



Death By Sunken Treasure

Kait Carson

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When Hayden Kent's mentor and friend discovers her son Mike's dead body, dressed in full scuba attire, washed up on Pigeon Key, she needs Hayden. Her paralegal and dive skills may help unravel the tragedy of Mike's last days. He'd recently discovered a sunken Spanish galleon and rumors that he hit the mother lode ran through the Keys like wildfire.

Hayden's dive on the treasure site uncovers gold, and clues that Mike's death was something far more sinister than an accident. When two different wills, both signed the day Mike died, are delivered to the courthouse, the suspect list grows, as do the threats against her. The danger escalates as she tries to save herself, discover the motive, and find the killer.

Death By Sunken Treasure Details

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Author : Kait Carson

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From Reader Review Death By Sunken Treasure for online ebook

LuAnn says

Well, now I can chalk reading a cozy with scuba diving as a theme off my book bucket list! Ok, yes, I jest, but I do like to see what cozy authors will come up with next. Scuba diving is one thing that's always been a hazy-back-of-my-mind-I'd-like-to-do-that-one-day things (that I may or may not actually do), but for some folks it is their livelihood and life.

Hayden and her friends son Mike are two such people. Hayden is the MC, a paralegal for whom scuba is an intense hobby. For Mike, it was his business. He was working on finding/discovering a shipwreck - with hopefully lots of valuable cargo, that had been sitting on the ocean floor off the coast of Florida. Unfortunately, before Mike can utter a word in the book, his mother finds him dead, in the water at a dock, on her way to work.

Now, most people are the responsible sort, and if they have a family and/or a large sum of money likely to be left upon their death, they will have their lawyer draw up a will for the dispensation of their estate. I guess Mike was extra careful, because he apparently had two...both filed on the same day. But which one was the final change...ah, that is the question. One was filed by Hayden's firm, drawn up approximately 24 hours before his death. The other was presented by a rival lawyer, representing the mother of the boy he believed to be his child.

There are numerous suspects for Mike's death, from ex-partners (and their families), to his ex, etc. etc. etc. The ex goes so far as to take out a protective order against Hayden, stating that she felt threatened when Hayden came to her house to ask her a few questions.

This is the second book in the Hayden Kent Mystery series, the first having been "Death by Blue Water", released in November of 2014. There was a lot of technical scuba information in the beginning chapters of the book which made for slow going at first. I imagine if I had read the first installment first, this could have been avoided. Nonetheless, I did keep reading, and am now determined to go back and read the first!

Hayden is a very likable (that's the spelling spell check gave, but it looks funny to me) character. She is a woman of her word, defends her friends fiercely, and apt to get herself into dangerous situations in pursuit of her goals. Season that with a dash of snark and you have one very cool heroine! I look forward to seeing what she gets into next!

Debbie says

While I think this is a good series, it's just not for me. I don't swim and hearing about all the things you have to do to go on a dive and all the cautions and warnings over and over. It just became a little redundant for me. I know this is a personal issue and no fault of the author. I think this is a series I will be skipping in the future.

The nuts and bolts of the mystery itself were very good and I did not see the ending coming. So I think most cozy mystery lovers will appreciate this series.

Thanks Henery Press for approving my request and to Net Galley for providing me with a free e-galley in

exchange for an honest review.

DelAnne Frazee says

Title: Death By Sunken Treasure - Hayden Kent Mystery 2

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Reviewer: DelAnne

Reviewed For: NetGalley

My Rating: 5 Stars

Hayden Kent is a paralegal who often investigates facts for her boss Grant Huffman, but often goes beyond simple investigations. Especially for her friends. When her friend Dana Terry, calls to tell her she has found her son Mike in full diving gear on the beach in what looks like an accident and needs her, Hayden comes no questions asked. Dana is devastated and questions about it being an accident and ask Hayden to use her diving skills to find out what happened to her son. After Hayden's last conversation with Mike and his cryptic comment the he may not have much time she agrees. She finds that Mike spoke of a find that could be the mother lode Hayden starts to believe it may have been murder. When two wills show up for probate the list of suspects grow. As it grows so does the danger to Hayden. Can she find the killer before she is given a burial at sea.

