



To Catch a Witch: A Wishcraft Mystery

Heather Blake

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National bestselling author Heather Blake is back with wishcrafter Darcy Merriweather in her eighth magical Wishcraft mystery adventure.

Wishcrafter Darcy Merriweather might be a witch with the ability to grant wishes for others, but wishing isn't going to help her catch a killer...

When wishcrafter Darcy Merriweather's personal concierge company is hired by elite runner Abby Stillwell to organize the Wicked Mad Dash, a competition that takes place in the Enchanted Village, Darcy is more than willing to help her friend. As blizzard conditions rage on the morning of the race, Darcy's main concern is the terrible weather—until Abby goes missing...and is later found dead, buried in the snow.

As Darcy investigates her friend's untimely death, she learns that she didn't really know Abby well at all. And those closest to the woman—her secret fiancé, her roommate, her ex-boyfriend, and her co-workers at Balefire Sports—seem to have plenty to hide too. As Darcy digs deeper, she uncovers complicated relationships, a possible embezzlement scheme, and allegations of cheating against a top athlete.

Just when Darcy is convinced she's hit a dead end in the case, a startling burglary and the hunt for Abby's elusive ex send Darcy down a dark, dangerous trail. It will take the help from friends, family, and a little bit of magic for Darcy to stop a stone-cold killer from striking again.

To Catch a Witch: A Wishcraft Mystery Details

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From Reader Review To Catch a Witch: A Wishcraft Mystery for online ebook

LORI CASWELL says

Dollycas's Thoughts

We arrive in the Enchanted Village just in time for the annual Wicked Mad Dash and a few pranks from new crafter Vince Paxton. He is still finding his place in the village but Darcy Merriweather organizer of the event and wishcrafter wishes he would just cut it out. Of course, she can't grant her own wishes but she still wants Vince to use his powers for good instead of the chaos he loves to create. It'd be bad enough that a blizzard has created whiteout conditions and the person that hired Darci has gone missing.

A huge search finds the young woman dead, buried under a pile of snow. Since the death happened in the village the elder has asked Darcy to investigate and all she finds is that everyone connected to the woman is hiding something. Darcy is going to need more than wishes to solve the crime. In fact, she is going to need the help of all her friends and family to catch the witch and bring the killer to justice.

Every time I visit the Enchanted Village and these characters I am taken aback by the wonderful world Heather Blake has designed. From the village to the forest to the meadow I fully escape right into the realm this author has created. Her descriptions create wonderful imagery in full color and bring the world so alive. So easy to believe and picture each place we visit.

The characters are so full of life too. Whether it be the witches, their familiars or the visitors to the village they are so genuine. You never question the conversations with Archie, the macaw or with mice, Pepe and Mrs. P. You don't question the physician's healing powers or all the different magical abilities the people of the village have. This time the focus on Vincicrafters, witches with innate athleticism, fantastic runners. The Bryant family are Vincicrafters and own the local sporting goods store. The place where the victim worked.

There is also drama around Darcy's sister Harper, who had broken up with her boyfriend, fell into a dark depression and has dedicated every waking moment to her business. On a related note, Dorothy Hansel Dewitt is brewing up plans to overthrow the elder. And Darcy's her fiancé, Nick Sawyer, police chief for Enchanted Village and his daughter Mimi have moved into her house and have but his on the market.

The author has packed these pages with such a delightful story and a mystery to solve. It is so well written. Twists, turns, and tense moments all lead to a very surprising ending. It flows at a perfect pace. I love the way Nick and Darcy work together. Mutual respect and sharing. They truly are a perfect match.

The Wishcraft Mysteries are a unique series and each book builds from the last one. I am thrilled that it lives on with a new publisher. The author has included some backstory for new readers but you truly need to read the series from the start in order to enjoy the series to the fullest and really get to know the characters and their place in the village. There is a bit of a cliffhanger to this story too. I am honestly tapping my foot, very impatient for book #9. ?

Laura says

Wishcrafter Darcy Merriweather returns in the much anticipated eighth installment of the Wishcraft series. This time, Darcy's personal concierge company is hired by elite runner Abby Stillwell to organize the Wicked Mad Dash, a competition that takes place in the Enchanted Village. Darcy is thrilled to help her friend, but when the weather turns bad, and Abby disappears, things turn bad. Her body is later found dead buried in the snow.

As the investigator for the elder, the woman in charge of the magical world in the Enchanted Village, Darcy has to search for a killer. Her investigation takes her into a world where secrets abound, including hidden romances, a possible embezzlement scheme, and allegations of cheating against a top athlete.

Darcy's investigation takes her on a path that turns deadly, especially when someone threatens her life, and works to take the life of another resident of the Enchanted Village.

Oh how I have missed the Enchanted Village. Darcy and her friends are perfect, and I have missed them a great deal.

