



Seaside Secrets

Dana Mentink

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IN THE LINE OF FIRE

Navy chaplain Angela Gallagher wants to put the past behind her, but she's still haunted by the wartime death of her assistant. So when his brother claims he's in danger and pleads for her to use her family's private detective company's resources to help him stay alive, she can't turn him down. But someone will stop at nothing—even murder—to keep her from revealing their secrets. She'll have to depend on a military colleague to keep her head above water. Dr. Dan Blackwell was in the field with her when her assistant died, and he's determined to keep her safe. Can they sift through the web of lies to find the truth without losing their lives?

Pacific Coast Private Eyes: Sisters fighting crime

Seaside Secrets Details

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Author : Dana Mentink

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From Reader Review Seaside Secrets for online ebook

Rebecca says

Is she just being paranoid, or did a stranger just call her by name?

Navy Chaplain Angela Gallagher is trying to make amends, having never recovered from the death of a co-worker who died saving her life, and now his brother needs her help. On leave from her chaplaincy due to recurring panic attacks, Angela's path crosses that of another wounded warrior, Dr. Dan Blackwell. Dan is also taking a break from surgical medicine, still experiencing deep regrets over the lives that he was unable to save on the battlefield.

When Angela inadvertently pulls Dan in on what turns out to be a complicated crime wave, they form a tenuous partnership, beside a beautiful California seaside couching secrets beyond explanation. Expect a story that moves at top speed while Dan and Angela race to save lives, expose criminal activity, and rediscover faith ; all while attempting to ignore any semblance of a future.

It was my pleasure to receive a copy of this book from the author in return for my honest opinion.

Clare O'Beara says

This is second in a series but I hadn't read the first and got on fine. The interesting characters include a heroine who is a navy chaplain and has had challenging experiences on the war scene; and a hero who has quite severe PTSD as a result of his own wartime troubles. Fisherman's Wharf in Monterey is the scenic location, and we get up to our knees in cold water, hole up in a lighthouse and shrink away from the cliff edge, all vividly realised.

The romance is understated, both because of the suspenseful actions taking place at regular intervals, and the difficulty the two people have in coming to terms with their past experiences and being brave enough to move forward. Anyone interested in psychology of stress would probably like a read, or those who want characters with more depth than the usual.

I downloaded an ARC from Net Galley for an unbiased review.

Carol says

Explosions, Mayhem, Dark Secrets, Deceit, Murder...this is a power packed with emotion, a engaging plot plus many twists and turns!!!

Angela Gallagher, a Chaplain who served in Afghanistan is on medical leave suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome. She is contacted by the brother of her dead assistant. She owes the dead assistant her live as he died taking a bullet by stepping in front of her. The brother requests Angela to use her family's private detective

company's resources to help him stay alive. So off she goes to help him.

She runs into Dr Dan Blackwell who she knows from Afghanistan. Dan is on leave from the hospital where he works due to suffering from a hand wound. Dan also suffers from PTSD.

They combine forces along with several members of her family's detective company to go up against dangerous illegal activities.

The characters are well developed, very realistic and very interesting. The tension was thick with plenty of suspense great chills, thrills with unexpected twists.

It is a story showing how you need to learn to break free of the past and be willing to walk into the future.

There is a powerful message of God's forgiveness and love if we turn to Him.

Seaside Secrets is the second book in the Pacific Coast Private Eyes Series.

The story is a real page turner!!!

Susan says

Loved the story of Chaplain Angela and Doctor Dan. Looking forward to the next in the series, Abducted.

Elizabeth says

Seaside Secrets (Pacific Coast Private Eyes)

By: Dana Mentink

Seaside Secrets is book two on Pacific Coast Private Eyes series. The author had me hooked right from the start and did not let go till the end. she weaves us action and suspense through out the book. The characters were so real it was as if I was right there with them. There was times I caught myself holding my breath. I could not read fast enough to see what was going to happen next. Even though this is book two in the series you can read it as a stand-a-lone and you will be ok . Macy Chaplain Angela returns home from Afghanistan . Dr. Dan Blackwell worked side by side with Angela. They both are dealing with issues.

I was given a contemporary copy of this book by the author for my honest review.

Hannah says

3.75 stars

I didn't like it as well as the previous one—it took me several chapters to really "connect" with Angela and Dan, but the crime was very interesting, and by the end of the book, I'd connected quite well enough to be rooting for the characters and be ready to round it up to four stars.

I liked the strong references to God and what faith could do to heal a person. It was also fun to see some of Donna and Marco from book one.

Dick Harding says

Sorry, probably shouldn't review this. I bought the book thinking it was a mystery but discovered it was a romance. In a scene fraught with danger the handsome doctor pauses to notice that our heroine's sweater matches her eyes. Right, OK. I am also uncomfortable with a surfeit of patriotism as expressed in hero worship of vets. I am a vet. So I am willing to admit I might be off the mark on this last point. I am sure the author's other books may be nice. I couldn't finish this one.

