



Death of an Addict

M.C. Beaton

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*From the author of the Agatha Raisin television series...***DEATH OF AN ADDICT: A Hamish Macbeth Mystery** Former drug addict Tommy Jarret rents a Scottish chalet to check out reports of a sea monster. But when he is found dead of an apparent drug overdose, constable Hamish Macbeth suspects foul play. Teaming with Glasgow Detective Inspector Olivia Chater, Macbeth goes undercover and dives into the underworld to root out a cartel secretly entrenched in the Highlands.

Death of an Addict Details

Date : Published March 1st 2001 by Warner Books (first published 1999)

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Author : M.C. Beaton

Format : Paperback 214 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Cozy Mystery, Crime, Cultural, Scotland

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From Reader Review Death of an Addict for online ebook

Dolly says

This is an unusual book in the *Hamish Macbeth* series. Hamish gets caught up in a drug sting operations, going undercover as a married drug lord, wearing fancy clothes, traveling to Amsterdam, and basically getting out of his comfort zone. It wasn't my favorite of the series, but it was a fast, fun read.

Kelsey Hanson says

Definitely not my favorite Hamish MacBeth novel. This book kinda turned him into both a sexist jerk and a pathetic desperate single guy. I thought Olivia was a nightmare and Hamish is starting to have a revolving door of women in these novels. I also don't think THAT many people would find Hamish weird for not wanting a promotion. That's actually a fairly normal response when people don't want to uproot themselves for a job. Pretty disappointing, but a quick read.

writer... says

The Hamish Macbeth Mysteries #15

Author: M.C. Beaton

Reader: Shaun Grindell

Length 5.8 hrs • Unabridged

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Hamish uses his 2 weeks off the beat in the Scottish Highlands to pursue drug lords following the death of a young drug addict. Hamish takes an unexpected step into the drug world impersonating a druglord then realizes his need for department assistance to back his claims. A female Detective Inspector is sent out from headquarters. They head to Amsterdam, making acquaintances and impressions that lead to deep and dangerous peril back in Scotland.

High adventure ensues when their cover is blown and villains take the upperhand. Great twists keep the story moving to a satisfying conclusion and readers can look forward to more of Hamish Macbeth's Highland adventures.

Shaun Grindell does an excellent job creating personalities for the wide cast of characters. His voice is age perfect for Hamish as well as his authentically portrayed Highland accent. Grindell's timing and speech rhythm is exceptional in delivering Beaton's wit and humour adding much to the enjoyment of listening to the story.

Blackstone's recording is clear and uninterrupted .

Appreciation to Blackstone Audio and Audio Jukebox for the mp3 for review.

AUTHOR BIO :

M. C. Beaton has won international acclaim for her bestselling Hamish Macbeth mysteries and the Agatha Raisin mystery series. She is also the author of more than one hundred romance titles and a series of romantic suspense novels, the Edwardian Mystery series. Born in Scotland, she now divides her time between Paris and the English Cotswolds.

READER BIO :

Shaun Grindell was born and raised in Southampton, England. His training includes the Calland School of Speech and Drama and the Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute in London. He has been seen on stage in London and Las Vegas and currently resides in New England with his wife.

Lynn says

I reach for a Hamish Macbeth book when I want to read something light and entertaining. This is the 15th book in the series and I have read all of the previous books. This book was just ok for me and perhaps one of the my least favorite books so far in the series. The idea of Hamish as an undercover International Drug king pin was a stretch for me. I suppose after 14 books the author looks for a new plot for her series that is different than the previous ones.

The character of Detective Chief Inspector Blair who has always hated Hamish crossed the line in this book. It will be interesting to see where this character goes in future books. I imagine there will be little change and no consequences but will read on to find out.

I will continue with this series because I like the hours of relaxing light entertainment they give me.

The Bookish Hooker says

There's not really much I can add to a review of an M.C. Beaton book. They're my guilty pleasure. They're kind of fluff reading but I just can't walk away from Hamish and Agatha. The mysteries are always good and the characters always get into the funniest scrapes. Love them!

Heidi Burkhart says

An entertaining "who dunnit." Once again Hamish tries mixing work and romance while trying to solve a murder.

LJ says

DEATH OF AN ADDICT (Police Procedural – cozy) – Ok

M.C. Beaton – 15th in series

Drugs come to the Scottish Highlands when a young man is found dead from an apparent overdose. But his parents believe it as murder and ask Constable Hamish Macbeth to investigate.

*** Although Hamish is brighter than he appears, the idea of him posing as a drug kingpin just doesn't work. And the dialogue is weak in the extreme. It is extremely rare when a television series is better than the books

but the BBC series of Hamish Macbeth is. This is a very light series anyway, but this story was one of the weakest.

The Flooze says

I understand from reviews that many readers are disappointed to find Hamish away from Lochdubh for most of this book. For me, it was rather exciting to see Hamish completely out of his element.

