



Knit Fast, Die Young

Mary Kruger

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She found the body. Again. Sensing a pattern?

Ariadne Evans swore her sleuthing days were over after her very own knitting shop became a crime scene a few months back. But she hadn't anticipated that the Freeport Wool and Yarn Festival would become the site of another murder -- with hers truly as a prime suspect. Since Ari was the one to find the body of Felicia Barr -- the much detested and influential owner of *Knit It Up* magazine -- with a knitting needle stuck in her back, the cops are needling Ari for answers. In a stitch, Ari dons her hand-knit detective cap and helps her on-and-off boyfriend, Detective Josh Pierce, untangle the day's events and solve a very woolly crime -- before the killer strikes again....

Knit Fast, Die Young Details

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From Reader Review Knit Fast, Die Young for online ebook

Lain says

Knit Fast, Die Young is a pleasant, unassuming read. I wasn't in love with the book or the characters, but it was a nice way to pass the time and it was fairly well-written.

I found many of the characters to be interchangeable and had trouble keeping them apart. Nonetheless, it was an interesting read.

I strongly prefer first-person mysteries as the distance created with a third-person POV can separate the reader from the action, and I found that to be the case in this book. I also thought the POV was uneven -- sometimes giving insight into what other characters were doing/thinking, but mostly sticking with the limited POV of the main character.

This is the first Knitting Mystery book I've read, and I will definitely get ahold of #1 in the series.

Debi Emerson says

I didn't like the 1st book in this series, but went ahead with the 2nd, hoping it would be better. It is, but there is still room for improvement.

xx Sarah xx (former Nefarious Breeder of Murderous Crustaceans) says

I didn't enjoy this read as much as Died in the Wool but it was entertaining enough. I think the main problems here are that the book is not as fast paced as the first instalment in the series and that the conclusion is a bit confusing. Nevertheless, I still think I'll try to read more knitting mysteries if I get the chance.

Debra says

Another really good, solid mystery from Mary Kruger. I have had these on my to-be-read shelf for ages and just got around to them. Imagine my dismay when I found there aren't any more. The character development is very good, the mystery is tight and the sub-plots are a nice distraction. Mary's books are as good or better than a great many I've been reading lately and I sincerely hope there will be additional books to this series. I read, I write, I knit and I live in a Victorian house. Now I am in search of her second series, 'The Gilded Age', as it will hopefully explore my passion for this by-gone era. More please, Mary!

Chaitra says

Kruger learnt her lesson this time around, and made her whole mystery technology free. But it still doesn't

excuse everyone pointedly looking away from the murderer. There are six real suspects. How hard can it be? It isn't - which is why Kruger has the whole thing fall on a weekend, so that things that are easy to verify cannot be. Ah, gotta love bureaucracy.

I didn't hate this book as much as I hated the first one. This is ridiculous as well, since the main character Ari still goes around accusing people, but this time around, the law is listening in. It probably makes it more ridiculous that the cops are so incompetent that they can't do *anything* right, but I still give points to every cozy mystery that gives me a valid reason for the continued good health of its amateur detective. I'm easy to please. It's still hopeless. The only people who are interviewed are vendors. The customers are not, because presumably it would make the whole mystery too difficult. So voilà, it must have been someone selling stuff there. How stupid that there is a person who is repeatedly referred to as a photographer who was clicking pictures that day, brings printed copies out for the questioning next day and the police don't even *know* about the existence of the camera until Ari points to a photo. As a mystery it fails miserably.

Oh, and if I were Ari, I would have slugged her bestie Diane by now. Honestly, how much more irritating can you get? Thankfully her ex doesn't make an appearance - I don't think I could have handled him at all. Thank heavens for small mercies.

Edit. I learned, via this book, that Barn C is between Barn B and D. A true revelation, that one.

Diane says

Just when you think you know who the killer is - nope - this was light reading and fast....could not put this book down until I found out WHO! This was a great book that just felt like real life and the way things happen. I hope there is #3 build the romance!!!

Susan says

I enjoyed the first book in this series when I read it several years ago (even though I figured out who the murderer was before the end of the book), and was really looking forward to reading this one. Unfortunately, part of the appeal of the last book was that it was set in the knitting shop owned by Ari, the main character. This book was set at a knitting festival and it just didn't pull me in. I got tired of Ari's partner, Diane, sniping at Ari. Then a major event happened about three-quarters of the way through the book, but it wasn't mentioned again for awhile because the next chapter focused on the relationship between Josh, the policeman, and Ari. I think this book lost a star just because of this exchange: "Where's Barn C?" "Between Barn B and Barn D." Duh!

There are (so far) only two books in the series. Maybe that's because at the end of this book, Ari promises Josh "no more murders."

Angela says

Ari has sworn off sleuthing and murders, she just wants to get back to her simple life of running her yarn

shop, knitting, raising her daughter, and perhaps trying to get closer to Josh the detective in town. She gets back to this life with her best friend Di by going to the Freeport Wool and Yarn Festival that is held in her small town. Things are looking slow at her booth, but are pleasant enough, that is until Felicia Barr walks through the door of the barn they are in. Felicia is owner and writer for a very popular magazine called Knit It Up, but her powerful and sometimes rude attitude make her someone that has many enemies and few friends. Things turn upside down for Ari when she is coming back to the barn her booth is in and literally runs into Felicia...who happens to have a knitting needle in her back and soon is dead. Ari is soon a suspect...again...of being a murderer, as is everyone else that can't account for their whereabouts at that time at the festival. Ari soon dusts off her detective cap to try and clear herself and others she knows are innocent. Can she really help solve another murder? Especially when the state cops are involved this time because of it being on fairgrounds? Josh and Ari know she didn't do it, but will they figure out who did kill Felicia before someone, mainly Ari, is charged for something they didn't do? Will Ari be able to be a successful detective once again? Is there a knitter turned killer running around that may kill again?

I was expecting a lot out of this book, not going to lie, because of how much I enjoyed the first book of this series. I must say that I was not at all disappointed. I loved this book just as much as I did the first book! From cover to characters, this book was simply amazing! Sometimes writers of a series can seem to repeat the same type of plot with different people, but Kruger seems to have done a great job of making each book new and exciting. The plot was great and the flow of the book was as quick as an experienced knitters needles. The characters were once again a huge favorite part of the book for me. I just love Ari, Di, and Josh. I also couldn't help but chuckle at some of the situations they all can get in and some of the things they do and say. Ari is so laid back, a great knitter and pattern designer, and firmly believes in standing up for herself and those she cares about. Di is a fun loving gal who just enjoys being able to do what she loves in life, make home spun yarn. In true best friend fashion Di may not like Josh personally because of past issues, but she is all about Ari going after him for a boyfriend because he is a decent guy. Josh is a great detective and really nice guy who is really good at his job and also has an eye for Ari. This book is full of mystery, mayhem, drama, and a splash of romance. It was so fun to read and I truly enjoyed it from cover to cover. Any book that can suck me in like this one did is a fantastic book. If you enjoy a good mystery with lovable characters that will have you wanting more, this is the book for you! I highly recommend this read!

5/5 Stars!!

Ann says

Ariadne Evans is attending a wool and yarn festival when the owner of a knitting magazine drops in for a visit. Felicia Barr has a reputation for being a bitch but Ari isn't cowed by her. The same day, