



# Flowers for His Funeral

*Ann Granger*

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Accompanied by Meredith Mitchell, Chief Inspector Alan Markby is enjoying the Chelsea Flower Show, until he runs into his ex-wife and her current husband, and when the husband is murdered with a poisoned thorn, Markby and Mitchell set out to find the killer. Reprint. *NYT*.

## Flowers for His Funeral Details

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# **From Reader Review Flowers for His Funeral for online ebook**

## **Denise Spicer says**

Meredith Mitchell and Alan Markby unexpectedly run into Meredith's old school friend Rachel and her husband, Alex, at the Chelsea Flower Show. When Alex is murdered, the two are unhappily drawn into the case though it outside Alan's jurisdiction and complicated by the fact that Rachel is Alan's ex-wife. Interesting characters, interesting setting in a small county town, and strong plotting make this book a pleasant read.

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## **Diane says**

Didn't really gel with this book. The only redeeming factor was that the ending turned out to be a total surprise

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## **Gary Van Cott says**

Most of this book is ok. I think the author has worked Mitchell into the case in a better way than most of the books so far. The ending however is more than a little contrived. I get annoyed by the author's avoidance of any mention of sex between the main characters. It doesn't have to be explicit. What she writes just isn't normal for a full description of a relationship.

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## **Martina Kovaříková says**

I would not say the book is anything special, but it is an enjoyable read for reading while going to and from work. There is a good twist in the story, which surprised me, although I guessed who the killer was.

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## **Judith says**

Really enjoyed the setting & (new) characters. This was a very well thought out mystery. Kept me guessing until the end and loved every minute of it. On to book #8!

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## **Andrea M says**

Überraschendes Ende.

Was ich nicht verstehe: es gibt so viele Namen. Warum Molly, Mavis, Merry?

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## **Cirrus Minor says**

Dieser Fall lebt davon, dass es um Markbys Exfrau geht. Mal wieder läuft Mitchell alleine den Bösewichten hinterher und Markby steht nur tatenlos daneben, aber so langsam finde ich mich damit ab, dass das nun mal das übliche Strickmuster dieser Romane ist.

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## **Damaskcat says**

Meredith Mitchell and Alan Markby bump into Rachel - an old school friend of Meredith's when they are visiting the Chelsea Flower Show. She soon realises that they have less in common now than they had when they were at school.

Alan Markby is dismayed to find that he is face to face with his ex-wife - from whom he was acrimoniously divorced several years before. But that isn't the only shock in store for Meredith and Alan as a sudden death sees them involved in a complex investigation which leads them back to Rachel's luxurious home in the Cotswolds - Malefis Abbey.

This is a well written mystery story which sees both Mitchell and Markby playing their parts in the investigation though not in any official capacity. I thought the characters were interesting - Rachel herself, the local villagers who seem almost caught in a bubble which does not admit any outsiders.

This is the seventh book in this series of low key crime novels and I think they are best read in order of publication so that the reader can follow the development of the relationship between Meredith and Alan.

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## **Pat says**

Another in the Mitchell and Markby series. However, this one is a bit different. It would appear that the author felt the need to get rid of Markby's ex-wife - at least get her totally out of the ongoing narrative - so the book really concerns her. It's probably the least favorite of any of these books that I've read so far.

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## **Susan says**

A chance encounter at the Chelsea Flower Show leads Meredith Mitchell and her friend, police detective Alan Markby, to a stay in the remote countryside. Rachel, the school friend that Meredith greeted turned out to be Markby's ex-wife, and her current husband passed out and died shortly after the introduction. Rachel demands Meredith support her through the funeral, and Alan stays at a nearby hotel. The police suspect that Rachel's husband was murdered by another local, who went up to Chelsea for the show, and they're even suspicious of Alan.

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## **Clare O'Beara says**

I enjoyed some of the earlier books more than this one.

While we're told a murder occurs at the Chelsea Flower Show, and it does, we get almost nothing of the show setting, just hot and crowded and then they leave, so it feels like a swizz. The actual death takes place on a public street.

Meredith Mitchell and her inspector friend Markby are like an old married couple, except they've never been either married or a couple. In this book there is no spark of love at all. Perhaps that's because Meredith's school mate turns out to be Markby's ex wife. It's her new husband who is unfortunately killed.

I thought that for a police inspector Markby seems to know just about nothing, including that his ex and her Mediterranean husband were living in a large country house not far from him. Overall I did find the tale tedious and the characters all one-sided.

The author still uses exclamation marks! all the time! when most of us would use them once or twice a book. She also uses It with incredible frequency; close to the start a long paragraph consists of four sentences, three of which start with It. The passive voice is used almost all the way through - it had been raining, etc. Maybe some editor decided to prove that a book written against all best writing advice might still sell.

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## **Dick Harding says**

I enjoyed this very much. The usual 2 main characters are here and then a wonderful cast of suspects. I found this mystery to be funnier than usual. She has a wonderful way of painting her characters. Suspicion is liberally thrown about and the tale is fun.

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## **Bradley says**

Starts out really nicely, interesting developments, puzzling events.... But the ending was disappointing, mostly a rabbit pulled out of a hat. Nobody did any detecting that amounted to anything. It is not clear why the perp did not just pack his bags and leave. Also not clear why the damaged photos were so important. Seems that the perp could just as well let Gillian do what she wanted.

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## **Christine Cody says**

In Book #6 of this wonderful series, Alan and Meredith finally seem to be a couple...no more dancing around their attraction. However, in the first chapter, they run into an old schoolmate of Meredith's who turns out to be Alan's ex! The ex (Rachel) introduces them to her husband Alex and while the four of them are wandering through the famous Chelsea Flower Show, Alex finds a thorn stuck in his back. Five minutes later, he drops dead. The next day, the needy and demanding Rachel convinces (practically strong-arms) both Meredith and Alan to come to her home to provide support. As the days pass, Meredith survives an attempted murder, both Alan and Meredith are questioned by the London policemen as if they are suspects,

they become acquainted with practically everyone in the small village, another murder occurs, and finally, one of the most surprising denouements I've read in years grabs us by our nerves and ends the story with a huge shocker. Granger provides lots of post-climax discussion so we get all the necessary details. Soon our happy (and relieved) couple is back in Cotswold having tea with Alan's sister Laura. What a great book! As always, I recommend reading a series from its beginning. But with this book's shocker of an ending, it's worth reading just by itself if you're not interested in getting into an entire series.

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## **Linda says**

I haven't read a traditional British mystery for awhile and this was a delightful breath of fresh air after several months of routine thrillers. While I liked the story, I particularly enjoyed the reader and look forward to hearing more of her work.

The story is routine traditional mystery but Granger is quite successful in illustrating the reality of police department cutbacks, the relationships of estranged spouses, and the desire by management to protect their working territory.

This is pure escapism and I look forward to reading other Granger stories.

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