This installment is absolute perfection. Darcy is a great investigator, and she uncovers clues so smoothly that the pages seem to turn themselves as the story unfolds. The suspects are eliminated skillfully until Darcy finds out whodunit it, and, as usually, I was surprised by the ending.

In her personal life, Darcy is getting ready to marry her boyfriend, Police Chief Nick, and her sister, Harper, is facing an illness that makes Darcy very nervous. The characters all fit together so smoothly that a reader feels a great bond with them, which is why I missed this series when it was cancelled. I say a big thank you to Crooked Lane Books for picking it up and letting us revisit the Enchanted Village.

All the fun characters are back, including my favorites, Pepe and Mrs. P. There are numerous twists and turns in this story that made for a very satisfying read. And the ending shocked me, and sent me back to read it second time so I could absorb what had just happened. To say I am excited for the ninth book in this series is an understatement.

I received a digital copy of this book from the publisher through NetGalley. But I also bought an audio copy, as that is the format in which I have the other books in the series.

JoAn says

To Catch a Witch by Heather Blake was an amazing addition to Ms. Blake's Wishcraft Mystery series. I cannot put into words how much I enjoy this series. I've been able to read each in the series and this one did not disappoint me.

Ms. Blake's writing flows smoothly and is so descriptive that I always feel like I am back in the Enchanted Village visiting old friends. The plot was quickly paced with lots of twists and turns. There were a few small subplots regarding relationships both romantic and magical in the village but nothing that detracted from the

mystery. In fact, I was completely caught up in the story from the first page until the end. Oh and that ending already has me wanting to read the next one now. If you like reading cozy mysteries based in a paranormal world, you are going to enjoy this series.

I voluntarily reviewed an Advance Reader Copy of this book from Crooked Lane Books via NetGalley. All of the above opinions are my own. I would like to sincerely thank Crooked Lane Books for allowing me to read and review.

Taryn says

In this new book Darcy has been hired by local Abby Stillwell to organize the Wicked Mad Dash, an event that pushes athletes up against all kinds of obstacles including bad weather hence the Mad in the title. With blizzard type conditions in the mix this year Darcy hopes that everything will go off without a hitch and will be relieved when its over with no casualties. After the race is has been completed Darcy realizes that Abby hasn't been seen since before the race started and pulls together search parties to look for the young woman. When she is found dead at the bottom of a gorge she must figure out whether it was just an accident or if someone had it in for Abby. When it is determined that Abby was killed Darcy takes her job as the Elders investigator seriously and begins asking questions and looking for clues. Follow along as Darcy deals with her heartbroken sister, an enemy to her family, a drunk bird all the while searching for a killer. This is such a lovely series that is filled with unique characters, a fabulous setting, and a story line that is truly well written. With each new book I've gotten to know the characters, their personalities, and who they really are. This new book had me sad at moments, happy for sure, and on edge wondering what would happen next.

I received an ARC of this book, all thoughts and opinions are my own.

Fred says

To Catch A Witch is the eighth book in the A Witchcraft Mystery series.

Darcy Merriweather and her concierge service have been hired by Abby Stillwell to organize the annual Wicked Mad Dash. A heavy snowfall has started in the early hours before the race. With a heavy snow falling the racer begin their run and in the end as the runners start crossing the finish line Abby is nowhere to be found. Darcy sets out to look for her and soon find her buried in snow and dead. The question that needs to be answered is, did she fall from the bridge or was she pushed. Darcy and Nick, her boyfriend and police chief set out to find the answer.

Also going on in the village, Darcy has been worried about her sister's health lately. Harper has recently broken up with her boyfriend, Marcus, and Darcy has figured that this was the reason for her malady. She convinces Dr. Goodwin to examine Harper. He finds that she is definitely ill, in fact, she has a life-threatening illness. This is compounded when it is also learned that she is pregnant. Also, it is getting time for The Elder, the leader of the witches and Darcy and Harper's mom, to renew her status and with Harper's health in question, Darcy fears that her nemesis, Dorothy Hansel Dewitt will become the new Elder.

It's always a delight to visit with Darcy, Nick, Mimi, and all the crafters in the quaint little village.

I will be watching for the next book in this bewitching series.

Elliot A says

I was given this ARC by the publisher in return for an honest review.

Heather Blake is back and I am beyond excited! Well, I don't know if she ever left, but it felt like an eternity since the last *Wishcraft* story and I am very glad I got to read her newest book during the blistering heat in the middle of summer.

I am absolutely not joking. The welcomed break from the heat and humidity even if only imagined was bliss. The author's skill at describing the beautiful scenery that has been the backdrop of this wonderful cozy mystery series put a smile on my face and had me looking forward to the season's change.

The characters, like always, were delightful and quirky, and it was lovely to recognize so many recurring secondary characters that make this series so familiar. One character in particular the reader gets to know a little better.

