



# Miami Mummies

*Barbara Silkstone*

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**Miami Mummies** Barbara Silkstone

MIAMI MUMMIES ~ Book Four in the Wendy Darlin Tomb Raider collection

The legendary mastermind criminal and mummy thief, Kyzer Saucy, strikes again. Part-time tomb raider and full-time real estate broker, Wendy Darlin joins her lover, archaeologist Roger Jolley as they struggle to save a rare Miami mummy from the clutches of this evil genius. Can Saucy be stopped before he kills again? Meanwhile can Wendy keep her promise to Alfred Hiccup as he attempts to transmigrate from the afterlife? Or has Wendy finally made one promise too many?

This book is an homage to the great Alfred Hitchcock...  
who is probably turning over in his grave.

Barbara Silkstone is the best-selling author of:

Wendy Darlin Tomb Raider series

Wendy and the Lost Boys

London Broil

Cairo Caper

Miami Mummies

Criminally Funny Fables series:

The Secret Diary of Alice in Wonderland, Age 42 and Three-Quarters

Wendy and the Lost Boys

London Broil

Zo White and the Seven Morphs

Cold Case Morphs.

Creative nonfiction:

The Adventures of a Love Investigator

(Personal interviews with 527 men)

Wendy and the Lost Boys topped the charts in comedy, climbing over Tina Fey, Sophie Kinsella, and Ellen DeGeneres. The Secret Diary of Alice in Wonderland, Age 42 and Three-Quarters has been a consistent best seller in comedy. Both Wendy and Alice have been in the top 20 Amazon comedies at the same time.

Barbara Silkstone's Amazon Author's page

<http://www.amazon.com/Barbara-Silkstone/>

The way Ms. Silkstone plays with words is unrivaled and the way she incorporated segments from favorite movie clips is genius. She uses sharp wit throughout her stories, her plots are strong, and the action nonstop.  
~ Big Al's Books and Pals

Wendy Darlin Tomb Raider ~ Box Set

Until last year Wendy Darlin was a full-time real estate agent for Miami Beach millionaires. Then she met Roger Jolley, world famous archaeologist, Johnny Depp look-alike, and at times the most irritating person on

the planet. Join her as she travels the globe in search of lost treasures and antiquities. She's been told her life is like the movie *Romancing the Stone* but at times she feels more like Indiana Jones with boobs.

#### WENDY AND THE LOST BOYS ~ Book One

Real estate agent for Miami Beach millionaires, Wendy Darlin, clashes with "SEC Investigator" and world famous archaeologist, Roger Jolley. He follows her out to sea on a mega-yacht owned by Charlie Hook, a Ponzi swindler on the run from federal agents and angry investors. Despite her fear of water, she finds herself a tomb raider on the Caribbean one step ahead of modern day pirates. Will she find the Lost Boys? Will she escape Hook's clutches? And whom will she find on Nevis Island? Oh... and is Roger a good kisser?

#### LONDON BROIL ~ Book Two

When we last saw Wendy Darling and Roger Jolley in *WENDY AND THE LOST BOYS*, they were hot on the trail of Egyptian icons stolen from the British Museum. Wendy is now in a frantic race against time and a murderer as she searches for the last Lost Boy hidden somewhere in London while a killer heat wave invades the city. Wendy is held captive over a fish 'n' chips shop while Roger's life is threatened. Can Wendy escape her captors, rescue Roger, and find the missing Lost Boy before the murderer strikes again?

#### CAIRO CAPER ~ Book Three

Part-time tomb raider and full-time real estate broker, Wendy Darlin joins her lover, archaeologist Roger Jolley, in a quest for Cleopatra's tomb.

### Miami Mummies Details

Date : Published March 14th 2014

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Author : Barbara Silkstone

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Genre : Mystery, Humor, Fiction

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## **From Reader Review Miami Mummies for online ebook**

### **Linda says**

As always Wendy hits the ground running. She just happens to be in the wrong place at the wrong time with hormones raging. Ms. Silkstone's plots are character driven and I am not sure she has any control over Wendy at all. She is a smart, take control type of heroine and doesn't let anything get in her way, besides holes in fabric, water in her face, or heights.

Miami Mummies is a homage to Alfred Hitchcock with character names such as Alfred Hiccup, Tippy Henman, Gary Grant, and Stewart James. Tippy's construction site, where the mummies were found, is the old Bates Hotel. In a secondary plot Alfred Hiccup, Wendy's mentor, recruits her to repossess, it's not stealing if it was originally stolen from him, a bronze Remington statue that has been located in the lobby of the Cowboy Pension Fund on the top floor of the North by Northwest Financial Center in Miami. You can tell Ms. Silkstone had a lot of fun weaving this story and the Hitchcock elements together. I found myself chuckling through it all.

