



Organized to Death: Tina Tales

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Back in her hometown of Newport, RI, Tina Shaw, twenty-nine, is picking up the pieces of her shattered life. She begins her first job as a professional organizer in a house filled with cardboard boxes and clutter, only to discover a dead body in an eerily neat baby nursery. She fears this career move may be a short one until the handsome but spooky new doctor persuades her to reorganize his office left in disarray by the former physician.

Ignoring the doctor's obvious interest in her, Tina begins seeing her former boyfriend. When he protests against her new profession, she realizes what a control freak he is. Then there's another old flame who is making her hotter by the minute. As she works through the office clutter, she learns the doctor has a possible motive for the killing. But when someone else is shot, the doctor has a solid alibi--Tina herself. Drawn unwillingly into the case, she searches for answers as her list of suspects multiplies. When the killer begins targeting Tina and her friends, she works harder to learn the murderer's identity before someone else is found dead.

Organized to Death: Tina Tales Details

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From Reader Review Organized to Death: Tina Tales for online ebook

Betty says

This is the first book in the Tina Tales series. The plot is unusual and interesting as it touch on a subject that is rarely talk about. It what happens to people who receive the wrong medicine. Tina has return to her home town after distrustful event to recover. She has become professional organizer and is helping a friend, Rachel when they discover Rachel's sister murdered body. As events happen Tina realizes that a group of their Mothers have secret that affects her. Who is trying to kill Rachel and her husband? Tina must find out before she looses everything. I recommend this series.

Betty says

Murder Runs Amuck

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K

Joanne says

I received Organized to Death, by Jan Christensen, as a Goodreads First-reads giveaway winner. This book is an old-fashion mystery. It's light hearted, enjoyable and a quick read. I found Tina, the main character, to be somewhat annoying at times, but I can imiagine an amateur sleuth could have these same traits, so while I thought she was annoying, her behavior did seem to fit the storyline. I did enjoy reading it.

Lisa Morin says

I found myself on the edge of my seat until the end. I grew up close to Rhode Island and was a frequent visitor to Newport, so reading a series set there was a huge draw to me.

I was wrapped up in the mystery from the very beginning, there was murder, secrets, twists and turns that made this story hard to put down.

When Tina finds something suspicious in the once a month meeting of the Lunch Bunch, and her mom Laura

being very closed mouth about it, Tina decides to take it upon herself to find out what the secrets are. As a psychologist turned professional organizer, Tina had access to the different people involved and has the easy going attitude to draw out the secrets.
I loved this first in the series and can't wait until I read more!

Valorie Hunter says

Big dark secrets are really deadly!!!!

20 stars!!!!

Wow, this is a new author for me to read and it's great!!

Tina had a lot on her plate, between two men, her mother's secret she had for years with several other mother's for this old doctor they all went to a very long time ago.

Someone wanted to have that secret kept hidden in the past. Reputations are on the line.

There were so many people in the suspect pile and the motives were very valid, what the police had to go through, Tina had looked into a lot of places and asked a lot of questions

You won't put this book down, I lost a lot of sleep. There was so much to read I couldn't find a page to stop reading.

Jennifer says

Once I started this book I could not put it down, another great book from Jan Christensen, I will certainly keep reading her books! The woman has talent!

Full review posted on TheCubicleEscapee.com

Disclaimer: I did receive a copy of the book from the author in exchange for an honest review, as always the opinions on Goodreads & my blog are my own

Christa Nardi says

Tina leaves her job as a psychologist and returns home with her own secrets; she has decided to help people by organizing them rather than therapy. Her first client seems to have a problem with hoarding and that would have been overwhelming enough, but then she and her client go into the only neat room in the house and a dead body. Small town secrets abound, starting with the "lunch bunch" mothers who meet once a month and are overprotective of their daughters. Then, of course there's the daughters, two of whom are now dead, one of whom is Tina. Amidst the murder and attempted murder, Tina is a magnet for attractive men. There's Brandon, her old beau, who is comfortable; Hank who is exciting, mysterious and intense; and the new doctor, who doesn't quite fit and seems more than a little off. In truth, there are a lot of things that seem a bit off, the real mystery being the event or reason for the odd combinations of events. An interesting read and hard to put down. This is the 3rd novel by Jan Christensen. Hopefully there will be a second Tina tale in the future.

Julie Kendrick says

There were many things that irked me about this book. Inconsistencies that were not picked up on edit, but the two most important things that were wrong in my opinion were firstly that the plot was very weak; the author had an idea but didn't really know where to go with it. There was a secret, and then another secret, and another and another until I got bored with them all. There was no early reveal to keep me interested and when the secrets were finally told they were pretty lame.

The whole way through the book I kept asking myself why I didn't really like it and about 3/4 of the way through I realised that it was because I didn't care about any of the characters. They were not very well rounded and relationships were not explored in enough depth to intrigue me.

One last negative was the use of the same description over and over again. "The colour drained from his face"; "she saw the colour leave his face"; "her face drained of colour".

