



# Embellished to Death

*Christina Freeburn*

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### **Embellished to Death** Christina Freeburn

When Faith Hunter agrees to help PI Bob Roget find an identity thief at a local scrapbook retreat, her friendly croppers' weekend quickly morphs into a dangerous one. As croppers share their own memories, a killer collects them for her new identity, and doesn't appreciate Faith in the picture.

Faith struggles to balance her professional, detecting and personal lives as threats and secrets keep her off-balance. Things turn deadly when a woman is killed and Faith is blackmailed. Truth and lies collide when Faith discovers croppers aren't the only ones embellishing, and the results might end her life.

### **Embellished to Death Details**

Date : Published September 23rd 2014 by Henery Press

ISBN : 9781940976273

Author : Christina Freeburn

Format : Paperback 266 pages

Genre : Mystery, Cozy Mystery, Whodunit, Murder Mystery, Amateur Sleuth

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## **From Reader Review Embellished to Death for online ebook**

### **Edythe Hamilton says**

Attending the Croppportunity National Scrapbook Day in West Virginia, Faith and Steve stop along the way to inquire about an abandoned car with personal information about Faith found inside. The vehicle is registered to Marsha Smith co-owner of Croppportunity and she is immediately nowhere to be located and has problems of her own that eventually come to the surface.

The Scrapbook faire opening begins with chaos and confusion as Faith scrambles to find the identity thief who stole her information along with that of others before another person comes up missing. Faith's past history with the police come to haunt her complicating the chance of a hopeful relationship with Steve and brings more complex situations into the already drama ridden book faire event when it is discovered Steve is not the person who he seems to be.

Embellished to Death is full of mystery and suspense as the main character Faith, an amateur sleuth, investigates to reveal an identity thief amongst the vendors at a scrapbooking event. This novel will appeal to amateur sleuths who love to solve a good crime drama with plenty thrills in this whodunit entertaining detective novel.

I received this book free from Henery Press through the Net Galley reviewer program in exchange for an honest opinion in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission guidelines.

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### **renee hoffer says**

#### **Great scrapbooking mystery**

This was a fun quick read. I enjoy the characters in this series and can't wait to see what happens in the next book--and who Faith ends up with!

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### **Toni says**

I really enjoyed this book. It did take me a minute to get into it because I had not read the first two books in the Faith Hunter series. But if you want to read this book first, the author does a good job at making sure you know who everyone is and giving enough back story to keep you informed.

The murder happens right at the beginning which is good because I have had books where I wonder "when is the death going to happen" and you lose half the story by busy writing up to the death. I did think the author did not spend a whole heck of a lot of time focusing on the person who actually died. I know she probably did that purposely since a lot of the mystery could have been solved if the focus was more on her than all the other shenanigans happening. Although, I am not completely sure why the lady from Croppportunity abandoned her car at the beginning of the story (which is what drew Faith into the mystery to start with).

I am not sure if the whole "Adam" issue was brought up in previous books but I thought that section where Faith confronted Steve about betraying her could have happened earlier. Since it was so close to the end, I

am hoping there is a book four that will put to bed this issue between the two.

Other than those niggles I completely enjoyed this novel and the characters. I am sad that I did not get to see the Faith Scrapbooking Tips since they were not included in the ARC copy but I'll bet they were truly interesting.

I received this book as an ARC (Advanced Reader Copy) from Net Galley in return for an honest review and I thank Net Galley, Henery Press and the author for allowing me to read this title.

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### **Paula Ratcliffe says**

In this book Faith Hunter finds out that someone is stealing her identity and want's to know why? Faith and her boyfriend Steve are off to a scrapbooking retreat where early on murder is on the croppers. Someone killed a woman and it turns out she is Marsha Smith but there already is a Marsha Smith so what is going on?

It's up to Faith and her associates to figure out what is going on and why there is a PI acting like a FBI Agent strongarming Faith? What does he hope to accomplish? And what is Faith's hidden secret she hasn't told anyone? Will it come back and bite her big time?

