



A Sticky Inheritance

Emily James

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Sometimes the truth can be a sticky thing...

Nicole Fitzhenry-Dawes feels like she's the only failure amid a family of high achievers. Her last serious boyfriend turned out to be married and her career as a criminal defense attorney is in tatters. When her uncle passes away and leaves her his maple syrup farm in Northern Michigan, she thinks it might be time for a career change—hopefully one that allows her to stay as far away from murderers and liars as possible.

For half a day at least.

Her uncle's suicide quickly begins to look like it wasn't a suicide after all, but the chief of police is reluctant to investigate and soil the reputation of his serene little tourist town. Murder's bad for business. Nicole has no choice but to search for the killer on her own, with a little help from the handsome county medical examiner—who's exactly her type and all wrong for her.

And as she closes in, she not only risks becoming the murderer's next victim but also starts to wonder if the truth is ever worse than the lie...

A Sticky Inheritance is the first book in Emily James' Maple Syrup Mysteries. If you love small-town settings, quirky characters, and a dollop of romance, then you'll want to buy this new amateur sleuth mystery series today!

A Sticky Inheritance Details

Date : Published November 1st 2016 by Stronghold Books

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Author : Emily James

Format : Kindle Edition 251 pages

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From Reader Review A Sticky Inheritance for online ebook

E.J. Randolph says

This is a fun book to curl up with on a rainy evening, which is what I did.

Yvonna says

A cozy found on sale for Kindle turned out to be a surprisingly enjoyable little mystery. Small town, nice characters (Nikki needs to pay more attention to Mark and reading between the lines, so to speak), and a good story that are the components of a good, solid mystery. I hope to read more in the series.

Sabine says

4.5 sparkling stars

This was a great cozy mystery and I am so glad I finally listened to it – it's been on my to read list for quite a while already. I wonder why this author isn't more popular. I had a fantastic time with this mystery and plan on reading the rest of the series.

I liked the main character and was genuinely worried about her well-being. Interesting characters that I came to like and was hoping they weren't bad guys and an surprising conclusion that wasn't far-fetched are all things that made me enjoy this book so much. There was an element of romance but it was low key enough for the mystery to not take a backseat.

I loved the tourist town Fair Haven with all its small town elements and I am looking forward to coming back.

Andrea Emmes did a wonderful job narrating this book.

Karen says

An excellent cozy. Some romance but not too sappy. Great characters and descriptions. I will definitely read more of Emily James' work.

Michael R. Zuelke says

I really did enjoy A Sticky Inheritance and was glad to have read the prequel - Sapped - first so I had some extra background. I loved the small town flavor of the novel and the interesting characters. The only negative, if I can call it that, was with Nicole's inability to keep things more organized given her legal training. I put that down to her just not being cut out to be a lawyer and her need to get into something else

where she could find herself blossoming. I look forward to reading more novels in the series. I know they will hold my interest and provide good entertainment.

Joy Kidney says

"A Sticky Inheritance" won the grand prize Writer's Digest's 5th Annual Self-Published e-Book Awards--out of 575 entries. An article about it in the May/June 2018 issue of Writer's Digest revealed that in just over a year, author Emily James (a pseudonym) had independently published eight books in her Maple Syrup Mysteries series! This first murder mystery is a romp, with a quirky protagonist with an interesting inheritance--a maple syrup farm. I look forward to the others in the series.

Melanie says

Review originally posted at BooksOfMyHeart.net.

So, I started listening to cozy mysteries with the Beechwood Harbor Magic Mystery series, because Amanda Ronconi was the narrator and I love her. I found the genre is everything I had heard it was. So, when Andrea Emmes, who was a narrator interview over at Hot Listens, offered me a book to give her a try, I decided to try this cozy mystery. I have not read this author before and Andrea was new-to-me too, but nothing like going for something new. I'm really glad I did.

Nicole Fitzhenry-Dawes is a lawyer in her parents firm. Everyone in her family is either a doctor or lawyer and since she's not a fan of blood, lawyer it was. She's not a huge fan of it, but wants to live up to what her parents want her to be. That is until she goes up to Michigan to settle her uncle's estate after his death (her father's brother and a former cardiologist). The uncle moves to a small town in Michigan after a heart scare. He bought a maple farm and was making maple syrup products. Nikki's parents disown him for this, though Nikki did keep in touch.

It isn't long before Nikki realizes something is up. Her uncle's death was ruled a suicide and she knows this isn't the case. I won't go into how I feel like anyone is capable of suicide and hiding it from those closest to them, but in this case, Nikki is right, her uncle was murdered.

