



Unhinged

Sarah Graves

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Once a Wall Street hotshot, Jacobia “Jake” Tiptree chucked it all for a charmingly dilapidated fixer-upper in the tiny town of Eastport, Maine. She was certain she’d left the dangers of city life behind--until she discovered that no place, no matter how idyllic and peaceful it may appear, is safe from murder.

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It began with the mysterious disappearance of Harriet Hollingsworth--Eastport’s snoopest resident. Everyone is convinced the old busybody bolted out of town to escape her creditor--everyone except Jake and her best friend Ellie who know Harriet would never leave home without her most prized possession. But before Jake and Ellie can persuade police chief Bob Arnold to open an investigation, they’ll need to come up with proof more sinister than a pair of abandoned binoculars.

Just as Jake starts poking around for clues, things suddenly take a troubling turn for the worse. A suspicious accident nearly kills her teenaged son, Sam, and her husband, Wade, just misses getting his head blown off. Jake is prepared to attribute these incidents to a spate of bad luck--until another “accident” leaves a visitor to Eastport unmistakably dead.

Most perplexing, all this mayhem coincides with the unexpected arrival of a man from Jake’s past: a former New York City cop. Harry Markle claims he has unintentionally brought an unwelcome guest into Eastport: a crook determined to knock off everyone with ties to Harry.

Twenty-four hours ago, Jake’s only worry was fixing her broken-down gutters and downspouts before the big storm swept into town. Now, everything seems to be falling apart all around her. Jake knows from experience that the truth is usually as messy and complicated as do-it-yourself remodeling. As it becomes chillingly clear that appearances in this quaint community are more misleading than ever, she’ll have to find a way to lure a homicidal maniac into the light--before he nails another victim.

From the Hardcover edition.

Unhinged Details

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Author : Sarah Graves

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From Reader Review Unhinged for online ebook

Jan C says

I enjoy these stories about Jacobia Tiptree and her friend Ellie White. At the beginning she falls off a ladder and goes with a slight concussion and a bunch of bruises, changing as the days go by. When she is finally dragged into her ex-husband's clinic, of course she doesn't tell him all of her symptoms. Then, a bunch of accidents keep happening, to her husband, to her son, a woman gets electrocuted, a missing woman is located in the walls of a house. She does from many suspects to almost none. One of the chief ones she suspects at first is the new mason she hired to fix the basement. He turns out to be someone else and it looks like he may be a new returning character added to her series.

I gathered the part about the new guy. I'm not sure I ever did figure out the part about the actual villain ... At least until just before the final scenes.

I've only been to Maine once and so maybe I just enjoy the setting.

I certainly didn't expect her to bring in the great explosion in Halifax in 1916. But she did. And she is right, most people don't know about it. It is a story well told in Curse of the Narrows.

Lisa says

The saga continues for Jacobia (Jake) as she lives in the small town on an island off the coast of Maine. There are several new characters to keep track of and any one of them might be the murderer.....

Marian H. says

Renewed my faith in Sarah Graves! (I didn't like the relentless pace of the last one I read) everything was great in this one - I didn't even guess who the perpetrator of mayhem was! If you love dogs, keep your eyes on Prill, the doberman.

Tina says

Enjoyable series, but inconsistencies are popping up. For example, in one book the peripheral character of Tim Rutherford is a cop. In another book he is a newspaper reporter. In one book, Sam's friend Tommy's last name is Daigle. In a later book his last name is Pockets, and it isn't explained until the book after that that he changed his last name because he didn't want to be associated with an uncle who was a criminal..

Elizabeth Noah Astle says

Jacobia 'Jake' Tiptree is convinced that Harriet Hollingsworth was murdered. She eventually convinces her best friend Ellie that she was and in the meantime, a bunch of coincidental accidents happen like one that

almost kills Sam and another with Wade and his guns.

meanwhile, an old NYPD cop who was there when Jake was a child and her house blew up moves into town. he is convinced that someone is harming people he knows. A few more 'accidents' occur and one thing leads to another including who is behind all of the mishaps people have been having.

Karen Schnakenberg says

Well, I knew it was a cozy but there's a limit to how many preposterous events and constantly changing red herrings I can believe in at one time

Victoria says

The nuttiest yet!

Sharon says

Excellent mystery series, "Home Repair is Homicide". This one had Jacobia and Ellie searching for a missing resident of Eastport, Maine. New and old characters, information on restoring old homes and an appealing small town in Maine make it easy to keep reading the series.

Peter Barr says

Sarah Graves' Home Repair is Homicide series is a good one. This is certainly a good one in the series. Her main character, Jacobia Tiptree, is fixing up a large home on an island in eastern Maine in a small town with a homicide rate that would scare Detroit. Her extended modern family and friend are good characters as well and the story moves very well.

Judee says

I'm enjoying this series. This installment was a bit too complicated for my enjoyment. I will continue with this series.

Linda C says

When a nosy neighbor disappears, Jacobia "Jake" Tiptree suspects foul play but before she can push local police to investigate her son and then her husband have major accidents. A new neighbor with ties to Jake's past claims the accidents are targeting people he's associated with. Then more accidents, an out of control environmentalist, a music video producer with questionable ties and a body. Jake and her friend Ellie start

pushing buttons. How do all these things tie together. Very complicated plotting results in past secrets being revealed. Good addition to the series.

Renee says

I liked this book a lot. For the first time Graves digs into Jacobia's past and threatens her present, both of which make for an engrossing read. I'm looking forward to starting the next book in the series tonight!

Leslie says

Review contains references that may spoil things while you read it, but no direct spoilers.

I feel like her editor may have had a talk with her before she wrote this book - several of the issues I had with previous books. But not all of them, unfortunately. My biggest issue with the books so far was a lack of continuity from book to book - characters never show up again after the book they feature in. This book contains characters that I thought forgotten (Maggie) and references to some past events (how long George chased Ellie).

However several things about this book drove me nuts. For one, this is the first book I haven't been able to guess the murderer in. But I'm not blaming myself I'm blaming the sheer amount of characters and motivations that made it hard to keep track of any theories I may have had.

This brings us to one of my biggest pet peeves when it comes to mystery novels, or in fact any book at all. Your audience should not be THAT much smarter than your main character. If there's a big reveal, I want to figure it out for sure maybe a scene or two before the main character. In this book there was a reveal at the end of the book that I figured out within the first hour of listening. Listening to seven more hours of this book waiting for Jake to catch up was excruciating.

I will continue to read this series because I think it's getting better, but very slowly. I like the audio book reader and the min characters, but there's still a lot of room for improvement.

Susan says

Very good. Some things did annoy me. I seem to remember the rationale and set-up of Victor's clinic as different that described here. A couple of other things like that as well. Otherwise, though, very enjoyable.

Kirsti says

I enjoyed the first few pages of this, but I gave up on it around page 75. Too chatty and meandering for me.