This is not just slapstick humor, there is a good mystery, unscrupulous political figures, evil lobbyists, a spoiled heiress, and a radical spinoff tribe of Seminole Native Americans trying to protect what may be an old Tequesta Indian burial site. Unfortunately, Roger Jolley is away on other mummy business involving the world's most notorious mummy thief, Kyzer Saucy, who wishes to totally eliminate Roger by crafting an exotic demise. However, when he hears about the archaeological finds around Miami he joins Wendy in her quest to get to the truth about the Miami mummies.

I was glad to see more of Kit Kennedy in this book. He is a lot of fun to have around. I did fear for his safety a time or two through some of the plot twists. Ms. Silkstone does an excellent job bringing her story to life using recent headlines in Miami's news while making it a fun romp through Alfred Hitchcock's movie portfolio. There are a couple of new characters introduced who may make appearances in future books, it will be interesting to see. There is no cliffhanger at the end of this story but some things were not tied up in a neat little bow leaving openings for further adventures.

FYI: Miami Mummies is the fourth book in the Wendy Darlin Tomb Raider series.

While it could be read as a stand-alone I would recommend reading Wendy and the Lost Boys, London Broil, and Cairo Caper for a complete appreciation of the characters.

Format/Typo Issues: I found no significant issues.

**\*\*Originally written for "Books and Pals" book blog. May have received a free review copy.\*\*** March 17, 2014

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### **Gaele says**

It is apparently my week for outré mysteries, those that combine strong and funny characters, near slapstick comedy and some classic references that will keep you thinking, guessing and giggling throughout.

Miami Mummies brings back the iconic and slightly obsessive Wendy Darlin and her on and off paramour

Roger Jolley in yet another improbable mystery. Bringing us a new character in a former classmate and real estate client, Tippy Henman. Tippy intends to fulfill a promise to her father by building a hi-rise on the land, yet that isn't going to happen with murder, mayhem and mummies appearing.

Completely off kilter, Wendy has to split her attention between her health issues and the struggle to add to her little family, the story moves from tomb to womb and back again as Wendy is trying to stay one step ahead of the people who are trying to kill her, while still managing to keep Roger in hand and focused. With the return of Kit as Wendy's best friend and the emergence of Wendy's mentor Alfred Hiccup (Hic), along with several references to the works of Hitchcock himself, there are several moments of "oooh, I remember that" mixing with the laughs.

I chuckled and then laughed out loud often, from the subtle dry wit to outright slapstick ridiculousness, the story just ran from one high point to another until the conclusion. Silkstone is clever and funny, and the writing is tight and polished, with characters coming forward and demanding their moment in the spotlight.

I purchased a copy of this title for my own personal library. I was not compensated for this review: all conclusions are my own responsibility.

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### **Pamela Stiers says**

I love Wendy Darlin, she's quirky, has some unusual phobias, and zany friends. Her sweetie Roger Jolly is her perfect match. Wendy's latest adventure is the best yet!!

There's always more than one thing going on at the same time. Barbara's Stories keep you on your toes and they're fast pace and a good read.

Very entertaining!!!!!!!!!!!!!!Can't wait for more Wendy!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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### **Terry Parrish says**

Well, she did it again. Another book that had me glued to the pages! And what a story. Mummies, guardian angels and trouble. Absolutely loved Mrs. MacGuffin. And Hic was a hoot. The basic story of stolen mummies was superb. Just sorry the book didn't last longer. I would recommend this to anyone who loves this type of book. And can't wait till the next one.

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### **Lisette says**

From the moment she met Roger Jolley, Wendy Darlin's life has never been boring. Her life has taken another unexpected turn, and she's looking to add to her beloved family. In her mind, it's the icing she needs on the cake she's baking, and the pitter-patter of little feet is a much needed reprieve from her chaotic life.

When her hopes and dreams are dashed, Wendy promises herself that she'll take the oncoming storm in stride. There's time enough to make things happen. She just needs to be patient in the meantime. As things take a turn for the worst, she finds herself in the midst of Tippy Henman's troubles. The woman seems to draw people's ire wherever she goes. As if that's not enough, she also has to contend with her dearest friend,

Alfred Hiccup.

Determined to make the most of the situation, Wendy tries to juggle everything coming her way. Granted, it's not easy when someone's trying to end your life at every turn. Nevertheless, she'll do everything possible to thwart her attackers advances. Promising herself that she'll help everyone as much as possible along the way, she focuses on the goals at hands. Getting everything done is going to take some doing, however.

