



Antiques Flee Market

Barbara Allan

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Brandy Borne's new life in the small Mississippi River town of Serenity is anything but serene. Moving back in with her bipolar mom, Vivian—an antique herself, who treats Brandy like a perpetual five-year old—is challenging enough, but stocking and running their antiques holiday booth at the mall together is positively daunting. And as the big Christmas season gets into full swing, they find themselves in the midst of small-town mayhem when an old flame of Vivian's turns up mysteriously deceased. 'Tis the season-to be murdered?

Brandy and her diva mom last saw the recently departed dealer, Walter Yeager, at a flea market where Vivian made her usual theatrical scene while saving Walter from under-pricing a valuable first edition of Tarzan and the Apes. The prospective buyer was furious, and when Walter winds up dead the next day—"officially" of a heart attack—and the book goes missing, Vivian senses a Yuletide homicide.

As the season's first flakes of snow drift lazily down over Serenity, Brandy and her mother—with moral support from Sushi, the decidedly spoiled Shih Tzu—must unearth vintage clues that point to restless ghosts from the town's past. If there's any duo that can tell a fake from the real thing, it's Brandy and her scene-stealing mother. But even though they may know who's been naughty and who's been nice, they'll have to be very careful not to disturb too many ghosts from Christmas past...

Don't miss Brandy Borne's tips on antiques!

Antiques Flee Market Details

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From Reader Review Antiques Flee Market for online ebook

Jenn says

Cute and quick but not one of my favourite mysteries. It has a dog in it which is a plus. And a crazy mother which was another plus. But why do the cozy mysteries always have cop love interests? It's a bit cliché, don't you think? And the whodunit in this one - out in left field. Never would have guessed and was a bit disappointed.

Lisa Morin says

Fun holiday season cozy

This is a terrific book. Brandy is receiving anonymous letters about her "real" mother, her friend Joe is off his meds and then a suspicious death takes place. Her overly dramatic mother Vivian is ready to solve the case!

Join the Borne ladies on another wild adventure.

Janet Rexroth says

Cute series with fun characters that I will probably continue to read.

Glen says

It's Christmas time in Iowa, and the Borne girls are shopping for bargains when they see an old man being taken by an unscrupulous dealer.

Of course, things turn to murder, and the investigations start. Some of the suspects hit a little too close to home, and Brandy finds some things out she wishes she didn't.

Very entertaining.

Mary says

Nice little story. The Borne family is a great next store family to have. I love the tips they give when going to a flea market. Story is a good one. My first Barbara Allan book, I would like to go back and start with #1 in the series "Trash 'n Treasures Mystery".

Cat Jenkins says

I started this series out of order and I'm glad I did, because if Flee Market had been the first one I'd read, I wouldn't have touched any others and I would have missed out on Antiques Frame, which totally delighted me.

My chief grudge against Flee Market? The part where the little dog is poisoned with too much insulin. If I hadn't already known that the dog appears in later books, I would have hurled Flee Market across the room in rage at yet another cheap attempt to elicit reader sympathy by abusing a hapless animal. I'm so sick of that ploy, as you can see if you read other reviews of mine.

So I picked up all the Barbara Allen Trash 'n' Treasures that were available in my library system (why do libraries NEVER seem to carry the full gamut...but only stock a sporadic few?), and because I have nothing else to read, I'm moving on to the next of what I could find. But it may be that Antique Frame will not be equaled. Alas.

Sonia Bellhouse says

Antique Flee Market by Barbara Allan.

A Trash & Treasure Mystery

Almost a reprise of The Fast and The Furriest although this time the featured animal is Sushi, a Shih Tzu dog. The story is mainly told by Brandy Borne with occasional interjections by her mother Vivian. It's a madcap mix of fun and danger. Chapters include Flea market tips. Again, part of a series, but I was still able to follow the lot, if not know all the backstory

Barbara ★ says

This is the first I've read in this series and it will be the last. I found Brandy to be incredibly irritating and disrespectful to her mother which usually wouldn't bother me but for some reason it just tripped my trigger this time. I would expect a daughter who is living off her mother's good graces to be more understanding. Honestly Brandy came across as uptight and prone to overreact to the slightest thing.

I expected more mystery than what was to be found in this volume. This was more interpersonal family dynamics between mother and daughter, sister and sister. Definitely not my cup of tea.

Margaret says

Larger than life characters are perhaps a bit TOO colorful for my tastes, but it made for a lively read.

RebeccaS says

[especially about her REAL mother and how she was going to handle it (hide spoiler)]

Ronda says

There are a lot of things I enjoy about this series--characters like Joe, the humor, the pop culture references, and many of the side stories, such as this one's Shawntea, the battle of the parking meters, and the mininster's flash mob Sunday helping hands services. I still struggle with the fact that sometimes, the main characters aren't very likeable. I guess it is unrealistic to expect to like everything about a character, but sometimes Brandy and Vivian seem incredibly self-centered, manipulative, and even cold. Of course, in the long run, I guess that just makes them seem more human. Am curious to see how things proceed. Lots of new twists and turns possible.

The e-book edition I read had a LOT of typos, which was annoying.

Laurie Way says

I really enjoy this series! It gets mixed reviews in the comments I have read, but I love the quirky characters and their sharp repartee! The mysteries are intriguing and keep you hanging on to the end.

Kayci Schmidt says

Better than the first two, but still too many parentheses for four stars. I was also not a fan of breaking the flow of the story for a recipe. The story itself isn't bad. I might read more if the library has them.

Christine says

Gave up on it. I didn't like to writing style at all and the characters were not that well -developed.

Karen says

This book scores points for being a Winter Holiday read, and I read it during the Winter Holiday. Can't say I liked this one, though. I'm starting to think the series did improve a bit as it progressed.
