



Ancient Spirits

Alice Duncan

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Daisy Gumm Majesty has put her Ouija board aside, following her husband's passing. Only when Mrs. Pinkerton's daughter is arrested does Daisy pick it up again, and is immediately rewarded with useful information.

Mrs. P is so delighted she pays Daisy an enormous amount of money, which comes in handy when Mrs. P's son (and Daisy's best friend) insists Daisy accompany him on a trip to Egypt.

Arriving in Cairo, Daisy makes an innocent purchase of a unique canopic jar and lands in the middle of a smuggling ring.

Convinced Daisy is in trouble, Sam hies himself to Egypt where he joins the spiritualist/sleuth in an adventure that will last a lifetime.

Ancient Spirits Details

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Author : Alice Duncan

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From Reader Review Ancient Spirits for online ebook

Linda says

This is the first book I've read in this series, but it was such a charming and fun read that I'm going to backtrack and read the other books. The series takes place in California during the early 1920s, when Prohibition was in full force. Daisy Gumm Majesty helps support her family (Ma, Pa, Aunt Vi and dachshund Spike) by doing "spiritualist" readings for the privileged. While she knows she can't really commune with the Other Side, her engaging and caring ways make her highly successful at her chosen profession. In Ancient Spirits, Daisy has just lost her beloved young husband to suicide—he'd been damaged by mustard gas during WWI and could no longer bear the pain. She is so deeply depressed that her kind and fabulously wealthy friend, Harold, persuades her to travel to Egypt with him, where he hopes she'll recover from her slump. But things go horribly awry there, and Daisy and Harold find themselves in deadly danger. The ending is a delight as Daisy finds herself returning to the land of the living, with the possibility of a sweet romance brightening her future.

Shirley Worley says

After a grievous event, Daisy takes Harold (her good friend) up on an offer to get away and tour Egypt, Istanbul, and England with him. His treat, of course. Through their travels, the reader is treated to delightful descriptions of the various countries, their food, culture and sights. When they meet up with a trio of too-friendly gentlemen, Daisy becomes suspicious of their intentions. After receiving a warning letter from Sam back in the States, several strange occurrences put her on high alert. Sam, being a detective, becomes alarmed and shows up to make sure she and Harold are safe. Soon, the tables are turned.

Betty says

Daisy is grieving for Billy who has died. She has lost interest in life and is losing weight as she can't eat. Harold decides she needs new interest and plans a trip to Egypt. Travel by train Daisy doesn't respond to new sights. On the boat she gets sea sick. Arriving in Egypt they met a man that Daisy doesn't like. Because of the heat Harold and Daisy change their plans and leave suddenly. I await the next book as I enjoy Daisy's adventure

Beverly says

A sweet cozy mystery set in 1922 Pasadena, California, Egypt, and Turkey. No dead bodies this time, except for the funeral at the beginning.

Barbara ★ says

Rather boring.

Little Red Readinghood says

This time we get to travel as Daisy goes to Egypt. And guess who shows up when he thinks Daisy is in danger due to her ability to attract trouble.

Amy Lignor says

This truly enjoyable series is really a little-known ‘gift’ to the literary world, that truly deserves to be way better known in this reviewer’s opinion.

Daisy Gumm Majesty is a sparkling wit, charming, intelligent, and truly devoted to her husband and her friends. Unfortunately, in this new novel, her husband Billy has passed away. He eventually just couldn’t take it anymore. Ever since WWI ended, his life was turned upside-down. He lived with pain, and felt abysmal that his own young wife had to bring in the money because he was unable to do so after getting home from the War. Daisy is so strong; she actually is a fake-psychic, but many believe her and pay her for her supposed ‘gifts.’ Her most lucrative client, Mrs. Pinkerton, is in need of Daisy’s help. But Daisy hasn’t done much of anything since Billy died. She finds herself in a deep depression - unable to eat - and unable to find her smile, now that her beloved is gone.

But, she does find it in her heart to help Mrs. Pinkerton, and goes to her house to do a reading. Now Daisy is simply not in the mood to be kind at the present time, and lays down the law where Mrs. Pinkerton’s selfish daughter is concerned - a child who needs a comeuppance and needs one now.

She is also a bit tired, as always, of Sam Rotondo - a cop who seems to always be a bit brusque and likes to roll his eyes when Daisy comes into the room because he knows that her “powers” are fake. But in this tale, Sam seems to be lightening up just a tad, and Daisy soon finds out why.

Because of her depression, her best fiend - Harold Kincaid (Mrs. Pinkerton’s son) - decides to take her to Egypt; a getaway across the globe to hopefully make Daisy want to live her life to the fullest once again. But when they run into some criminals and a kidnapping occurs that must be solved, Daisy Gumm Majesty soon finds herself ‘waking’ from her broken heart to save her friends.

This is, yet again, another wonderful mystery full of humor, love and some of the greatest characters to be given to literature in quite some time. Enjoy!

Until Next Time,
Amy

Kat says

i love the daisy gumm books! this one starts off with poor bills funeral. just started it.

this is my favorite in the series so far. the beginning was sad with billys funeral . then the gay guy, son of the lady she is always helping with the naughty daughter, takes Daisy to Egypt and turkey! Constantinople/Istambul right when the time Nana must have been there! she gets mixed up with some antiquities traders looking for a pot, she doesnt have it, her traveling companion has it. he paid for the whole trip. her cop friend sam gets worried about her, ends up going to turkey to protect her and blurts out that he loves her. she thought he hated her. billy told him to watch over her. she got sick from the water and was stuck in her room for days.

sam goes home ahead of her. she returns with souvenirs for everyone. she addressed what sam told her about loving her by saying she was still mourning billy and it was not right so soon. he agreed. im glad about that. i think they should take it slow.

i enjoyed this very much and look forward to the next one. the author writes to me and i enjoy that too!

