

Death on a Deadline

Christine Lynxwiler , Jan Reynolds , Sandy Gaskin

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HEADLINE NEWS - Jenna Stafford's nephew is accused of killing his boss, the newspaper editor. but stop the presses! Jenna recruits her sister, Carly, and they go undercover to get the scoop on the murder. Will the next headline proclaim JENNA AND CARLY EXPOSE KILLER? Or will the sleuthing sisters end up the featured subjects in tomorrow's obit column?

Death on a Deadline Details


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Author : Christine Lynxwiler , Jan Reynolds , Sandy Gaskin

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From Reader Review Death on a Deadline for online ebook

Voni Harris says

Death on a Deadline, by sisters Christine Lynxwiler, Jan Reynolds, and Sandy Gaskin, is a story about sisters at its heart. Only instead of writing together, fictional sisters Jenna and Carly solve mysteries. They can't help it, especially when Jenna is sure Carly's teenage son didn't murder the local newspaper editor. She ropes Carly into helping her find the real murderer, though it doesn't take too much roping.

This is a cozy mystery, yet the authors are able to allow the grief and horror of the murder and the accusation of murder against a family member settle into their characters. The gentle laughs come from the sisters' relationship and their sleuthing.

The big question of the story is who DOESN'T Jenna suspect? She interviews everyone in the city, it seems, ticking off the local police chief. An undercover newspaper assignment and a brush with death later, the sisters find out whodunit. (No spoilers here!)

My favorite part of this book is the sister relationship between Carly and Jenna. The loyalty and the sibling tiffs and the way they've got each other's backs all ring true. I'd like to have lunch with these ladies. If they don't have a murder to solve, that is.

Blessings,
Voni

Kelly says

I just discovered this series and I love it! Sisters, the South and Murder makes a perfect combination. Anyone who likes clean, Christian mysteries will love this series.

Carol Waller says

Fluffy mystery. A little piece of brain-candy for a Sunday afternoon.

Valerie says

I am not use to reading Christian literature, and I actually was not sure this was intended as such until the last chapter, and the blurb on the back about the authors. Mostly, this book just seemed to have a character that had that as part of their background. It was subtle enough that it was not obvious.

The mystery was OK. It was enjoyable, but it was lacking in clues and red herrings that would really make the reveal seem like the protagonist really solved the crime. Not awful or anything, it just lacked the fun of

the reader being able to become part of the detective, and help solve it along the way.

I may or may not try another in this series.

Stacey says

Snore. I grabbed this on the new shelf at the library because it looked like a cute brain candy mystery. It's ok. Kind of boring but very clean.

I did not catch from the cover that it is Christian lit (is that a category)? Every once and a while the author would say something like "I was happy living this life on earth that God had planned for me" and I would start and think - wait, what?!

The book did not really keep my attention as one point I was trying to remember what book I was reading and realized I had put it down when our heroine was confronting the killer and had a gun pointed at her and I was just not that concerned.

Rachel says

Let me start by saying this is a much more attractive and fitting cover for the book I read. The cover on the one I read was a cat staring me in the face with no other contextual clues. But as far as the story goes, I enjoyed following Carla and Jenna as they tracked down a killer in an attempt to clear the name of a loved one. As the begrudging assistant, Carla's place made sense and fit the story line, while Jenna's curiosity and ability to insert herself into difficult, and sometimes dangerous, circumstances was also logically portrayed. The relationship between Jenna and John, the chief of police, seemed difficult to follow. It was at times playful, and at other times seemed almost to be that of two strangers. For the most part, the conclusion was satisfying and realistic, and I'm looking forward to reading others in the series, if I can get them for free online or at my library.

Julesy says

I've had this book on my shelf for a long while to fulfill a GoodReads challenge. I wish I had read it sooner! This was a very enjoyable clean, cozy mystery with 2 sisters who work together to solve a murder.

The main character, Jenna Stafford, comes back home to Lake View, Arkansas, 10 years after losing face for not winning at the swimming Olympics. Now she works at the town's health club with the possibility of becoming the owner. Meanwhile, Jenna's nephew Zac is accused of murdering his boss, the town's newspaper editor. Together with her sister Carly (Zac's mother), they help to clear Zac of the accusation and found out who the real killer is. Jenna also deals with her childhood crush who also came back to Lake View at the same time and they work through their hurt feelings from over 10 years ago.