Kait Carson delivers another winner. Having grown up in the Miami - Key West area I love reading books set in Florida and the water activities found there. I learned to water ski, snorkel and scuba dive just about the time I learned to walk. I could literally swim before I could walk. Our parents wanted to be sure we would be safe on the water no matter what the situation. Reading Hayden's adventure is a trip back in time for me. One I thoroughly enjoy. The plot is well thought out with characters you can believe in. There are clues and hints throughout yet you will have to work hard to figure out the killer before Ms. Carson makes the final reveal. Although this is the second book in the series you will have no problem reading it as a stand-alone. I do recommend reading death by Blue Water for your own enjoyment as well as to get the character background in more detail. My rating is 5 out of 5 stars.

Amazon link: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01...>

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

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

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

Carla Johnson-Hicks says

This is the second book in the Hayden Kent Mystery series, but the first one I read. I was able to follow this story quite well without reading the first one, but will go back and read it as there were some references to the story that I would like to know more about.

Hayden Kent is the main character in the story. The book takes place in the Florida Keys so it is no wonder that this series revolves around deep sea diving and snorkeling. Dana, the woman who took care of Hayden after her parents died, has just found the body of her son. Based on his skill at diving, he is a salvage/treasure hunter, Dana and Hayden can not believe this was an accident. Hayden promises Dana that she will find out what happened to Mike. Hayden is a paralegal for a probate and estate planning firm and it just so happens that are handling Mike's estate. As Hayden begins the work necessary to probate the estate, she stumbles upon another will besides the one they filed and enough inconsistencies that she needs to dig more. As she uncovers one clue after another, she begins putting herself in danger. With the help of her best friends Mallory, a lawyer, and Janice, a police officer, they keep digging and diving to find answers. I was not sure who the guilty party was until it was revealed at the end, although I did begin to have some suspicions.

The author has created characters that are very believable and likeable. The plot is well developed and also very believable. I know that this book fits the cozy mystery genre, but it is also a good mystery that anyone who likes mysteries would enjoy. The descriptions of the diving were wonderful. It made me feel like I was right there with them. There was a great pace in the story and the development of the plot. A well crafted mystery that I think anyone who likes mysteries would enjoy.

I received a copy of this book from the publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

Betty says

Hayden Kent is an experienced and skillful deep seas diver. In this book, we join her in an adventure of finding treasure from a sunken vessel. Hayden's friend, Dana finds her son's body nearby on a beach and Hayden is there to help her through her grief. The events surrounding the death are suspicion. Hayden does several dives to search for answers. You feel like you are diving also. Two wills surface and Hayden's paralegal training assist in the search for the truth. The story is so strange that I was constantly being surprised. Hayden needs to discover the reason behind the death before her own demise.

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

LORI CASWELL says

Dollycas's Thoughts

I don't know why but so many books I have read since by son's death last year seem to have a suicide element. Maybe they did before and I am just hypersensitive now or is this is a new thing? While it did make me uncomfortable at first I know how cozy mysteries work. I safely assumed the body found at the beginning of this story was not going to be a suicide death and dove right in with Hayden to investigate her friend's son's death.

When Mike Terry's body is found by his mother she calls 911 but she also calls her friend, Hayden Kent. At first it appears the young man took his own life but when paralegal Hayden starts to go through the process of probating his will several things come to light leading her to believe he was murdered. He had recently found a sunken ship that promised a major treasure and his relationship with his partners was pretty rocky at the time of his death. Hayden decides to investigate the wreckage herself and see if she can figure out why Mike Terry had to die.

Having recently read Kait Carson's first book in the series Death By Blue Water, I couldn't wait to read this book. Again the author's descriptive style painted wonderful pictures in my mind both above the water and below. Whether scuba diving or dredging through piles of legal paperwork I was right there with Hayden searching for clues. At times we both seemed to be going in circles. Things just didn't seem to go together and when they did I was absolutely in shock and dear Hayden almost met her demise.