Lisa Johnson says

Title: Seaside Secrets (Pacific Coast Private Eyes)

Author: Dana Mentink

Pages: 219

Year: 2016

Publisher: Love Inspired Suspense

My rating 5 out of 5 stars.

As a reader, do you ever look for something to read that is quick but exciting to read? I enjoy the many different stories and authors in the Love Inspired Suspense books. These books include romance, action, adventure and more. They are small enough to carry around and short enough for when a quick read is all one desires. I picked up Dana's book recently from my personal library collection as the picture and the series, Pacific Coast Private Eyes, is about a diverse family who endured tragedy and came from various careers to keep their father's company operating.

In this installment, we read Navy Chaplain Angela Gallaher's story about serving overseas and coming home on leave to see if her shattered life and faith can be restored. While in the town of Cobalt Cove, taking time to face her personal struggle with PTSD, she meets Dr. Dan Blackwell who also served overseas in the same area. He is recovering from a serious hand injury and unsure if he will ever return to the operating room, because all he can remember are the names of those whom he couldn't save.

Now, with two threads of the tale going on, another one is added when Abigail's twin brother nicknamed Tank, contacts her for reasons she has yet to understand. While she understands her family business is being private eyes, she also knows she isn't ready to enter that world until she can face her own demons. Soon, the mystery of Tank's contact turns into a deeper mystery involving many more characters in the story and discovering nefarious actions going on in the local hospital. Along with a couple of antagonistic brothers who appear to people as one thing, but might be something altogether darker once the layers are peeled back from their lives. What else is happening in the shadows of the beauty of Cobalt Cove? Grab a copy and discover for yourself.

I highly recommend the whole series as Dana Mentink does a fabulous job of weaving a gripping story right from the first page!

Penny Marks says

Seaside Secrets is book two in The Pacific Coast Private Eyes series. I absolutely loved the first in the series

and now this book. Author Dana Mentink grabs your attention from page one. This book is jam packed full of suspense, action, and adventure. There are so many things to love about this book! First and foremost is the message that God never leaves us and is patient. Through everything never give up because he never gives up on us.

In this book Angela(Angie) Gallagher is a Navy Chaplain currently on leave after the tragic death of her friend and assistant Julio. He died protecting her and she is holding on tight to the enormous guilt. She suddenly gets a cryptic message from Tank Guzman who is Julio's identical twin brother saying that he needs her help. So she doesn't hesitate to drive from Coronado to Monterey (Cobalt Cove) only problem she ends up at a festival that is very loud and starts to affect her anxiety and PTSD. Then she overhears a woman mention Tank's name and not to meet with her? What is going on??? She is now even more determined to find out where Tank is and what is going on. That is until the person on the phone pulls a knife on her and tells her to mind her own business.

She ends up running into a ghost from her war days, Dr. Dan Blackwell who tried to save Julio. He knows what Angie is going through and wants to keep her safe especially after the person pulls a knife and their car blows up! Angie ends up taking off! Where could she be??? He ends up finding her on the beach crying and shaking, everything is coming back to her ten fold because of her PTSD. She thinks God is not listening anymore and just can't pray. Dan tries to reassure her that God is patient and is still with her. If a knife and a blown up car isn't enough Tank meets with them and tells them someone is trying to kill him? And everyone thought Cobalt Cove was a quiet place. Adventure, mystery and a multitude of suspects start coming out of the wood work. They are at a loss about who to trust in this small town. She ends up calling in some help, Marco and her sister Donna from the PI group.

What have they gotten themselves into and how are they going to get out before someone they care about gets hurt???

You will be on the edge of your seat throughout this book. Who,what,when,where, and why will have you second guessing everyone.

Brittany says

Seaside Secrets was a truly action-packed story full of tense situations and uncertainty. The author did a great job of creating a scenario where it was impossible for the main characters, Angela and Dan, to know who they could trust.

This book is the second book in the Pacific Coast Private Eyes series. It was fun to see the main character from book one show up in book two, however, this book stands alone fine and the author does a good job of filling in a few details for anyone who did not read Dangerous Tidings.

Seaside Secrets dealt with the issue of PTSD and I thought that it was handled well. It was interesting to see how Angela struggled with everything that was happening in the book while also dealing with PTSD. It even impacted the potential relationship between Angela and Dan.

I really enjoyed this story and look forward to reading more in this series.

I received a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

You can read this review on my blog at:
<https://brittreadsfiction.wordpress.c...>

Carrie Schmidt (Reading is My SuperPower) says

Seaside Secrets explodes with action from the very first chapter and the fast-paced, high-stakes tension continues through the entire book. There's also a nice balance of delicious romance, authentic emotional struggles, and a message of hope and courage – as well as a few moments of humor to let your shoulders relax just a tad.