It is a cute story as Nikki continues to learn more about people in this small tourist town. The mystery was well thought out. I liked watching as Nikki worked through the small clues she finds. The other characters in the small town are delightful. I could see myself reading/listening to more of this series.

Narration:

This is my first listen from Andrea Emmes. I have to say I really enjoyed her narration. She did a great job with the male and female voices (and there are really more male than female voices in this story). There is also the voice of dying woman (again, heart issues), she was very weak and Andrea did a great job with portraying that in with the voice. I thought she did a good job in bringing out the light humor in the story too. Her pace and tone were spot on. I would love to listen to Andrea Emmes narrator more books.

**I like to thank the narrator for providing me with a copy of this audiobook in exchange for an honest review.

Janice Dick says

I purchased this book because of a review by fellow author, Janet Sketchley, and I'm glad I did. It's the story of Nicole Fitzhenry-Dawes who finds herself in a quaint Northern Michigan town as new owner of a maple syrup business. Nicole is a lawyer, but she's not happy about it. Her parents, also lawyers, demand perfection, and she is far from perfect. In fact, she is klutzy. I love that about her. A big city girl in a small town, trying to figure out who murdered her favorite uncle, the only one who ever understood her or took time for her.

The mood of the book is lightened by humor, but the plot is intense, as cozy mysteries go, and carries the reader on to the very end when the mystery is finally solved.

One of the best things about this book/series is that it's a clean read. Thanks, Emily James.

Aimee says

Enjoyable Small Town Mystery

I just discovered Emily James. A Sticky Inheritance is the first book I have read in the series.

I really appreciate the lack of the "F" word and overly descriptive sex scenes. It is well written and I like the cast of characters. I enjoy reading mystery & suspense, I like the small, tourist town setting. I will definitely read the rest of the series.

Kristen says

This was a great little mystery. It's solid, the protagonist is smart and capable, and the setting is charming. The plot was fairly straightforward and a touch formulaic, but that's to be expected during the series debut. Framework has to be laid and exposition must be gotten out of the way. As the series progresses, I hope the mysteries get more complex - I love twists, turns, and surprises!

Lea Hall says

Charming but flawed

Frankly did not like the heroine very much. Too much self-pity combined with too much regard for her own investigative skills. Oddly, most male characters are much more likable and interesting. (Not my usual reaction to stories featuring a female protagonist.)

FangirlNation says

In A Sticky Inheritance by Emily James, Nicole Fitzhenry-Dawes, a low-level lawyer, who is the daughter

of a pair of high power lawyers, travels from Northern Virginia to Fair Haven, Michigan to deal with the death of her beloved Uncle Stanley (Stan) Dawes. Unhappy with the official cause of death, Nikky challenges Mark, the medical examiner, and Police Chief Carl Wilson to look further into the death, which they soon change from accident or suicide to suspicious.

Read the rest of this review and other fun, geeky articles at Fangirl Nation

Phyllis says

Interesting characters in a well told story

Nicole is heading to Fair Haven Michigan to settle her uncle's estate . She is torn between the life she is living at home and the fact that her uncle had been ostracized when he had fled family expectations. She is in a similar situation . She discovers that Uncle Stan had left her his entire estate . Nicole knows that Uncle Stan would not have committed suicide so she sets out to prove that he was murdered and who the murderer is .

The characters are well developed and enjoyable . I'm looking forward to the next book in the series .

Debbie (Doc) says

Thank you to Tantor Media for supplying me this audio in exchange for a honest review. This was a quick and fun cozy and also my first by this author. I enjoyed the speed of the plot as well as the narrator's upbeat voice.

Nicole feels that her life is a failure and wants a life change. Although she had not been in contact with her favorite uncle in over 16 years – thanks to a family spat between her parents and said uncle, she had been emailing and texting him. When her uncle left her his maple sugar farm, she realizes that his suicide might end up being a homicide. The chief of police is reluctant to assist and disrupt the tranquil little town. This leaves Nicole with only one option, which is to solve the mystery herself.

Heather Gilbert says

4.5 stars, simply because there were several times Nikki's inability to put two and two together (for a lawyer) seemed to be stretching it, although let's be honest, nearly every mystery out there will require at least one or two moments of suspended disbelief. But I am firmly hooked on this series, and I really enjoy the maple syrup and small-town aspects of it. Will be buying other books in the series, for sure, to see which adventures Nikki stumbles into next.