This is the second book this month that gave me a whiplash type of an "aha moment". I was like "What?" "No way!" "I never saw that one coming". That last twist was so surprising I think I read the page 2 or 3 times before I decided, yup, that really happened.

I loved my virtual trips into the depths of the Florida Keys and realizing that even the water there gets colder in the winter. Seriously, I never thought about it before. But Florida cold and Wisconsin cold are totally two different things. For us northerners it would probably still considered warm dip into the deep blue water :)

Another great read from this author.

Judy Lesley says

One of the things which interested me when I thought about reading this mystery novel was the fact that the main character, Hayden Kent, is a paralegal working in a law firm which specializes in wills and estate probate. I don't know much about those two legal specialties so I thought this might be a good way to learn some interesting facts. There were some tidbits of information that I had not specifically encountered before so those kinds of things kept me interested in the book. On the other hand, I have absolutely no interest in underwater diving at all and this book didn't make me want to explore that subject.

The novel takes place in the Florida Keys and centers around recovery of treasure from a ship discovered on the bottom of the ocean. The question is whether one of the salvage operators working the wreck had died from suicide or foul play. Mike's mother and others had noted how strangely he had been acting in the weeks leading up to his death and the fact that he had signed a new will on the day he died lead to a lot of speculation. Having a second will show up which had been signed on the same day really got the investigation going.

Hayden Kent was a very determined investigator, keeping up her search for clues long after everyone else had been willing to accept the results from the Medical Examiner. Hayden might have struck me as being rather naïve, but I couldn't fault her for her determination. The character seemed to do a lot of scratch-the-surface investigating, but not much really hard work. Lots of driving around from one place to another in her

Subaru (or in the Prius of her friend) and making poor decisions which, naturally, led her into trouble of one sort or another. Lots of describing what outfits she was wearing. I certainly have to give the author her due because I really didn't see the resolution of the crime coming, it was quite a surprise. This is the second book in this series which promises to leave bodies scattered throughout the Keys but maybe the next book will take place when it is warm and sunny more often than cold and rainy. It's hard to get over those pre-conceived notions of perpetually sunny skies and hot temperatures. Especially since I didn't really make a connection with the main character in the novel and was only so-so in interest in the plot.

I received an e-ARC of this novel through NetGalley and Henery Press.

Victoria Brinius says

"Death by Sunken Treasure" is Book # 2 in the exciting series called Hayden Kent Mystery Series by author Kait Carson. This is a really exciting series that will keep you at the end of your seat until the end. Hayden Kent's friend has come and asked her for help to find the person who murdered her son. Mile has found a Spanish Galleon and now that he is dead they believe that this could be the reason. When Hayden finds gold herself at the dive site they start to think that he was killed on purpose. They keep finding more and more proof that this was on purpose. but, who was it? Hayden has to work as fast as she can or she just might be the next to end up dead. I give this book a 4/5. I was given this book and these are my opinions.

Sandra Stiles says

I was thrilled to read a book where the action takes place in the Florida Keys. I live in Florida and it is one of our favorite places to visit. Hayden Kent is the main character. The woman who took care of her after her parents died has just lost her son. They soon decide it was murder. The author has created characters that are very believable, along with a great plot line. I could picture myself in the Keys. The dives were well described. The pace is just right for this type of novel. I realized that this was the second book, and I would definitely need to read the first book to find out how it all started. It is not necessary to read the first one to understand the second one. I am one of those people who doesn't want to miss out. I had not read anything by this author, but would definitely recommend them.

I received a copy to facilitate my review. The opinions expressed here are my own.

Andrea Stoeckel says

[I received this book free from the publisher through NetGalley. I thank them for their generosity. In exchange, I was simply asked to write an honest review, and post it. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising]

"Hayden Kent, you couldn't leave this up to the police, not with a friend at stake. You need to be involved. I know you too well." It wasn't the first time she'd referred to my tendency to want to control situations. My cheeks heated, knowing she was right."

Hayden Kent, paralegal for the firm of Huffman Koons and teetering on the edge of a relationship with Grant Huffman, her boss, has to deal with her best friend's only child's death. So, not only is she helping with the probate, she's also helping Dana deal with Mike's death, but the fact it could have been a suicide. And, before we know it, Hayden is knee deep in the middle of the most confusingly drawn out mysteries I've ever read.