This book was good and quick the story pulls you in and has you wondering who committed this horrible crime and why? I enjoyed this story so much there are great characters that do come together to help Faith, only one thing wasn't answered but hopefully it will be in the next book!

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### **Anam Cara says**

Christina Freeburn does it again. It was perfect with the exception of a couple places where it seemed like a word was left out (example: "She's been tailing you? And from those photos, it looks like for a few months. Your grandmothers, Steve, nor I noticed it. ..." I think there should have been "Neither" at the beginning of the sentence "your grandmothers...."

I loved this. I do wish that Faith had just a little more sense - sometimes she seems like such a hothead and must do things NOW! as opposed to thinking for a minute the consequences of her actions. But I really do love the way Christina Freeburn tells a tale. The tension between Faith and Steve vs. Ted seems to be resolved, but..... maybe not.....

As far as who the bad guys are, she had me guessing until almost the very end. It wasn't that we didn't have the information to figure it out, it was that it was so carefully plotted that it made things difficult to discern the actual motives of various people. It was nice to see Darlene back and that they are friends.

I read the first two last fall. It has taken far too long for the third book to appear. I wish Ms. Freeburn would write faster. I need another Faith Hunter book FAST!

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### **Melina says**

I liked this book because first, it was set in my home state of West Virginia, and second it kept me on the

edge of my seat. I don't know anything about scrap booking, and I found that information interesting. This book is full of twists and turns, just like our lovely state, and it also is filled with more than just one "mystery". There is a big cast of characters in this book. That means there were a lot of suspects. This book kept me guessing to the very end. It was well written and flowed really well, making it a fast read. Great job Christina, looking forward to more Faith Hunter Scrap This Mysteries.

I received a complimentary copy of this book for my honest review.

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## **HENERY PRESS PUBLISHING says**

“A fast-paced crafting cozy that will keep you turning pages as you try to figure out which one of the attendees is an identity thief and which one is a murderer.” — Lois Winston, Award-Winning Author of the Anastasia Pollack Crafting Mystery Series

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## **Rhonda says**

4 stars

Embellished to death was good. I was guessing all over the place on whom to trust. Had some twists I did not see coming. I really like Faith and her Grandmas. Though the Grandmas just had a cameo in this book. Most of the other characters were back.

Faith and Steve were going to a scrapbook retreat. Her Grandma's store Scrap This was the major vendor. They were pulling a trailer with supplies in it. When Detective Ted called up asking why she abandoned a car on the road. Bob his brother found car off freeway with papers with her name on them.

Faith was almost run over in the parking lot, but Steve got her out of the path but knocked out himself, then another lady was run over twice before the car disappeared.

Faith has secrets about her past. She moved back home to West Virginia to be close to her grandmas and help in their store. She likes Steve her neighbor.

Steve is a prosecutor in Eden, West VA. He has liked Faith since the first time he met her. Her Grandmas like him too.

Bob Roget is a PI he is looking for a Identity thief he has tracked to the retreat. He asks Faith to help him and his boyfriend Garrison get into find her. Ted is his brother.

Ted Roget is police detective in Eden. He knows Faith's secrets. He also tries to keep her from doing his job. He comes to the retreat when Faith texts him about his brother being in trouble. He likes Faith and had competed with Steve in the past.

Lots of drama, surprises, scrapbooking, mysteries, murder all surround a weekend Scrapbooking retreat. It

keeps you guessing.

I have like all three books in this series and plan to keep reading Faith Hunter Scrap This Mysteries.

I was given this ebook by Net Galley and Henery Press. In return agreed to give honest review of Embellished to Death.

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### **Jenna says**

Embellished to Death is my first introduction to the Faith Hunter Scrap This mystery series. I'm afraid that fact put me at a disadvantage. Embellished is the third book of the series and, in reading, I found myself with more and more questions about characters, their connections to one another, and the circumstances that brought everyone to where they are now.

