



Magnolias, Moonlight, and Murder

Sara Rosett

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When military wife, mom, and professional organizer Ellie Avery stumbles across two dead bodies in her new neighbourhood, murder becomes a clear and present danger. Can Ellie solve the crimes?

Magnolias, Moonlight, and Murder Details

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Author : Sara Rosett

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From Reader Review Magnolias, Moonlight, and Murder for online ebook

Lindsay says

I picked up this book because I liked the cover. Its got a pumpkin on it, which means that it takes place during the Fall, and I love Fall. This is the latest book in the series, but unlike some series, you don't need to read the others first to understand what is going on. The story is about Ellie who is the wife of an Air Force officer and it takes you into the world of what life is like for their wives. I enjoyed it. Wasn't sure if I would or not. Ellie finds a dead body who everyone thinks belongs to a girl who went missing a year ago. And while investigating it, another unsolved murder is solved. It was creepy and something I shouldn't have read when before bed. But it doesn't take much to scare me. In other words, good read. Check it out.

Mhd says

A cozy with a milieu of clutter organizer, young mom with toddlers. Every so often, instead of a recipe or something, there is a hint of technique for part planning. Given the crime, these techniques seemed out of place and even bothersome. The mystery itself was fairly interesting. I'll probably try some more by this author.

Natalie says

Interesting mystery...more about being a busy young mother than the mystery. The clues were there later in the book and it was pretty easy to see where she was going with it. It is not badly written but not the best I have read either. Part of the problem is that I read in bits and pieces...too much Christmas stuff to do and no time to read!

Liz Edwards says

One of the worst books I've read in a very long time. Smug and horrible.

Bonnie says

This was so good. I had a suspicion about the killer but could not figure out the "why". I really enjoy this series.

Amy Paget says

This is a light summer read. It's part of a series and has 'two hooks'. The amateur detective is a stay-at-home Military spouse with young children. That has enabled Rosett to set the series in various locales. Ellie's work from home profession is as an organizer. Similar to other 'occupational' mysteries, some of the chapters conclude with organizing tips. Those tips however, seemed exceedingly lame to me, perhaps because I fancy myself as an organizer too!

Sandybear76 says

4th book in series. Ellie is a army wife and has 2 kids. They moved to a new base and Ellie is spending lots of time at home with the little kids. But, she is trying to get her organizing business going again. She finds out that the house they are renting was previously owned by a girl gone missing. Ellie offers help to the missing girl's parents and finds herself in a hunt for the missing girl and the killer of an old local mystery.

CindyLulu says

Ellie Avery mysteries are based upon a stay at home military wife who finds herself caught up in the middle of murder plots and conspiracy while her family moves about the country wherever her husband gets re-assigned. This story isn't unique but it keeps you guessing on "Who Done It" well enough, that you do care that the victim receives justice and the family has closure.

Sara Rosett has a different twist to her murder/mystery writing; she gives you tips at the end of most chapters in her Ellie Avery mystery series. With Magnolias, Moonlight, and Murder she offers you party planning tips and organization advice. The character Ellie is responsible to put on a party for her husband's recent promotion; therefore, you will find at the end of most chapters tips on party planning.

I was distracted in finding many grammar errors in this book; one is unusual but to find four was disheartening.

Jessica says

Loving this quirky series. Well written and actually keeps me guessing. I have read so many I can usually see the end coming but these keep me guessing!!

hana says

much imprvment from 1st book.. keep me on my book the whole time, i didn't even skip

Betty says

Mitch has been transferred to a base in Georgia. The decided to lease a house in a new development. Ellie takes walks in the area and discovers a grave that has been disturbed and now has 2 skulls in it. Later learns the news that there is a missing girl and the Avery's have leased her home. Ellis has plenty to keep her busy; but offers her skill has an organizer to the campaign to bring Jodi home.

Vicky says

A woman disappears and her parents rent out her house just after 3 weeks? Not likely.

An 11 month old baby pushes his lawnmower in the front yard? Most 11 month babies can't walk let alone push a toy over an uneven surface such as a lawn.

