



In for a Penny

Kathryn R. Wall

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Murder and blackmail amid the ruins of antebellum splendor... Someone is making a killing in real estate.

Coastal South Carolina...ancient live oaks, pristine beaches, the remains of antebellum splendor...

Bay Tanner's world is paradise until she witnesses her husband's horrific death. Wounded and grieving, Bay retreats to her hideaway on Hilton Head Island. Then a cry for help forces her back to reality. Can she ignore the plight of her old money friends and family whose involvement in a shadowy land scheme may lead them to financial disaster? And what does all this have to do with Rob's murder? When a body is discovered floating near the ruins of an old plantation house, Bay is forced to confront these questions and admit that one thing is certain--someone is making a killing in real estate.

From In For A Penny: the sharp blare of sirens penetrated my half-conscious mind. My attacker dropped me, face down in the pine straw, and sprinted away. I had just managed to struggle to my hands and knees when the night was shattered by a blast so loud it seemed to come from inside my head. I had barely a second for the smoke and flame to register on my numbed senses.

Then choking darkness enveloped me.

In for a Penny Details

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From Reader Review In for a Penny for online ebook

Leann says

Kathryn Wall's first book in the Bay Tanner mystery series.

I recently got to meet Kathryn Wall personally and she is very funny and down to earth. In For A Penny setting is in the South Carolina lowcountry. The main character is Bay Tanner a recent widow of a husband that was murdered. As the synopsis reads above someone is making a killing in real estate, this is how her life of grieving and solitude gets interrupted. She is asked by her Father Judge Talbot and long time friend of her mother's Miss Hammond to look into a financial adventure they invested in that looks a little shady. As she is researching the investment a body is found dead, the wrong people are being accused and she is almost killed a few times.

I was pleasantly surprised how intriguing and suspenseful her first book was her characters all had their own identities and it was easy to love some and hate some others. How the story flowed was great also. I liked this book so much I have already started on her second book, Not A Penny More.

karen oakley says

Great mystery! I liked the detail to the area.

I have visited South Carolina many times and found the description of the area quite good. I felt like I was there. The character development was good. I will read more of this series.

Patty says

This is the first in a series, the series being the wildly popular Bay Tanner series.

I was a little skeptical at first, Bay is about a year out from losing her beloved husband to an airplane bomb and still suffering. With all that emotional baggage I wasn't sure if she could get past it to deal with everything going on in the book. But, Kathryn R. Wall handled the situation in a masterful manner.

It all starts out when Bay's father (the Judge) recommends she talk to an old friend of her mother. Bay remembers Miss Addie and agrees to see if there is anything she can do to help the woman find out if a real estate deal is above board or if Miss Addie is in danger of losing her retirement nest egg.

Needless to say, Bay is soon swept up in intrigue and murder and must work to find out who is behind all this to save Miss Addie, the Judge and even herself.

Pretty action packed story but takes the time to build the characters, especially Bay, her father, and the two women who take care of each of them.

I'll be reading more in this series.

Elizabeth Tremayne says

This was the worst book. The mystery wasn't even a real mystery and the main character, though a woman, acted like those James Patterson main characters (ala Alex Cross), where every person of the opposite sex who meets them 'falls in love' with them immediately - just can't resist them. And this character, when not having men drool over her, acted like a complete jerk to them and to everyone else - slamming doors and yelling at her father like she was a teenager (but she was supposed to be an adult). This was an infuriating read and I would not recommend this book to anyone.

Charmayne says

I actually discovered this series while we were vacationing in Hilton Head, South Carolina and since we were there I wanted to read them. It's a very good mystery series, some of the books stronger than others and I actually am behind a few and need to catch up. But the characters are believable and the mysteries are good enough to hold your attention. I like to read them just to get another glimpse of Hilton Head. I enjoyed my brief stay there and would really love to have my own house on the ocean. :-)

Branwen Sedai *of the White Ajah* says

My mom picked this book up during my family's vacation in Hilton Head, South Carolina about a month ago. When she was done she let me borrow it, for which I'm really grateful since I probably wouldn't have found out about this book series otherwise! I have always enjoyed mystery stories, because I love trying to figure out who the bad guy is and watching the hero (or heroine) triumph in the end and bring them to justice. This book was made even more awesome by the kick-ass leading lady, Bay Tanner. Bay is still recovering from her husband's murder, which happened almost a year prior. She is recuperating in Hilton Head, where she grew up, when an old friend of the family calls on her help to investigate an investment in real estate that she thinks may have gone sour. Soon Bay gets entangled in a murder investigation, a romantic interest come back from her past, and danger lurking behind every corner. Bay is a pretty awesome character. She's been through a hell of a lot, yet despite this you still get the impression of how strong she is. Even if you take out the mystery aspect of this book I would have loved reading about her. And speaking of the mystery aspect, WHOA WHAT AN ENDING! It completely threw me for a spin, and had me very surprised! This is not a book to miss, especially if you like mysteries! I am looking forward to reading the rest of the books in this series to see where Bay ends up next!

Betty says

Cozy mystery

Gloria Mccracken says

This was a fun, fast read with interesting characters. I wouldn't mind reading more in the series.

BJ says

I had never heard of this author before, but noticed it on one of my friend's lists here at Goodreads. It snagged my attention in that the main character was female and the setting was an East Coast Beach town, namely Hilton Head. Enough to pique my interest. I have to say, I really enjoyed this first book in this series. I will definitely be reading on and thanks to the Goodreads' friend whose list I stole this from!

Susan says

I picked this up in Hilton Head because I like to read "local." Wall, not a native of SC but a 20+ year resident, sets her first Bay Tanner mystery right in the midst of the controversy between developers and conservationists. This quick read introduces what I hope will be continuing characters as the series evolves. Excuse me while I go get the next volume in the series.

Sue Em says

Very strong debut. Since her husband's small plane exploded a year ago, Bay Tanner has been in suspended animation. They were a team of special investigators following the money to uncover financial chicanery and corruption. While there were leads and theories about who killed her husband, it was unlikely to be solved and the responsible party made to pay. At the urging of her father, she agrees to look into an investment an elderly family friend was concerned may be fraudulent. As she investigates, the trail back to her husband's death become more clean. Bay is a heroine you can root for, she's savvy and doesn't do dumb things for the sake of the plot. I'm looking forward to reading more about her.

Debbie says

Hilton Head local book series

Kim says

This was a great beach read! Good mystery and I loved that it was based in Hilton Head - one of our favorite vacation destinations

Ro Wilson says

A quick, entertaining read. I especially enjoyed it because it's set in Beaufort SC where we lived for a year in the late 60's. The "Low Country" is like no other place I've lived. We aren't "from there," so we never felt that we were really a part of the community. I must admit I was delighted when my husband accepted a job in another state. It was interesting to read about characters who are truly part of that community.

Kathy Smith says

I enjoyed this book. The characters were believable and the story moved quickly. I also liked the location. It was fun to read familiar names of familiar places in the book.