As the plot thickens, Wendy begins to wonder if the mummies and her current predicaments are somehow connected. There's something she's not seeing, but she's determined in uncovering the truth, no matter the cost. If she's to succeed in getting to the bottom of things, she'll need to play as dirty as those trying to take her life in the process. Will she be able to save the day when the time comes? Or will things end up worse than they are now?

Another great addition to the Wendy Darlin series, Miami Mummies gives us another interesting glimpse in the chaos that always surrounds Wendy and Roger. There's never a dull moment in their lives, and they're always striving to overcome the obstacles they come across.

I found it endearing that Wendy's also dealing with the possibility of expanding her family. It's something many women go through on a daily basis. Though she's got a lot on her plate, she makes do with the cards life has dealt her. I do wonder if she and Roger will finally get their happy ending. That's certainly a tale to be written, and I look forward to seeing what else Barbara brings to the table in the next installment for this series. Thanks for such a wonderful and humorous read!

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### **Scott Collins says**

If you're a fan of mystery and looking for Sherlock Holmes, move along now. If you're more entertained by a mix of the Pink Panther, Three Stooges, with a little Lucille Ball thrown in, you've come the the right place. While this will work as a stand-alone book, it is more entertaining having read the rest of the books in the series. Entertaining plot as realtor turned adventurer Wendy Darlin and husband Roger Jolly get caught up in the investigation of some newly discovered mummies in a construction site in Miami, while at the same time trying to capture the notorious mummy thief Kyzer Saucy. Great stuff!

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### **Mary says**

Wendy Darlin is one of my favorite book heroines and I am so glad she is back. She is comes back with a scream- which is right where this newest adventure begins- with a scream and a murder, and drops Wendy right in the middle of the scene. She just can't keep herself out of these messes, can she? Soon Wendy finds herself in deep in two problems- one involving some mummies that have turned up in Miami and another involving an old friend who is asking her for a deathbed favor.. Can she juggle these two crazy situations and come out unscathed? And will she be able to keep her manicure and heels intact this time?

This book has some old friends who show up, including, of course, archeologist, Roger Jolley, best friend and part-time drag queen Kit Kennedy, and some fun new characters. There is even a special tip of the hat to Hitchcock in the book. All of this meshes into a fabulous story that gives us the typical crazy, slapstick humor, who-done-it mystery that is what I love about Silkstone's books. This is an overall fun mystery that

can't be missed.

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## **Renee says**

What a wonderful and fun way to spend some time! Once again, Barbara Silkstone nails it with another hysterical adventure that keeps you turning the pages. Loved the host of characters and Wendy's friend Kit was too funny! A great lighthearted, laugh out loud mystery that you won't want to see end!

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## **Audiothing says**

Audible Edition

Narrated by Laura Jennings

### **My Review**

Four hours and twenty three minutes of sheer, feel good entertainment. If you like your crime stories po-faced, well push off somewhere else, this book is funny.

The story has two crazy and outrageous main themes, the first begins with spoiled little heiress Tippy, she wants to build a high rise, she wants to do it now and doesn't see why she should go to all the time and trouble to deal with petty little hurdles such as searches and permissions. Despite being Tippy Henman she discovers that no, she is not entitled to skip formalities, so when remains are discovered on the site, work has to stop and the archeologists move in. What they find ensures the start of a crazy, action packed adventure. Roger Jolley returns from his quest to foil the evil mummy thief Kyzer Saucy (who doesn't like Roger one little bit) to help Wendy sort it all out. Good luck with that Roger.

The second theme involves poor Wendys' attempts to fulfil a promise, and that is to assist friend and mentor Alfred Hiccup with his (wait for it) transmigratory plan, and a very good plan it is too.

Hitchcock fans will note the references to his work, after all, it is a tribute to him! It's so clever though, how they are woven in to the story.

Barbara Silkstone takes the reader on a well written wonderful, boisterous and hilarity filled adventure. Do not listen in public places!

Although I listened to this as a stand alone work, I do wish I had read the previous books in the series.

### **Narrator**

The narration is the cream on the cake, Laura Jennings does a superb job, she has a certain way with characterisation and gender voicing that I've heard in other top notch narrators. I'm not sure if it's a learned technique, but, for example, when changing to a male voice, Laura doesn't seem to attempt an overtly masculine voice, yet there is a change, a subtle shift. Whatever it is that she does, she leaves the listener in no doubt whatsoever that they are listening to a man. It's very clever.