A "professional" organizer who is always saying how messy her house is? I wouldn't hire her that is for sure.

Finding a skull and not call the police immediately - going home first?

Yep, Ms. Rosett is right on track with another book full of discrepancies and ideas not at all consistent with who her 2 dimensional characters portray.

OMG! Ellie is telling the people that have been putting up flyers for almost a year how to do it better? Like not one of them has a brain to figure out how to hang flyers? That if a light pole has a flyer already, why put up 4 more? Divide the town in to sections? Really? What a novel idea!

I don't like Ellie and that is a major flaw of the writer. If the reader doesn't like the main character the rest of the story is destined to fail also.

Each of these books in this series has "organizing tips", placed at the end of chapters no less that certainly would draw the reader out of the story. I skipped these tips entirely finding them a useless distraction - unless that is the author's plan so readers won't remember the discrepancy from one page to the next. Most books based on a theme put that theme at the end of the book: recipes, sewing, decorating, etc.

DISCREPENCIES to the max. How can Nita transcribe a notebook that is in police custody and she herself says the detective is trying to get someone to transcribe it? All within 2 paragraphs of one another. This is terrible writing and terrible editing. Then to have Nita request Ellie to take the transcriptions she is working on and match them to newspaper articles? What is wrong with this picture? THEN Nita recommends Ellie for her wonderful organizing skills to Scott? Wonderful skills that the woman has no first hand information about?

Like I have said previously: Ellie is a 2 dimensional character that the author builds up with other characters of less dimension. This is a terrible excuse for writing.

Ellie gets closely followed by a car, semi-runs, then finds out it is Colleen who wasn't sure it was Ellie and that is why she, the driver followed Ellie in such an erratic fashion? Get real!

To think I am not even halfway through the book yet. worse yet, I have 3 more books to go before I get through the series. I bought the books and I will read them despite it all.

The author has Ellie, the not too bright heroine, organize the closet of STAND, where she alone makes the decision of what is thrown out and what should be shredded, and what should be kept and filed? I wouldn't

trust Ellie to organize my trash. The premise is totally ridiculous.

Vehicles sitting at the bottom of a lake for almost 60 years will not have recognizable license plates. The vehicles themselves will be rusted, probably in unidentifiable pieces. Water, even in a lake, moves. OMG! I hate using the text abbreviation. Then later a body is finally found and immediately identified as Jodi? Impossible. Forensics, Ms. Rosett, forensics. DNA identification takes time. Check your sources.

The entire Topaz angle was ridiculous. Name recognition equals facial recognition? Poor scapegoat. Oh and the earrings made from keys? Yeah, they would have ripped an earlobe.

Mascanlon says

Rosett's engaging fourth Mom Zone mystery (after 2008's *Getting Away Is Deadly*) finds super efficient crime-solver Ellie Avery living in a new subdivision in North Dawkins, Ga., near Taylor Air Force Base with her air force pilot husband and their two children. While taking the family rottweiler for a walk, Ellie discovers skeletal remains in a forgotten cemetery at first suspected to be those of their home's first occupant, Jodi Lockworth, a freelance reporter who's been missing for 10 months. But there have been other disappearances in this town, one in 1920 and one 20 yrs ago when the civil rights movement came to town. A surprising twist, some excellent plotting and a few organizing tricks keep this cozy moving.

Karolinde (Kari) says

A simple walk causes Ellie to stumble on a body and the knowledge that a missing woman lived in her rented house. The red herrings in this book are incredible and yet very realistic. You find yourself thinking you know what's going on only to be fooled.

I love that Ellie is a mom first. Her kids' lives intrude on everything including the murder investigation.

Susan says

Air force wife Ellie Avery, adjusting to a new post in Georgia, learns that the missing woman whose image decorates every lamppost used to live in Ellie's house. Reluctantly, Ellie becomes involved in the search for Jodi, although her first attempt leads to the solution of a quite different mystery. This series is making enormous strides and should be on your to-read list.