The sisters have a great bond and I loved reading how they worked together to solve the mystery. I like this small town and the characters. I like a lot of these Heartsong Presents Mystery series. They can be categorized as Christian mysteries or clean mysteries but they also have good plot lines.

I gave this mystery a 4.25 rating. I plan to purchase the other 2 books in the series.

Pam says

09/06/08 rec from heartsong bookclub

ReadsinBed says

This was a kindle freebie mystery. It was not a bad read... fluffy, but expected. However, the constant infusion of Christianity is distracting. I have no issues with reading books with characters of any religion, but this book reads as if the characters' prayers/prosthetizing/quoting of the bible were added into the novel as an afterthought, and inserted in places where it just didn't flow right. I liked the characters well enough to read the second book in the series, but in the second book, this issue was even more prevalent.

Denise says

An okay but frequently slightly frustrating mystery read. I felt that the author left explanations of the protagonist's background story until far too late in the book and the revelation of the killer came very much out of left field. Additionally, Jenna just had too many TSTL moments for my liking.

Christopher F Tilley says

Boring badly written book

Two women back in their small home town after failing in their lives. One with 3 kids and 1 with a neurotic cat.

There's a murder. One of the kids is implicated and Aunt drags the mother into the investigation.

Then there's the old sweetheart who's also just moved back to town.

And on and on.

None of this would matter if the book was well written. It wasn't, the book dragged and was seriously boring.

Don't waste your money on this book. This isn't a series that will be following and I think you should give it a miss.

Kay (Brigidsmomma) Compton says

Not a favorite, that's for sure. The author waits too long to tell the backstory on the protagonist and just makes me feel frustrated to not know why she's so gung-ho to investigate something that really isn't her business... The plot leads you to believe that one character is the actual killer until he's killed off about 4/5 of the way thru the book, with little warning. Then the actual killer (who has admitted to killing at least 4 people) is deemed too crazy to stand trial? 4 dead bodies is one over the minimum to be considered a serial killer, especially when the motives for the killings are related... and this is a very minor character until the very end, so it's almost like the solution is from way out in left field - which left me feeling cheated. Not one I would recommend, that's for sure!

Dharia Scarab says

Since I don't normally write reviews unless I have something specific to say, here's the break down of how I rate my books...

1 star... This book was bad, so bad I may have given up and skipped to the end. I will avoid this author like the plague in the future.

2 stars... This book was not very good, and I won't be reading any more from the author.

3 stars... This book was ok, but I won't go out of my way to read more, But if I find another book by the author for under a dollar I'd pick it up.

4 stars... I really enjoyed this book and will definitely be on the look out to pick up more from the series/author.

5 stars... I loved this book! It had earned a permanent home in my collection and I'll be picking up the rest of the series and other books from the author ASAP.

Lillie says

Entertaining to read, but you have to shake your head at some of the antics of the heroine. The killer was a surprise.

Loraine says

SUMMARY: Arkansas sisters Jenna Stafford and Carly Reece share a dry wit, an unshakable faith, and a regrettable tendency to happen across murder. . .When Carly's paperboy son is accused of killing the newspaper editor, Jenna and Carly go undercover to get the scoop and clear the teen's name. But stop the presses! Will the next headline feature them exposing the real killer? Or will the sleuthing sisters end up in the obit column?

REVIEW: This is the first of the Sleuthing Sisters mysteries and is a light hearted enjoyable read. It is a Christian mystery with a good storyline that keeps you turning pages as different characters become the focus as the murderer. Jenna is a well meaning snoop with her sister supporting her efforts. Infused with occasional rounds of humor this is definitely a good, clean read for those looking for cozy mysteries.

FAVORITE QUOTES: "When I thought of what a blessing it was to have a Father in heaven who forgives my inadequacies, in addition to earthly parents who love for who I am, I cried some more."

"Guilt never loses its power, even when served as leftovers from childhood."

"But the way I looked at it, if we didn't take time out for the Lord, how could we expect Him to take time out for us?"