Who killed Mike? Who gained the most by his death? The storyline frays and stretches so far from the reality of the actual death I found myself a bit lost. In saying that I am not saying the book is poorly written. I am saying it seemed to drag more than move forward, and that was a bit dissapointing.

I loved the setting of the Keys, the one place in Florida I would want to go. Carson knows her foundational storyline. However, its muddled conclusion was dissapointing.

Lghiggins says

Death by Sunken Treasure
by Kait Carson

The first chapter of *Death by Sunken Treasure* by Kait Carson “dives” right into the mystery along with an introduction to the characters. This is the second book in the Hayden Kent Mystery Series, but it worked well for me as a stand-alone.

The writer draws on her own experiences as a scuba diving paralegal in Florida to provide authenticity to this fast paced mystery. She includes lots of information about diving--tank gases, effects of currents, types of dive suits, and new diving technologies--without being pedantic. This background is not only interesting, but also contributes to understanding major clues in the mystery.

The plot focuses on the death of a scuba diver. Is it an accident, suicide, or a murder? There are many characters who are possible contributors to the death of Mike. Paralegal Hayden Kent has a professional and a personal connection to this case which drives her to dangerous extremes to try to discover how Mike died and why.

I enjoyed the book for its interesting characters, tropical setting, and twisty plot. I definitely recommend it as a tale that may not let you put it aside. The climax will not disappoint, and most strands of the plot are resolved satisfactorily. My one criticism is that there are some outstanding issues, particularly in the area of character motivation, that leave the reader wondering, wishing those strands had been sorted out.

Thank you to netgalley.com and to the publisher Henery Press for the opportunity to read and review this book.

JoAnne McMaster (Any Good Book) says

Hayden Kent is a paralegal who works and lives in the Florida Keys, which is perfect for her since she's also an experienced diver and spends her free time exploring the ocean area nearby. After arriving at work one morning, she has a message from her friend Dana and when she returns the call, it jolts her: Dana, the woman who cared for Hayden after her parents' deaths, is frantic. Her son Mike was found on the beach dead - and by Dana no less. When Hayden arrives at Dana's, the woman is nearly hysterical. The police believe it was probably a diving accident, but Dana doesn't believe it. She tells Hayden that Mike, who owned a

treasure salvage company, had discovered a wreck at the ocean bottom, and wants Hayden to dive the site - to see the last things that Mike saw, to discover the truth about Mike's death. When Hayden makes the dive, she discovers the remains of a wreck, and brings back a couple of gold doubloons to prove it.

Later, when Hayden goes to file Mike's new will - a will that leaves everything to his infant son - she discovers that someone else filed a second will on his behalf the same day. But the other will gives money to Dana and Lisa, his girlfriend and mother of his son, and Lisa becomes trustee of the child's money; plus the operation of the salvage permit for the treasure site goes to Devon Rutherford, Mike's former partner, with a financial split awarded to Devon and Jake Patterson, Devon's stepfather. It also leaves Mike's bar, The Petard, to Devon and Jake with Mike's son receiving a share of the profits. She's also not pleased to find Mike's ex-wife Kristin in town, filing for a part of Mike's estate, and with her is his ex-boss Rupert - whom Mike sued after an accident and received enough money to bankrupt the man.

With the discovery of the new will, Hayden is convinced that it's grounds for murder, and one of these people murdered Mike. Suddenly Hayden has an entire plethora of suspects, and any one of them could have killed Mike for the financial gain, but which one?

Even though Hayden's friends Mallory and Janice, and her boss Grant try to convince her that she's got it all wrong and Mike did commit suicide, Hayden has a gut feeling that something is wrong about the entire situation and she knows that she needs to dig for the truth - which isn't suicide. And the deeper she digs, the more questions she asks, she knows she's on the right track when she starts receiving threatening notes telling her to back off. But if Hayden isn't careful about whom to ask and the questions she chooses, she could find herself the next victim of an unexpected accident...