The writing flowed nicely and had the reader transported back to the Enchanted Village within the first page. Overall, as with all the other books in this series, I read it fast, because I want to hold on to that delicious cozy feeling the author creates (minus the murder, of course) and then find myself in withdrawal and longing for the next story. I highly recommend this book.

ElliotScribbles

Taryn says

In this new book Darcy has been hired by local Abby Stillwell to organize the Wicked Mad Dash, an event that pushes athletes up against all kinds of obstacles including bad weather hence the Mad in the title. With blizzard type conditions in the mix this year Darcy hopes that everything will go off without a hitch and will be relieved when its over with no casualties. After the race is has been completed Darcy realizes that Abby hasn't been seen since before the race started and pulls together search parties to look for the young woman. When she is found dead at the bottom of a gorge she must figure out whether it was just an accident or if someone had it in for Abby. When it is determined that Abby was killed Darcy takes her job as the Elders investigator seriously and begins asking questions and looking for clues. Follow along as Darcy deals with her heartbroken sister, an enemy to her family, a drunk bird all the while searching for a killer. This is such a lovely series that is filled with unique characters, a fabulous setting, and a story line that is truly well written. With each new book I've gotten to know the characters, their personalities, and who they really are. This new book had me sad at moments, happy for sure, and on edge wondering what would happen next.

Kathleen says

“To Catch a Witch” earns 5/5 Witchy Wishes...Delightfully Fun!

I love a little magic in my cozy. Then add a witch or two, wishes being granted, and a murder to solve, and it's a perfect choice for me! Starting with the eighth book in the series, with the storyline and characters already well developed, was not a disadvantage. There were enough references to background and character connections to keep me engaged, so newbies feel free to join in with this book! Having a magic theme can be tricky navigating a fine line between plausible and juvenile hocus-pocus. Heather Blake did very well

providing a plethora of witches with their powers, their familiars, and their spells in a way that you can easily suspend disbelief and sit back and enjoy. Darcy Merriweather, a resident of Enchanted Village, is helping to organize the annual Wicked Mad Dash event, but things do not go smoothly. A few monkey wrenches are problematic, and entertaining, with pranks from a new crafter, a blizzard, and a missing person later found dead. The investigation puts Darcy on the hunt for one of their own with engaging twists and turns, nail-biting perils, and even a few giggles. But there are other issues and relationships evolving through the series making it very entertaining and popular with cozy fans!

"Disclosure: I received an ARC. My review is voluntary with honest insights and comments."

Karen says

I am so thrilled to start the week off with a review of Heather Blake's To Catch A Witch. This one is out in August and thrilled me to no end! I love everything about this series and am indebted to Crooked Lane Books for continuing this wonderful long running series. From page one I was enchanted and transported back to the Village in the middle of winter, back with Darcy and her family. Concern and anxiety gripped me surrounding the relationship with her sister in only a way that Heather could right. That "big sister" relationship is so well written and Darcy treats her sister the way I would mine. A sad and complexing murder in the village during a race that Darcy is helping with complicates things in the village while there is a undercurrent of dark magic and a nefarious plot for taking over power of the village too. There was so much to love in this book and I was so sad and yet excited, when I finished it, knowing I will have to wait so long now to find out just what will happen next!

Kristina says

To Catch a Witch by Heather Blake is the eighth novel in A Wishcraft Mystery series. Darcy Merriweather runs As You Wish, a personal concierge service, in the Enchanted Village in Massachusetts. She has been hired by Abby Stillwell to organize this year's annual Wicked Mad Dash. The proceeds from the race will help pay the medical bills for little Aine Bryant. The event gets off to a bumpy starts courtesy of Vince Paxton and his magical pranks. Abby asks Darcy to go over the bookkeeping ledgers for the race since they are off from the previous years. Abby then departs to warm up for the race, but she does not return. A search commences, and Abby is found dead below Aural Gorge bridge. As Craft investigator, Darcy teams up with her fiancé, Nick Sawyer (police chief for Enchanted Village) to track down Abby's killer. Darcy is worried about her sister, Harper. She has been running herself ragged since she broke up with Marcus. Her health is in jeopardy and Dr. Dennis Goodwin has some shocking news. To top it off, Dorothy Hansel Dewitt is attempting a coup and the only person who can save the village from her reign of terror is heartbroken Harper. Can Darcy conjure up the killer before her suspects fly off?