I really liked the characters in Seaside Secrets, the secondary as well as the main. Jeb is hysterical – and his service dog is a sweetheart. Marco and Donna (from Dangerous Tidings) are equally fun, and I found myself grinning frequently at Donna's feistiness. On top of these, a whole slew of compelling secondary and tertiary characters kept me engaged and trying to figure out whodunit... and what "it" is that the "who" has done. (lol)

Dan and Angela make a great team, and their separate personal battles made them even more relatable. In particular, I found Angela's fight against PTSD and her struggle to find her footing with God again to be written especially well and with great insight and sensitivity. Some very touching conversations – with her sister and with Dan – have their roots in this battle. It's a battle that attacks Angela physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually and it will be meaningful to anyone else fighting an attack against all fronts, whether it be PTSD or health issues or a broken heart.

Intriguing, action-packed, and compelling, Seaside Secrets belongs on your must-read list! The plot never lags, and the characters set up camp in your heart. Bits of humor mingle with poignant moments and intense drama as well as heart-fluttering romance, achieving the ideal tone for a great romantic suspense. While Seaside Secrets is the second in a series, Dana Mentink has written it well as a stand alone too. To be honest, I wasn't ready to say goodbye to this story or these characters and I'm eagerly looking forward to the next book in the series – due out later this year – in hopes of catching another glimpse of them.

(I received a copy of this book in exchange for only my honest review.)

Read my full review at [Reading Is My SuperPower](#)

Nancee says

The second in the Pacific Coast Private Eyes series, Seaside Secrets is no disappointment! Dana Mentink never ceases to amaze me with her creativity in the suspense genre. This book can stand alone rather than as part of the series, but there are connections to the characters that enhance this book and brings some clarity to the plot.

This is a very fast paced suspense that kept me up past my bedtime, but there is so much action that I was unable to stop reading. One more chapter, then another, until my eyes were burning and I had to give it up. I commend this author for her ability to keep a plot moving at such a pace that the action never slows down. I found myself holding my breath at times!

Characters are deeply developed, lovable and unlikable. Personalities are varied and very diverse. Don't miss this great book. I look forward to Dana's Love Inspired Suspense books, and I'm already looking forward to the next in this series!

Disclaimer: Thank you to Dana Mentink for gifting me with a copy of her book in exchange for my honest review. All expressed opinions are my own, and no compensation was received for this review.

Books and Spoons says

I was blown away with this story, the message is strong, the story explosive, and filled with mystery and drama, individual destinies, and the horrible pain and fatigue, many returning service personnel feels and lives with.

The story is so well written, I inhaled it, as it kept flowing of the pages. I loved every turn and twist the plot took, and there were plenty.

Angela and Dan had that one perfect moment in time, a basketball game, of all things, before their lives took a turn, and was never the same again.

Now, on a mission, working together to solve the mysteries, I loved the teamwork they were able to accomplish, and the connection they had with each other. Even the sort of mentoring with each other, they took upon themselves, amongst the explosive, non stop, fearful action.

They both had deep wounds from their military service time. The things they had seen, experienced, and lived through, the nightmares, flashbacks, the PDST especially Angela had, it was so well written, I nearly felt the pain and torment they felt.

Dan's support and guidance, when Angela admits, she has lost her connection to God, and the ensuing words, of how He never leaves us, His patience with us, were comforting to read. The lessons of forgiveness, to ourselves, and to another was exemplary, a teaching I want to remember myself.

The story has nail-biting suspense, filled with mystery, danger, and fear, as there's the doubt, that you can't trust no one, not even those, you should run to, at the time of trouble. The human tragedies are touching, the lives and destinies, all makes you take a pause. The budding romance, the feelings Angela and Dan are developing towards each other are not only sweet, but also healing. This story is just all around an amazing tale of God's guidance, His faithfulness, forgiveness, and plan for us, and how it all works out, when it comes to our lives, while at the same time delivering thrilling suspense and action in an intriguing tale

~ Five Spoons

Nancy says

This didn't make sense to me. Too many holes in the plot. Skimmed much of it.
Disappointed in the detective agency and
and their work too.

Linda Walters says

Good main characters, good story lines. Not only is Angela dealing with PTSD but she is also dealing with what she feels is a crisis of faith. She doesn't even feel like God is anywhere near her. She feels like not only can she NOT help anyone else, she's sure she can't continue as a Chaplain. Dan has already gone through some of the things that Angela has since he was also in Afghanistan although he of course served differently. He still sorrows over those he couldn't save surgically. That is a challenge he is dealing with and as he is

recovering from an accident to his hand, he's holding back about continuing as a surgeon. There are good secondary people as well, who are pulling for and praying for Angela.

But hold on, that's not the whole story, there are some strange and dangerous things happening Cobalt Cove. And it quickly becomes confusing on who they (Angela and Dan) can trust. There are a lot of unsavory motives floating around. And it reminds them uncomfortably like when they were in the war zone in Afghanistan.

That part of the story was well done as well.

On a side note, thought the author did a good job of including us in the feelings and some of the daily challenges that people with PTSD deal with. A lot of things that we take for granted as normal life.