In *Death by Sunken Treasure* Ms. Carson has given us not only a delightful book to read, but a full blown, suspense-filled mystery. We are drawn into the world of diving the Florida keys and shown what can happen when even an experienced diver becomes distracted; how discovering a sunken treasure can change not only the one who finds it, but anyone else who happens to be in that circle. Greed can be a powerful motivator, and there is no doubt in this reader's mind that any of the scenarios in this book could have happened if they occurred in real life. Such is the ability of Ms. Carson's writing.

The plot is riveting, the intrigue palpable, the characters believable; and the tale itself is wound tightly like a coil of wire: pulling at it releases it slowly, but not without twisting and it never comes out easily or without trouble. Such is Hayden's struggle to find the truth about what really happened to Mike and why. When I got to the end, I will tell you that (having never said this before) I didn't see it coming. It truly blindsided me, and it was at the same time sad yet plausible. Bravo, Ms. Carson for giving us a story worth reading.

This book is the second in the series, the first being *Death by Blue Water*, although there is enough information given that it can be read as a stand alone. Highly recommended.

I received a free copy in exchange for an honest review but this in no way influenced my decision.

<http://joannesbooks.blogspot.com/2016...>

Claudia says

This book sounded so good from its description: a paralegal, scuba diving, sunken treasure and a dead body. Unfortunately the story was a little confusing: so many people who were somehow connected that I kept forgetting who was who and how they were related. There are two wills, two lawyers, a bar with several

owners (or just one?), a past lawsuit, a salvage permit (who was the owner or owners?), people who were partners or maybe not, a girlfriend and an ex wife, an ex boss and so on. Half of those people are related or had a relationship at some point or another and I lost track of it. As well as of their possible motives to kill the guy this is all about. Our main character, paralegal Hayden is trying to figure out the story and her amateur detective playing goes well beyond the investigation her boss expects of her as part of her job (their lawfirm drafted the will of the dead guy). The writing needs some editing because there were passages where I wondered if I skipped a page or missed something because the dialogue made no sense to me. Some of the conclusions Hayden made also made no sense to me. This wasn't a bad book and that's why I will give it three stars, but it could have been better and less confusing. Hayden jumped to different conclusions in every chapter and her reasoning was hard to follow. The ending was strange and I am still not sure that I understand who exactly was involved in the murder and why, and which one of the two wills was valid in the end and why.

Copy provided through NetGalley

HENERY PRESS PUBLISHING says

“Carson takes us on a whirlwind deep sea adventure filled with enough twists and turns to give the reader a serious case of the bends! She’s created a fascinating world complete with a beautiful setting, compelling characters, deceit, a shipwreck, and even gold doubloons. Dive in with Hayden Kent, the water is wickedly fun!” – Annette Dashofy, *USA Today* Bestselling Author of *With a Vengeance*

Katrina Wiese says

When I received this book to review from NetGalley, I admit I had never heard of Kait Carson or her Hayden Kent series. So like with most reviews I do, I went and one-clicked the first book in the series, *Death by Blue Water*, so that I could bring myself up-to-date before I started *Death by Sunken Treasure*. Now this book can be read as a standalone, however, you will definitely NOT want to do that, as these books are AWESOME and you won't want to miss the first!

The plot itself is well written, well developed and well thought out. I really enjoyed reading this book, it was a lot of fun and like both in the series I could not put them down, I was simply and utterly enthralled! I am glad I chose to read these while vacationing so that I didn't have to take “life breaks”. The setting of the books was also perfect while I was vacationing, as it really brought me to Florida and within the Keys. Kait Carson has such a descriptive way of telling the story that I felt like I was right next to Hayden. I learned so much about scuba diving and I really “saw” the ocean through her eyes. The ending had a great twist and I didn't see it coming! It really knocked me back and made me re-read the page a few times thinking, did I read that right? Not many books have had that effect on me, as I usually can pin the “who-dun-it” and this one really caught me by surprise!

Overall, *Death by Sunken Treasure* was a fun read with great writing enhanced by an enjoyable story line and amazing characters! I can not wait to get my hands on the third book in this series!

I received an ARC of this book, from NetGalley, in exchange for my honest review.
