



Death Swatch

Laura Childs

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Murder comes to Mardi Gras! The seventh in the popular series - including scrapbooking tips. Jekyl Hardy is hosting a Mardi Gras party in his French Quarter apartment, amid Zydeco rhythms and popping champagne corks. On a wild night like this, anything can happen. The guests, including scrapbook-store owner Carmela Bertrand, never imagine it will be murder. But as the evening progresses, Jekyl's neighbor, float designer Archie Baudier, is found on the balcony choked to death with a barbed wire garrote. Buried up to her neck in strange clues, Carmela is sure of only one thing: whoever killed Archie is now following her - straight into the madness of Mardi Gras.

Death Swatch Details

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From Reader Review Death Swatch for online ebook

Lynda says

I gotta stop picking these books up thinking I'll like them. The scrapbooking is only okay and the ending seemed just thrown together. Ultimately unsatisfying.

Mindy says

I really like Laura Childs' tea shop mysteries and generally think her scrapbooking ones are OK. However, I didn't like this one. Maybe it was the setting during Mardi Gras in New Orleans (which doesn't appeal to me), but she also had lot of little details and conversations that didn't seem to pertain to the storyline at all.

Marci says

I would recommend this book (as well as others in the series) only on two conditions: you are an avid scrapbooker and mystery lover and you are not too picky about the quality of your literature. Since I meet the conditions I liked the book okay...enough to finish it. But I would be hard-pressed to recommend it to a general audience.

Kim says

This was another fun New Orleans & Scrapbooking mystery. Costumes and vampires oh-my.

Danielle Gonzalez says

This was another enjoyable mystery as Carmela and her best friend Ava try to figure out who murdered the neighbor of her good friend Jekyl. This story also includes historical references to the pirate Jean Lafitte and the search for his hidden treasures. It's fun to watch the escapades of the two girls. There are a handful of potential suspects, and you find out who committed the murder in the last chapters. It is also a fun read to see how Carmela is doing with romance as well. Without giving anything away, I can say I was happy to see the direction her love life is going.

Kimberley Cornwell says

just a fun read! Finally, it appears that Carmela has made a move in the romance department. Happy dance!

Michelle Randall says

I love to Scrapbook, in fact I have a number of albums in progress for my children and for holidays and such. I am always checking out new techniques and supplies. So I guess it comes as no surprise that I liked this book.

When the author is describing Memory Mine, the Scrapbook story, I can see it clearly in my mind, and when she talks about a technique that they do in the store, I can clearly see exactly what she is talking about, and I think that is probably one reason that I really like this series.

Carmela has grown in the books, less dependent on the ever-present, and still soon-to-be-ex-husband Shamus after all these books. Yes, Shamus is still dragging his heels and not settling the divorce. The longer the series goes the more party-boy Shamus becomes and the more grown woman Carmela becomes.

Ava, her bet friend, is still there and more grown up and less flighty. But then again, it has been a long time since I read the first of the series. I started it when the series first came out, but then lost track of it waiting for the next book to come out, and just revisited it now while I am waiting for more books to come out in other series.

I tend to do that, get interested in one series and read all that are out in that series, then move on to another series. Kinda hoping that logging the books I have read here will help to keep me from losing a series again.

Anyway, the mystery revolves around Mardi Gradi, and the facts and history of the krewes that are included in the book, make it that much more fun. I find that I enjoy learning about the unique way of life that is New Orleans, and since this book occur after Hurrcaine Katrina, and talks about the slow road back, I feel it is a great boast to the city. I think that the books have been a great resource and have given people insight into New Orleans.

Carmela get talked into invetigation the murder of a friend, and as that goes, he does a good job of putting together a lot of mall clue, that finally lead to the answer and who did the murder. Although there were some dead-ends and false leads, he finally stumbles onto the correct answers.

Cindy says

Contemporary mystery set in post-Katrina New Orleans during Mardi Gras. You would think that this would be a perfect book for me, since I love mysteries and I love scrapbooking. But I didn't really enjoy it. I'm giving it 3 stars, because I did finish it, but honestly, it could have been so much better. It seemed a little like the author just threw everything in there and sort of hoped a plot would emerge, complete with a killer and a motive. A killer did emerge, and a motives, but no explanation as to how the crime was actually committed or any trouble to make the solution believable.

This is the first book I've read in this series and it will be the last.

Karen Huffman says

I keep saying I'm not going to read anymore of these and then I find another one in my stash of books. This one didn't bother me as much as the previous ones. I actually figured out fairly early on who the culprit was. In this one, Carmela finds one of Jekyll's friends dead on his balcony during a pre-Mardi Gras party.

Lain says

After disliking the first five books in this series (WHY did I keep reading? They're about scrapbooking!), I actually enjoyed this one! Carmela wasn't quite the dunce she'd been in previous books, and the mystery had lots of New Orleans intrigue.

Carmela, a gorgeous scrapbook store owner in New Orleans, is on the hunt for a murderer (again!). Someone has offed one of Jekyll's business associates, and Carmela is the one to find the body. Set against the backdrop of Mardi Gras, the mystery winds through the bayous and Garden District mansions. Of course, in the end, Carmela finds her man (or woman...).

There were still glaring errors:

- the dead body with barbed wire around its neck, yet no one mentions the blood... or the damage that must have occurred to the perp's hands. And the whole barbed wire becomes a giant red herring...

- the coin that Carmela distractedly pockets (which is critical evidence, yet she never does anything with it, nor does she turn it over to the police... nor does it come up again)...

- the idea that Carmela could be forced from her home without any settlement (the divorce is STILL pending)...

but all the same, this book was better than many, and the recipes look delicious.

Marilyn says

A new story, oh boy. This is one of Laura Childs Scrapbooking Mysteries. It is set in New Orleans. Like the Tea Shop Mysteries, the main character Carmella Bertrand owns a craft shop and her partner in crime is Ada who owns a Voodoo Shop. They get into several "pickles" while doing their amateur detective sleuthing when a friend is most grisly murdered with a barbed wire garrote, very nasty way to die. As in all the Laura Childs mysteries lots of suspected characters.

Good book, I will have to read more of this series, I'm not sure I like the main characters as well as the Tea Shop Mysteries--time will tell

ette says

I was sick in bed. It was there. I wouldn't recommend it. Plausibility is light. The characters are OK. There's

better out there.

Stacy Hedges says

It was an easy read. It took awhile to get into the story. Once I did it was fun and couldn't put it down.

Kathie says

Entertaining book with a very exciting ending.

Lyn Soulia smith says

The girls are always putting them selves in trouble. Light funny and a bit of love