I finished the book and unfortunately it will not stay with me for much longer than the time it takes me to finish this review.

Overall verdict - Not the worst book I have read by a long shot but definitely needed stricter editing. 2/5

Rhonda says

4 STARS

This mystery has a lot to do with secrets and some of them lead to murder, some are still up in the air. It keeps you guessing and wondering why and what is everyone hiding? Tina gets so frustrated with all the secrets she can't find the answers too, but she is hiding lots of things too. Everyone has some secrets that they only share with a few people. The one secret that is not answered is driving me crazy too. Hope it will be answered in another book.

I enjoyed Tina and how she is willing to dig in and help people organize their lives. How she wants to help others. She has just moved back to her hometown and left her practice. Tina is starting a new business of helping people do organize their home or business. Her first job is a big one. She is helping to organize her friend Rachel's house. Rachel is a hoarder. When Rachel walks into the nursery they find her sister Crystal dead on the floor.

Crystal is the one to talk Rachel into hiring Tina to organize her house. Crystal and Rachel live next door to each other.

Tina and Rachel are both questioned by the police. Since Rachel's house is a crime scene they can't continue to clean it out and the police open all the boxes and make a bigger mess.

Tina realizes that her mother is keeping lots of secrets from her about why she meets with her women's group once a month for lunch and never really at any other time. Tina can't even find out how or when the group started. Crystal and Rachel's mother is also part of the group. Her boyfriend Brandon's mother is another of the ladies. Brandon's mother every once in awhile disappears for a time even he does not know

why.

Her also good friend Hank's mother goes somewhere for weeks at a time and she has no idea where she gets too. She does not even know what Hank does for a job. She is really attracted to Hank too.

Slowly Tina uncovers some secrets that the people around her are hiding. She does not want anyone else hurt. The cops keep thinking she might be the one who killed Crystal they even ask her if they can see her gun. But it is missing from where she keeps it. A couple of the secrets I guessed right on but most of them I had no idea the story was going that direction. I would read another book by Jan Christensen especially if another one of Tina Tales comes out.

I was given this ebook to read and asked to give honest review of it when I finished reading by Netgalley.
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Tina Tales, Book 1

Description below taken off of Netgalley

Back in her hometown of Newport, RI, Tina Shaw, twenty-nine, is picking up the pieces of her shattered life. She begins her first job as a professional organizer in a house filled with cardboard boxes and clutter, only to discover a dead body in an eerily neat baby nursery. She fears this career move may be a short one until the handsome but spooky new doctor persuades her to reorganize his office left in disarray by the former physician. Ignoring the doctor's obvious interest in her, Tina begins seeing her former boyfriend. When he protests against her new profession, she realizes what a control freak he is. Then there's another old flame who is making her hotter by the minute. As she works through the office clutter, she learns the doctor has a possible motive for the killing. But when someone else is shot, the doctor has a solid alibi--Tina herself. Drawn unwillingly into the case, she searches for answers as her list of suspects multiplies. When the killer begins targeting Tina and her friends, she works harder to learn the murderer's identity before someone else is found dead

Carol Kilgore says

Tina Shaw has returned home to Rhode Island and started a new business as a professional organizer. When she's on her first job and finds the murdered body of a longtime friend, Tina wonders if she's made another mistake in her life. But she presses on and becomes involved in all kinds of Newport secrets, one of which involves her mother. This is a great story that kept me wondering what was next as I read.

Kevintipple says

Life was supposed to be less stressful and a bit simpler in the fall of 2007 when Tina Shaw came back home to Newport, Rhode Island. Having given up her psychology practice at age 29 in favor of a new profession as a professional organizer, life should be less stressful with her new career as her clients should not die. Her first job should also be easy, all things considered, as she will be working with a client, Rachel, whom she has known since they both were kids. Rachel obviously needs her help as her house is packed. Clutter has filled every nook and cranny except for the perfect baby nursery that is in pristine condition.

That is except for the dead body sprawled across the floor in a pool of blood with several bullet holes in the back.

Crystal is very much dead and for Rachel the loss is tremendous. Crystal could be over bearing and judgmental, but they were sisters and Rachel loved her dearly. If Rachel already needs mental health help, as Tina suspected considering the stat of the house, she certainly does now.

She might not be the only one who needs someone to talk to in Tina's circle of friends and acquaintances. Not only does a killer walk among them, but nearly everyone has a major secret. Some of those secrets unite the characters in various ways, while other secrets will ultimately destroy relationships and cost lives.

Organized To Death: A Lighter-Side Mystery Story by prolific short story and novelist Jan Christensen is a suspenseful page turning read. First in a new series, it features Tina Shaw a complicated young lady with secrets of her own. She also can't get a decent home cooked meal to save her life, has three potential romantic partners who annoy and intrigue her, and the serious unwanted interest of the police who see clear evidence linking her to at least one murder. A rich dynamic character who has yet to find herself, this first novel of a planned series is a tale of personal exploration weaved into a suspenseful cozy style mystery. Rich in detail and populated with complicated multi-dimensional characters in every role, this latest book from author Jan Christensen is another good one.

