot is

well paced and never sags. The twists are quite unexpected and, even if I had my doubts about the culprit, the reason for the crime surprised me. I don't give this five stars only because Maria falls into one of my biggest pet peeves: making stupid decisions not once but twice, endangering herself and her unborn baby. Oh, yes, BTW, we follow the pregnancy that she discovered at the end of the last book, which gives it a fun twist (it doesn't seem to be easy to interview uncooperative witnesses when you need to go to the bathroom constantly). Entertaining and fun.

It is clear that Ms. L loves skating, as an art form and athletics. I don't share her enthusiasm but it doesn't get in the way of enjoying the book. She paints quite a picture of the characters, good, bad, and confused, like each of us each day. They felt as real as the clique of singers in the first story. Reading the series out of order might leave you scratching your head about some of the interactions, but they are all worth the read. The translation is good, with an easy flow. I had a few quibbles, but any novel in translation that doesn't trip over itself has taken some serious skill.

Way too many characters in her books and find it a dull read. I have to admit that I purchased all 5 for my Kindle without knowing the author's style of writing. I have plodded through these books and this was the best of the 5. We all have different taste in our choice of novels and you may find this appealing. I did not.

Terrific in all ways: plot, character development, suspense, scene descriptions, believability... all of her past and future novels should be read by anyone who enjoys mysteries, Scandinavian tales, and incredible writing

The books in this series are easy reads. Enough is there to keep you engaged. I still find it a little puzzling when she gets her "aha" moment that is based on happenings we can easily miss.

I've read 5 books in the series, I enjoyed them all. The Death Spiral let me glance the real conflicts policemen might feel in their work. But still, it's a great story that requires patience as the story unfolds. It's a challenge to find the clues in this classic style of whodunnit, but they are there, just pay attention.

I wish I didn't have to read these fine novels in translation. The characters are so alive, however, even in translation. I very much appreciate Maria Kallio's toughness and her humanity. Look forward

to reading of her advancements in her career as well as her motherhood.

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