Embellished to Death by Christina Freeburn However, that said, Embellished to Death is an intriguing read. Set at a scrapbooker's retreat in West Virginia, the action begins almost immediately with a parking lot hit and run. Finding herself a witness by virtue of a near miss, our heroine and narrator, Faith Hunter, immediately inserts herself in the investigation. (As any and all self-respecting cozy sleuths do!) An already confusing situation becomes even more muddled for everyone - readers included - by the addition of an identity thief and a rogue private investigator. I admit having a little trouble keeping the various plot threads and suspect characters straight.

The blessing in this book is an abundance of richly drawn characters who are relateable and very human. What Embellished to Death may lack in polish and keenly-appointed detail, it more than makes up in heart and depth of character connections.

Perhaps the best indicator of success for a story is if a seed of curiosity to continue reading the series is planted. In this case, I can readily answer yes. I'm curious to go back to the start of the series, not to mention eager to see what is in store for Christina Freeburn's characters moving forward.

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### **Kristi says**

#### **I love this series!**

Faith Hunter is thrilled when her Grandmothers' scrapbooking store is selected to be the premier vendor at a nearby scrapbooking retreat. However, things immediately get off to rocky start. Shortly after Faith discovers that there is an identity thief hiding among the retreat attendees, a mysterious woman is found murdered.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. The mystery is very well plotted and suspenseful. I hated to stop reading this book. I always wanted to find out what happened next. If you like cozy mysteries, I would recommend that you try this series.

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### **Mary Brown says**

When Faith Hunter agrees to be a vendor at a scrapbooking conference, she just thinks that she is helping her

grandmother, who owns a scrapbooking store. She does not expect to be involved in a murder investigation, but that is exactly where she finds herself. She decides that she needs to investigate the murder and with the help of her boyfriend that is what she does. But with so many people attending the conference, there are more suspects than she knows what to do with. Who knew that scrapbooking could be so deadly?

The characters are decently developed and three dimensional but in my opinion, they could have been even better developed. One problem I had with the characters is that there are so many of them. I had a hard time keeping everyone straight in my mind. I have not read either of the two previous books in the series, so that may have helped with my confusion. But I just wish there would have been a little more of a backstory with the characters.

The writing style flows smoothly and the book is an easy read. The mystery is carried on throughout most of the book and there were many twists and turns to keep the reader guessing. I really liked the fact that this book revolved around scrapbooking, which I really enjoy doing.

I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a well crafted, well plotted cozy mystery. If you enjoy scrapbooking, then this book is a must read. But I would advise reading the books in order because, I suspect, the character growth and development will be much more obvious. I will definitely be reading the first two books in the series to see if I am right.

I received a free copy of this book from NetGalley in exchange for a honest review. I would like to thank NetGalley and Henery Press for the opportunity to read and review this book.

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### **Pamela says**

Embellished To Death is the third book in the Faith Hunter Scrap This mystery series. It is a well written and decently edited novel.

Faith volunteers to represent her grandmothers' scrap booking store as a vendor at a scrap booking conference. She is accompanied by her boyfriend and soon they witness a murder and become embroiled in a homicide investigation. This is a complicated and fast paced plot that kept me interested throughout the entire book.

Even though I had read the first two books in the story I found myself confused when faced with so many characters in the first chapters of this book. A bit more recapping of the characters and their history would have made Embellished to Death more of a standalone novel. As it is you would have to have read the entire series to fully understand the nuances in this book.

I enjoyed reading Embellished to Death and look forward to the next book in this series.

ARC provided by the publisher via Netgalley.

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### **DelAnne Frazee says**

Title: EMBELLISHED TO DEATH - Faith Hunter Scrap This Mystery Book 3

Author: Christina Freeburn  
Published: 9-23-2014  
Publisher: Henery Press  
Pages: 276  
Genre: Mystery, Thrillers & Suspense  
Sub Genre: Women Sleuths; Cozy Mystery; Amateur Sleuths  
ISBN: 13: 9781940976273  
ASIN: B00N1ADXA0  
Reviewer: DelAnne  
Reviewed For: NetGalley  
Rating: 4.25 Stars

I received a copy of "Embellished to Death" from NetGalley and the publisher in exchange for my honest review.