Organized To Death: A Lighter-Side Mystery Story

Jan Christensen

<http://www.janchristensen.com>

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Kevin R. Tipple ©2013

April Hollingworth says

Review Courtesy of April Hollingworth

Wonderfully brilliant I loved this book. It is the first book in the series, but each book can be read as a standalone. The way the story is written is superb. We're giving a look into the killers mind and watch how the characters interact and figure out exactly what is going on. As Tina try's to sort out her own life, she finds more unanswered questions, and a determination to solve each and every one of those questions. Completely brilliant.

Opening Scene:

Newport, Rhode Island
Autumn, 2007

She entered her home, hands shaking, her heart beating so hard she seriously thought she'd have a heart attack.

The Review:

Picking up the pieces from her shattered life, Tina Shaw starts her new business of professional organizer in her home town of Newport. What she doesn't expect to find is the murdered body of her clients' sister, Crystal, in the only uncluttered room in the house. A baby's nursery; never been used, but left as if expecting an arrival any second. Unable to work while the police investigate, she accepts the job of reorganizing the handsome but spooky new doctor's office. A job needing badly doing after the disarray left from the previous physician.

Ignoring the handsome doctor's obvious interest in her, Tina begins to realize that her old boyfriend who she's seeing again, is a complete control freak where her work is concerned. Then there's Hank, who makes her hotter by the minute and can leave her in a puddle just by a look. As she works through the office clutter, she realizes that nothing is as it seems. Secrets from the past may be affecting the present, and be the cause for the murder. Now the killer is hunting down those closest to Crystal. A list that includes Tina herself.

Notable Scene:

"Hey, Red," Hank greeted her.

"Hello, Hank," she said carefully, but sank back onto the pillows, melting now from different feelings. Feelings she didn't want to have.

"I heard about Crystal. You found her?"

"How'd you hear?"

"That's not important. You're what's important. Are you okay?"

If she melted any more, she'd be a puddle. Most unsuitable, she heard her mother's voice in her head. Hank had no visible means of support, and Tina's mother recoiled at the very thought of him and her daughter together. But Hank did something for a living-Tina knew that-because sometimes he was totally unavailable, and he had enough money to live nicely. Not lavishly, but nicely. Sometimes Tina wished she knew what he did, but she'd long since stopped asking him. He was both noncommittal and evasive and always seemed annoyed.

"I'm alright, Rachel isn't doing so well."

"They were close," Hank said. "It will be hard for her."

FTC Advisory: Jan Christenson provided me with a copy of *Organized to Death* by Jan Christensen. Published through Jan Christenson. Kindle Edition. No goody bags, sponsorships, "material connections," or bribes were exchanged for my review.

Pamela says

The first third of this book had me totally confused; the plot zigged and zagged in odd ways and new characters were abruptly thrown into the mix. This is definitely a book in need of a strong editor.

I did like the murder mystery that was being investigated by the heroine. Once all of the character and location development was done the mystery began to hold my interest.

The heroine was supposed to be a professional, but her passive aggressive behavior just made her unlikable.

This would have been a DNF for me if I hadn't been planning on writing a review.

ARC provided by the publisher via Netgalley.

Ann says

I first thought this would be an interesting cozy mystery but soon was turning pages I'd a good murder mystery. Tina comes home and is soon organizing the home of a childhood friend who is on the verge of being a hoarder. When they discover a dead body the town's secrets start to unravel. 2 hunky men are after her affections and more attempts to murder her friends keep the police busy. A good read.

Jacqueline Seewald says

Newport, Rhode Island is the setting for Jan Christensen's mystery/suspense thriller.

Tina Shaw returns to live in her hometown after spending the last seven years away.

Tina has ended her career in Virginia as a clinical psychologist taking up a new job as a professional organizer. She avoids telling others about her reasons for doing this. Her mother Laura is perplexed. On Tina's first job to de-clutter her friend Rachel Palmer's house she and Rachel find the body of Rachel's sister Crystal who has been shot to death.

Tina herself becomes a person of interest when police detectives Dotson and Smith discover that Tina's gun, a 22 caliber pistol like the one used in the killing, is missing. Subsequently, there are attempts on the lives of Rachel, her husband Nicky, Crystal's husband, Charles, as well as Tina. We soon learn the identity of the killer but not the reason. The novel becomes not so much a whodunit but a whydonit. The reader will be engrossed in finding out the secrets that a network of people who have known each other forever are hiding and why. This is a complex, intricate mystery that proves fascinating to unravel. Tina, in pursuing the mystery, gains closure for what troubles her soul as well as finding romance in the form of three interesting men, each with their own secrets. Organized to Death is an engrossing, satisfying mystery suspense novel that readers will not be willing to put down until they have read the final words.