Story: 5 stars

Narrator: 5 stars

I received this audiobook in return for this, my honest opinion.

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## **Montzalee Wittmann says**

Miami Mummies (Wendy Darlin Tomb Raider #4) by Barbara Silkstone is a quick witted, sharp, funny, and all around clever mystery book. The writing is delightful and crafted so carefully that you have to think on each one, it is so ingenious and cunning. Loved the writing alone! The story is great, plot fun, characters are hilarious, and I will look for more of her books!

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## **Angelica Bentley says**

This is the fourth instalment of the Wendy Darlin adventures (I haven't read the others) but it is intended to be a stand-alone book. Wendy is a real estate broker dealing in expensive mansions in the Miami area. She has an on-off relationship with a prominent archaeologist called Roger Jolley who is a Johnny Depp look-alike. Hmm, that's a stroke against him in my book, however ...

The story begins promisingly enough with plenty of energy and an intriguing scene: Wendy finds her high-school pal and client Tippy Henman in a parking lot, splattered with blood and standing over a man with a knife in his chest. Wendy calls 911 (a favourite activity of hers to the point that one wonders why she doesn't have them on speed-call) and runs to support a fainting Tippy. When the police arrive, they misread the situation and start treating Wendy as the assassin. This allows for plenty of smart-ass repartee and establishes Wendy as a spirited heroine with a penchant for getting into trouble and the Miami police as bumbling idiots.

Amusing up to a point and I'm sure it's a cultural thing, but I did not find the humour that compelling. Silkstone has a way with words, she can twist a sentence and inject irony and sarcasm into the most mundane of situations, but it felt like she was tickling my ribs, willing me to laugh, and it wasn't happening. Sorry, Barbara! I appreciate the intent but it didn't fully succeed with me. There is nothing really wrong with the story. It clips along at a good pace, there are plenty of sideshows and each character has a well-defined personality. It's just that it's so predictable, the caricatures are so unimaginative, and the clichés so tired. I got bored of Wendy's endless brand name-checking and stopped caring how many fake nails she had broken while she swung between her dual personality incarnations: ditzy fashion-slave teetering on high heels, to Indiana Jones action-heroine jumping into rivers and on moving planes. I knew from the start that Wendy and I have nothing in common, but completely lost interest after her quip about a Vera Wang wardrobe. The Alfred Hiccup side story was silly and the plot twist was telegraphed so far in advance that it completely lost any impact.

As a friend of mine aptly put it, it's all about expectations. With all the promotion and high praise for this series, my expectations were high. The actual book was a let down. It's not horrible, just very average. It just depends on your sense of humour.

*Reviewed by Angelica Bentley (for The Kindle Book Review). The Kindle Book Review received a free copy of this book for an independent, fair, and honest review. We are not associated with the author or Amazon.*

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## **Barbara Tobey says**

Hitchcock fans...this mummy is for you. While all of the books in the Wendy Darlin series are stand-alones,



do try to read them in order. This is the latest and is a fun tribute to Alfred Hitchcock's fantastic body of work. Throw reality out the rear window and see how many references to Hitch you can find. Unusual, fast-paced, adventurous cozy mystery.

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### **Nospin says**

"You know you're having a bad week when the 911 operator recognizes your voice"

Wendy Darlin once again deals with bodies dropping around her and bad guys committing out there crimes - in this case a mummy in Florida. I absolutely love Barbara Silkstone's humor in naming her characters, giving them quirks, and in the dialogue she provides them.

Wendy is a great character who triumphs over the shenanigans around her despite her intense fear of holes (mostly those in fabric, not in the ground.) Roger Jolly, her love interest, provides a great foil and comes across as a charming guy.

I received the Audible book in exchange for an honest review.

Recommended for those with a slightly warped, snarky sense of humor. Have a good time!

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### **Melinda says**

Another funny and action filled addition to this series. Loving this sassy real estate tomb raiding vamp!!

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### **Christoph Fischer says**

"Miami Mummies: A Wendy Darlin Comedy Mystery" by Barbara Silkstone is great fun. I came in late into this series but immediately took a liking to Wendy Darlin, a charismatic lead character that has many strings to her bow. Real Estate Broker, assistant to her archaeologist husband and detective on the outside and a flamboyant character on the inside.

The beginning of the story drags you right into her chaos: Inconveniently she witnessess a murder in Miami, while on the way to the doctor - which in itself brings complications to her life - and being asked to leave the state to help a friend. Her inner dialogue has hilarious one liners and observations and the story keeps throwing complications and turns.

This is truly a fun read, but it is also a tribute to Hitchcock's work. Very entertaining.

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