To Catch a Witch is an enchanting cozy mystery. It is well-written and has a steady pace which makes for an easy to read story. Heather Blake has created delightful characters for A Wishcraft Mystery series. Darcy has embraced life in the Enchanted Village. She is now running As You Wish, gotten engaged, a wonderful stepmom to Mimi, takes care of their numerous pets, is the Craft investigator, and helps her friends. Darcy has a caring heart and does not like to see anyone hurting. She has also taken to rehabilitating Vince Paxton who found his Craft too dull and has taken to dark magic. If Darcy can turn Glinda around, then Vince should be a piece of cake. There is a humorous scene with Aunt Ve and Archie that involves Magnum PI and

Pina coladas. Two of my favorite characters are Pepe and Mrs. P. They are just adorable, and Pepe is a wizard with a needle (I would for him to craft me a dress). The author was creative when making up the magical abilities for her series. They are unique along with the names. The Enchanted Village is a charming small town outside Salem. Each shop is special and suits the owner (no big box stores in this hamlet). If you have not read any of the previous novels in A Wishcraft Mystery series, I do not suggest you begin with To Catch a Witch (you would be missing out on the backstory that is needed to understand the characters and the magic). Each book in the series builds upon the previous one. I thought the mystery was spellbinding and multifaceted. There are several suspects with motive to kill Abby plus it turns out that Abby had a few secrets of her own. There is active investigating and I appreciate that Darcy works with the police to help solve the case. Nick is happy to have her assistance and just warns her to be careful (Nick is a sweetie). You will need to be clairvoyant (or a master cozy mystery sleuth) to solve Abby's murder. I could have done with less repetition (I do not need to be told the same thing multiple times), but that is my only grievance. To Catch a Witch is packed full of intriguing storylines, and it will keep you riveted until the very end. I wish we did not have to wait a year for the next bewitching installment in A Wishcraft Mystery series.

Kristin Cochran Schadler says

OH. MY. GOSH. I love this series and this book did not disappoint. Starting every book in this series is like coming home and being surrounded by family. I don't even have the words to describe this series. This book was amazing. I couldn't put it down but I wanted to savor it and didn't want it to end. Did I mention I love this series?? Ah-mazing!

Bridget says

Wishcraft Mysteries are my all time favorite cozy mysteries! From book 1 I was swept away into the Enchanted Village and fell in love with Darcy and all of her friends!

In To Catch A Witch, book 8 of the Wishcraft Mysteries, Darcy Merriweather is all set to help her friend, Abby Stillwell organize a village competition called the Wicked Mad Dash. With a blizzard moving in, Darcy is preparing herself for the worst...until something worse happens. Abby goes missing. It is much too late to help her friend once Abby is found dead in the snow. Darcy does what Darcy does best begins her own investigation which leads Darcy to the startling revelation that she may not know her friend as well as she thought she did. Delving into Abby's personal life dredges up secrets and relationships and a different Abby that Darcy thought she knew so well.

Wishcraft Mysteries are a wonderful world to get lost in and book 8 does not disappoint!

Thank you to Netgalley and Crooked Lane Books for the opportunity to read and review the latest from my favorite cozy mystery series! (release date 8/7/18, read june 2018)

Darcy says

A lot was going on in this one. The crime was sad, mostly due to why the person was killed. It sucked that so

many people had to hide what they were up to because of one petty person.

The drama revolving around The Elder and the line of succession is intriguing. I have a feeling that there will be lots more drama around this in the next book. What will be interesting is what side people fall on.

Peggy R says

This is one of my favorite paranormal cozy mystery series and this new book was well worth the wait. I couldn't put this one down and was sneaking a read every chance I got. Darcy, Harper, Mimi, Nick, Ve and all the rest of the cast returns in this new installment. I love the way Heather Blake writes. She draws you into the story with her descriptive writing style, quaint themes and unforgettable characters. I love the growth we see in these characters book after book and the mysteries just keep me engaged and turning pages. Ms. Blake crafted a plot that foreshadows what may be coming for Darcy and her family and has me wishing I could already pre-order book 9. The mystery had plenty of twists and turns to keep the reader guessing and I have to say she did such a good job of dropping clues and diverting my attention that the identity of the killer eluded me until the reveal.

This is a terrific series and if you are a fan of paranormal cozy mysteries, I recommend it highly.

I voluntarily read an advanced reader copy provided to me by the publisher, Crooked Lane Books, through Netgalley.

Betty says

In the eighth book of the Witchcraft series, we find Darcy Merriweather in charge a the Wicked Mad Dash. The weather is foul and blizzard conditions for the runners. Abby Stillwell asked Darcy to check her work as an accountant. She believes she made a mistake. Abby missed the start of the race and no one has seen her after the race. A major search is on for Abby. Using magic she is located in a bunch beneath a bridge and she has been murder. The investigation reveals the secrets of several persons and Darcy has work cut out for her and she has agreed to help several brides with there weddings? Why were the persons effect keeping their weddings secrets? How will these secrets play out? There is cliche her finished but I am ready to read the next. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND this book and series.

Disclosure: Many thanks to Crooked Lane Books for a review copy. The opinions expressed are my own.
