



Time of Fog and Fire

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Molly Murphy Sullivan's husband Daniel, a police captain in turn-of-the-century New York City, is in a precarious position. The new police commissioner wants him off the force altogether. So when Daniel's offered an assignment from John Wilkie, head of the secret service, he's eager to accept. Molly can't draw any details of the assignment out of him, even where he'll be working. But when she spots him in San Francisco during a movie news segment, she starts to wonder if he's in even more danger than she had first believed. And then she receives a strange and cryptic letter from him, leading her to conclude that he wants her to join him in San Francisco. Molly knows that if Daniel's turning to her rather than John Wilkie or his contacts in the police force, something must have gone terribly wrong. What can she do for him that the police can't? Especially when she doesn't even know what his assignment is? Embarking on a cross-country journey with her young son, Molly can't fathom what's in store for her, but she knows it might be dangerous—in fact, it might put all of their lives at risk, in Rhys Bowen's *Time of Fog and Fire*.

Time of Fog and Fire Details

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Author : Rhys Bowen

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From Reader Review Time of Fog and Fire for online ebook

Hermien says

Not as enjoyable as the other books in the series.

Susan says

Readers of Rhys Bowen's Molly Murphy series will not be disappointed. This newest mystery takes Molly and her young son across country to San Francisco in the early 1900's. Molly undertakes this cross-country journey when she receives a mysterious letter from her husband who is currently on a special assignment. Molly faces danger, corruption, murder and natural disasters with the intelligence and fortitude that Bowen's fans have come to expect from her. Even when it seems that she may lose what matters most to her, she pushes through hardship to survive a memorable event in American history. Can't wait to see what path awaits Molly!

Peggy Parsons says

This is book #16 in the series and my first read. Bowen is a plot driven writer. The story line and events were great, but I was never, never pulled in. I felt like I was reading a children's book. Things always fell into place for her. Someone always bought her a meal, offered her a place to stay, and someone to watch her son to free her up to go sleuthing. For a woman who's just heard devastating news and knows there's danger, she was naive to trust all these strangers. She handed her son over to a complete stranger. Slept in a stranger's house. She seemed stupid to me.

Lisa says

Once again, Rhys Bowen has written another delightful and suspenseful Molly Murphy Mystery.

Molly Murphy, former lady detective, is happy to stay home with her toddler son Liam and her ward Bridie, the ten year old girl who Molly escorted from Ireland. Then her husband Daniel Sullivan, a captain with the New York City Police Department, is temporarily transferred to places unknown by the newly formed national security forces. Molly is beset with worry about his safety.

When Molly sees her husband on a movie newsreel in a hotel in San Francisco, her anxiety level catapults. A few days later, Molly receives a cryptic letter from Daniel that Molly and her friends struggle to decipher. Should she go there to join him and help him?

As usual, Molly finds herself swept into turmoil that she would have preferred to avoid. The results are continued suspense, wonderfully drawn characters, and plenty of comic relief laced into the mix. Rhys Bowen's attention to historical detail are flawless as she provides a backdrop of turn of the 20th Century New York City and San Francisco. I have to give this book at least 4 stars because it's such a delight to read.

PoligirlReads says

My previous concerns with Bowen is that she had painted (well, wrote) Molly into a corner: she's got these growing detective skills, but no outlet for them and an unsupportive husband that nobody, save for Molly, can stand. She did a good job of trying to rectify this situation.

The big news is that she made Daniel more likeable. I felt 67% less like punching him in the nose, so that's definite progress. He shows respect for Molly's skills (finally!) by asking her to come out to S.F. to help him. (Of course, because he's Daniel, and thus, a jerk, he can't help but toss in an aside about how maybe he asked her out so she could serve as a witness...).

The mystery was good, with a plausible variety of suspects. I thought her portrayal of class and its intersection with race (Chinese and white) was interesting. The secondary characters felt well-developed. Did Bowen get a new editor? Because while it was still repetitious (exactly how many times can food feel heavy in Molly's stomach?!?) it wasn't nearly as painful as previous books in the series.

I'm looking forward to the next one.

Linda says

I received Time of Fog and Fire through NetGalley for an honest review. Many thanks to NetGalley and to St. Martin's Press for the opportunity.

Turning the pages of a new Molly Murphy Series book by Rhys Bowen is like experiencing the gentle swaying of a hammock on a warm sunny day. It's that comforting and that satisfying. Just ask any fan of the series and they will fess up.

We're now seeing Molly Murphy Sullivan evolving with the times that are unfolding in 1906. The earlier novels were set from Molly's initial voyage from Ireland into her life as a sleuth in New York City. Life on Patchin Place has brought us to her marriage and the birth of her son, Liam. Marriage and motherhood have never sidelined our Molly. She proves herself up for any challenge.

Daniel Sullivan, her husband and a captain of New York's Finest, is now involved in a subterfuge assignment for none-other than Teddy Roosevelt himself. Daniel sets off for San Francisco under the tightness of secrecy. Soon Molly receives a letter from Daniel and her internal investigation antennae is peaked on high alert. Something is rotten in San Francisco like the proverbial cheese in Denmark. Molly, without question, packs up Liam and travels cross-country by train to the city of golden opportunities.

Here is where Rhys Bowen injects the tickle of the well-known into her storyline. We meet Samuel Clemens, Nelly Bly, and Enrique Caruso with subtle references to Post Impressionists and Fauvists. It's the spice in the secret sauce. And it works well. There are the usual plots and subplots that meet Molly and Daniel head-on. Our Molly tapdances at a mindboggling pace to whatever music is played.

Time of Fog and Fire will be warmly embraced by fans of Rhys Bowen and will, indeed, peak the interest of

those who are new onboard. I've read every one of them and sit ondeck watching the horizon for the next.