Though we know he can charm and fib his way out of most anything on his own turf, this time we get to see Hamish rise to the challenge of a much more complicated investigation - one that costs a lot of money and manpower. He comes out of it with mixed results, the negative ones reinforcing that at heart he's always hoping for the best in people...and also that his Highland self is still rather old-fashioned.

For anyone fearing a lack of village intrigue, have no fear. We meet some new characters from Hamish's beat and see more of the area he loves so well. Particularly amusing is an old Irish recluse who bitterly aids Hamish. He's abrasive in a delightful way, and I hope we'll see him again. Though we admittedly don't get a lot of page time with the old favorites, Beaton ensures that every moment at home counts - culminating in another brilliant example of Lochdubh's fierce (yet hilarious) loyalty.

As others have felt, the only issue I had was Hamish coming off as a bit desperate for female attention. But it's a small quibble, and honestly: what lovelorn man or woman hasn't had their moments of oddity when faced with frustrating loneliness?

C.J. Prince says

Ah, if you're ready for "Death of an Addict", you've already galloped through fourteen Hamish Macbeth books. And if you don't know who he is, then go back to #1 "Death of A Gossip." Perhaps you'll fall in love with the lanky Scotsman with blazing hair just as I did.

If you're in the reading doldrums, this series will sail you off to the horizon of the Highlands and make you smile. By #15, you already know many of the characters and it's like you've settled in a croft in Lochdubh (pronounced Loch do).

The death? Oh, yes, the death is a murder or is it? The conundrum of a former addict who appears to have overdosed. Read on with Macbeth. No spoilers.

Fiction State Of Mind says

Coyer Summer Bash

This book really spiraled outwards. The main story is about a recovered addict who is later found dead of an overdose. While researching the case Hamish ends up posing as a drug kingpin. A little wacky midway through the story but well done over all

Jerry B says

We're not surprised at the mixed reaction to "Addict", the 15th entry in the charming light mystery series featuring Constable Hamish Macbeth and his Highlands Scotland village of Lochdubh. Most all these stories feature an unusual murder that Hamish eventually solves, mostly through sharp wits and everyday common sense, often to the dismay of his police superiors who thinks he's an unambitious dolt. However, the familiar townsfolk and places are thrown aside in this particular tale, as Hamish pairs up with a female higher-up inspector, going undercover as a married couple to chase out some drug dealers. While spending several nights together in hotel rooms, they also pair up in other ways, which seemed out of character for both. And, uncharacteristically, the pair traverse the nearest big city, even other countries, posing as drug dealers in a weak attempt to fool some bad guys. Meanwhile, solving the addict's murder got hardly a mention; and a silly sub-plot about a religious cult did little but serve as an unwarranted detour.

The trouble with a series with which readers "know" what to expect, is that when we don't find it, some are pleasantly surprised and others are disenchanted. We per se are not tired of the "normal form" of these light-hearted tales and don't want far-fetched action with new characters stealing the show. While not at all deterred from Beaton's future novels, count us among the disappointed.

Donna Radcliff says

Not my favorite, too much Miami Vice in the Highlands. Drug Lords, seamy big town crime. Not my cuppa.

Ellie says

Death of an Addict is a different kind of contribution to M.C. Beaton's Hamish Macbeth mystery series. Police Officer Macbeth's sleepy Scottish village of Lochdubh officially enters the present as drugs and drug-dealers enter in the form of a young man who comes post-rehab to Lochdubh to write his cautionary memoirs-& then turns up dead of an overdose. The police are satisfied that he died of an accidental od: except, that is, for Hamish Macbeth, who has a feeling something's not quite right. This is the most police-like of the series that I've read so far but Hamish is the same lovable self he always is. There are 2 detective stories in this one book: one a police procedural/thriller that's primarily plot-driven and one a small village murder mystery (cozy) that's primarily character-driven. There's romance, addiction, recovery, drug-tzars, and, as always, descriptions of this village of Lochdubh that make you want to pack up and move there.

Rachel says

I find Hamish Macbeth stories to be totally soothing. The characters are so fantastic and the murder mysteries always intriguing. This was another great story.

Helene Harrison says

Review - I loved Hamish in this one because it showed a completely different side to him. I really hated Blair in this one, as we got to see just how much he hated Hamish. I also, surprisingly, really liked Olivia and in particular her relationship with Hamish. The mystery started out slowly and unconnected, but by the end, I really loved the story, and I never would have guessed who dunnit this time. The description was also brilliant and easy to visualise.

Genre? - Crime / Mystery

Characters? - Hamish Macbeth / Jimmy Anderson / Detective Inspector Blair / Detective Inspector Daviot / Angela Brodie / Olivia Chaters / Tommy Jarret

Setting? - Lochdubh and Strathbane (Scotland)

Series? - Hamish Macbeth #15

Recommend? – Yes

Rating - 17/20