#### Description

“A delightful mystery no person who loves crafts should miss. A little town, a little romance, a little intrigue and a little murder. Join heroine Faith and find out exactly who is doing the embellishing—the kind that doesn't involve scrapbooking.” – Leann Sweeney, Author of the New York Times Bestselling Cats in Trouble Mysteries

When Faith Hunter agrees to help PI Bob Roget find an identity thief at a local scrapbook retreat, her friendly croppers' weekend quickly morphs into a dangerous one. As croppers share their own memories, a killer collects them for her new identity, and doesn't appreciate Faith in the picture.

Faith struggles to balance her professional, detecting and personal lives as threats and secrets keep her off-balance. Things turn deadly when a woman is killed and Faith is blackmailed. Truth and lies collide when Faith discovers croppers aren't the only ones embellishing, and the results might end her life.

Books in the Faith Hunter Scrap This Cozy Mystery Series:

CROPPED TO DEATH (#1)  
DESIGNED TO DEATH (#2)  
EMBELLISHED TO DEATH (#3)

My Review of "Embellished to Death":

Faith is a woman after my own heart. She is involved with those she cares about. She can be counted on to help a friend in need and she is intelligent and crafty in a good way. The confusion over the hit and run's intended victim. Who stole Faith's personal information, how and why. Who else was affected by the thief. Was the missing owner of the abandoned car the thief? If not why did she have her secure information? Did she have anything to do with the woman that was killed in the hit and run. There are numerous characters to

keep the story lively. Most are well rounded and likable.

There are two books prior to "Embellished to Death" and you may have a touch of trouble understanding how the characters interact with each other. If the back story can be overlooked, you will find this a story that draws you in from the first word and keeps you guessing as to whodunit until the last.

This is a great cozy for scrappers with a pension towards light mysteries with strong witty characters and plots with plenty of twists and turns then pick up a copy of "Embellished to Death". My rating is 4.25 out of 5 stars.

Amazon link: [https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00N1ADXA0/...](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00N1ADXA0/)

Barnes and Noble link: <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/embel...>

GoodReads link: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2...>

The Reading Room link: <https://www.facebook.com/permalink.ph...>

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## **Bonnie says**

These books were written as funny, fast-paced, fun reads with some romance tossed in for good measure and this one does not disappoint. The writer keeps getting better with each book. This was my favorite book so far in the Faith Hunter Scrap This Mystery Series.

Don't expect the Grandmas back on scene but the rest of the cast is present. Steve, the current boyfriend and prosecutor, Detective Ted Roget & his PI brother, Bob, are present and accounted for. New to the scene is Bob's boyfriend, Garrison, and a VERY arrogant cop (well portrayed – I wanted to slap him up the side of the head).

Wish the author would have played up the identity thief a little more.

After reading this book, I really want to attend a weekend crop at a hotel and I am looking forward to the next book.

Additional ideas for the author: men do scrapbooking to show off their businesses and there are historians in fraternal organizations as well as the widower who wants to scrap his son's wedding (love triangle for the Grandmas).

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## Betty says

This good cozy mystery is the third one in the scrapbooking series. Faith and Steve are bring the store to a craft fair. Steve is during a truck and pulling a van. Arriving at the Croppportunity site, Faith is in the path of a speeding car and Steve her and the car continues and runs over a woman killing her. Steve falls and hits his head on the sidewalk and he must take it was. Faith learns from Bob Roget that he is hunting a woman stealing identities. He has learn that she will be at the show. A stranger accosts Faith and threaten her that he had proof she framed her ex husband for the murders. Faith has not told anyone about this matter. Bob is arrested for murder. Faith must find the answers to these questions. This the first time I have read this author and I will read others.

Full Disclosure I received a free copy from Henery Press through for an honest review. I would like to thank them for the opportunity to read and review this book. The opinions are my own.

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