Ellen says

Ancient Spirits (Daisy Gumm Majesty, #6) by Alice Duncan.

This story was a delightful change from the type of mystery I usually read. Daisy Gumm Majesty is all heart and that's the center of this wonderful book. She's a character I can enjoy reading more and more of. Daisy Majesty is going through the grieving process, but she's not going through it alone. She has the loving support of her family, neighbors and friends. Her husband Billy has died after battling cancer that he was stricken with after returning from the war. Daisy doesn't know which was worse the cancer or the depression Billy suffered from. The year is 1922 and America is still recuperating from the war along with most of Europe.

Daisy is also a spiritualist, which she has no problem agreeing is nothing more than a fraud that the wealthy are willing to pay for. Her best client is Mrs. Pinkerton, who she relies on for her bread & butter.

The problem is that Daisy is not getting back to her usual self since her husband's death. She has no appetite whatsoever and her clan are more than just worried about her. Then Harold, Mrs. Pinkerton's son, Daisy's long time friend comes up with the idea of taking Daisy on a trip to Egypt. Well, nothing else seems to be working for Daisy so off she goes to Egypt with Harold.

Kindness, family and old fashioned fun made this story all the more enjoyable.

Pat says

Another charming adventure with Daisy, this time on a tour with Harold.

moxieBK says

Ancient Spirits (A Daisy Gumm Majesty Mystery, Book 6) — Alice Duncan (24 chapters) Dec. 18-26, 2018.

This book read very fast. I don't know if it was the chapters; where they were shorter than normal. Or so it seemed. Again my reading was broken up by unfortunate events, so it felt disjointed at times for me (and I think there were more typos that I recall earlier books having.)

After a tragedy, Daisy has retreated into herself, and no one can seem to pull her out, until her friend Harold invites her to Egypt for a trip to distract her from her pain.

It takes awhile, but Daisy finally starts to re-emerge. But Daisy can't seem to keep out of trouble, as a nefarious group of men start to follow Daisy and soon Detective Sam is on the case and has come in Europe to track her down.

A twist at the end will lead Daisy in a new life direction, with her family's blessing.

Despite the down in the dumpers beginning, this book rebounds to become a fairly fun read, especially the ending.

Four stars.

Kilian Metcalf says

Daisy is having a hard time coping with Billy's decision to end his own life, so Harold persuades her to take a trip to Egypt and Turkey, all-expenses paid. Daisy is really down in the mouth. She has lost weight and gets sick in Egypt. It doesn't help that Harold has chosen August to make this trip. August in Egypt is horrible and fly-ridden. An friendly Englishman lightens the atmosphere for Harold but Daisy takes a dislike to him.

When they move to Turkey and the same Englishman turns up Daisy is definitely suspicious. When Harold is attacked, Daisy is sure that there is a connection to the annoying Englishman.

Her appetite has returned and she enjoys Turkish food so much, she buys a cookbook for Aunt Vi and feels well enough to go shopping for souvenirs. To her surprise Sam Rotondo turns up in the company of two English policemen, and Daisy is not surprised that they are on the trail of the suspicious Englishman.

When Sam disappears, Daisy feels well enough to participate the efforts to rescue him, although Harold, is against the idea. Fortunately Daisy pays no attention to Harold's efforts to protect her. All turns out well, Sam is recovered, and everything ends well.

Kilian Metcalf says

Daisy's husband has finally died, thank God. Daisy is distraught so Harold has the bright idea to take Daisy to Egypt. In August. Its barely two month since Billy died and Daisy is wasting away to nothing. Something

must be done, and Harold has the money to do it. He chooses Egypt because Billy had read so much about it in National Geographic.

Howsomever, Egypt is a bust so Daisy and Harold pick up and head out for Turkey, where things start to pick up. Daisy's appetite returns and Sam Rotondo appears on the scene, accompanied by two English policemen, convinced that Daisy is endangered. He's not far wrong, but Daisy is far better at taking care of herself than Sam is. When Sam is kidnapped, Daisy insists on joining the rescue party.

All this helps take her mind off Billy's death, and the money Mrs Pinkerton pays her in gratitude for putting her daughter on the right path make it possible for Daisy to buy gifts for everyone and enjoy herself. She returns to Pasadena refreshed and ready to return to normal life.

Lynda Nester says

I have loved this series especially this one. A lot of parallels in my life. I had a grandfather gassed in World War I. He died of pneumonia as a result of the gassing. I have family in the LA area. I have travelled to Istanbul (Constantinople.) I loved it there and the descriptions are well done. The characters are well drawn. Stories are good not too heavy or dark. Daisy is a strong woman. Her description of her reaction to her husband's death is right on! As was the description of the dog training in prior book. Very much enjoy the series!

Susan says

After the trauma that she suffered at the end of the last book, Daisy Gumm Majesty, the best (fraudulent) spiritual medium in 1920's Pasadena, is not herself. Her wealthy best friend Harold decides that she needs a trip to change her perspective. Despite missing her home and family, Daisy agrees to go to Egypt, where she and Harold meet an ingratiating Englishman whom Daisy instinctively dislikes. They also learn that everyone was right when they warned them not to go to Egypt in August. They flee the heat for Constantinople, where they're joined by Pasadena detective Sam Rotondo. This is a delightful historical series, kept fresh by Daisy's first person narration.