Catherine says

I love this series and I think this one is my new favorite. The series itself is set in New York City in the early 1900's, but this book was mainly set in San Francisco. Molly's husband Daniel is recruited by the Secret Service to investigate some mysterious events, and eventually Molly ends up traveling there too with their baby Liam. I figured out pretty early on that Molly would be there during the 1906 earthquake. I've read some non-fiction books about that time period and have also visited San Francisco, and this book was VERY well researched. I'm giving this book five stars because while I always enjoy Molly's exploits, this one was historically very interesting and gave a unique perspective on the earthquake and what it must have been like for residents at the time. Really excellent read!

Mary Ahlgren says

Lightweight compared to other books I have been reading, so a completely unfair rating.....

Stephanie says

This is the first book I have read by Rhys Bowen and I have to say I am not in the least disappointed with this story. I picked this up from the sixteenth in the series and while there were some holes for me about the character's lives and what-not, this still made a great stand alone. I do love a good mystery and adventure. I got both in this story and more.

I will begin with the atmosphere and period of the story. I loved it. I felt I was taken back to the 1900's and the author gives a truly wonderful sense of time and place. And the historical aspects of the story were marvelously written. Just the right touch and not over-whelming.

The plot was suspenseful and really had me biting my nails at times! Can you imagine believing someone you love is in a certain location and then you come to find out they are somewhere else and their life may be in danger? Then you receive a cryptic letter from them. How cool is that?! Makes for a great premise.

Enjoyable characters, splendid backdrop of the earthquake in San Francisco, adventure, suspense in all the right places, intrigue, and entertaining dialogue! I can't wait to read what happens next!

I am now a fan of Molly Murphy and will be picking up this series from the beginning!

I received a copy through NetGalley for an honest review.

Stephanie M. Hopkins

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⌘Critterbee says

Another edition in the Molly Murphy Mystery series does not disappoint. This time Molly is off to interact with another famous event / time period in history, with the usually harrowing experiences quickly following. I feel I can disclose NOTHING of the plot, because it would be impossible to do without tripping over spoilers. Still, I feel safe in saying that if you are a fan of this series, this title is a return to the solid story-telling and adventure that characterized the earlier editions.

eARC Netgalley

Carol says

Yea for this series. It seems lately I have picked books where the people are really not likeable and kind and interested in something other than themselves but this book broke that mold. Molly is up to her usual tricks of find trouble and getting right into the middle of it. Daniel is called away on a secret mission for the president of the United States. And after he's gone of a while Molly gets a strange letter from him that seems to say exactly the opposite of what the truth is. She decodes the message and it's to come to California where he is. What, Daniel summoning her that way is strange but she and Liam their son get on a train for California and spend the next 5 or 6 days getting there and that is only the start of her adventures which include being invited to stay at the Plaza Hotel free and then in a mansion on Nob Hill and even being part of the San Francisco earth quake. Will she and her little family live to return to New York City. You'll have to read and find out!

Jonathan says

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for a review from Netgalley and St. Martin's Press/Minotaur. All thoughts and views expressed in this review are entirely my own.

If you've been watching my Goodreads account for the last six months or so you've seen that I've made my way through the entire Molly Murphy mystery series, and I've loved it. Rhys Bowen has such a talent for creating amazing characters and just as good murder plots, and this book was just as good!

The characters are so incredibly three-dimensional; they are very human and show different sides of themselves. In this book we see a lot more of Daniel, which is a refreshing change. You normally see Daniel but he almost always takes a secondary role, however in this book he takes a lead. However, Molly's reaction to finding out about Daniel's "death" wasn't like I expected it; it was very anticlimactic to me.

The mystery and suspense were webbed together skillfully. I love how Ms. Bowen uses real historical events and people in her books, it adds an air of realism to the story that wouldn't be there without it. This book leaves us at a small cliffhanger type ending which makes me want the next book oh so much more.

Overall this was a wonderful book. I highly recommend this series and recommend this book. I hope there are many more books in the future!

Barbara Schultz says

Only my second "Molly Murphy Mystery". I like this series and certainly will read others. Unfortunately I read and finished this book while waiting 3 hrs 45 minutes at the DMV so I might have liked this book better if I were reading it in my cozy reading chair in my family room instead of a hard chair in a noisy waiting room.

Empress Reece (Hooked on Books) says

Molly Murphy Series - Book #16... If you are a fan of the independent Molly that spent more of her time detecting then catering to her husband, Daniel's every whim then you'll like this story. It really had a lot more of the Molly I've come to know and love. In the last several books, her role as a wife and mother overshadowed her role as a detective, but in this book we get to see a lot more of her independently without her very traditional husband putting his two cents into everything. This story takes Molly to San Francisco which I thought was a nice change of scenery. It was packed with tons of adventures and I enjoyed the plot of the mystery. From the ending, it looks like there are may be some big changes happening in Molly's world so I'm definitely going to catch the next book, to see how those play out.

*I received this ARC from NetGalley & St. Martin's Press in exchange for an honest review. Thank you!

Brenda says

I learned of this book while reading the latest in the series. Somehow I missed this book last year. With that knowledge the terror I would have felt with the situations Molly found herself in were lessened by advance knowledge but I none-the-less enjoyed this book.

Daniel accepts an assignment with the Secret Service and finds himself undercover in San Francisco CA. Molly receives a letter from Daniel laden with clues she reads as "come", setting Molly and Liam on a cross-country train ride.

Molly's adventures are heart wrenching offset by heart warming people along the way. In true Molly Murphy fashion she treads into danger in pursuit of justice.

Surviving the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fires she returns to NYC relieved to be alive.
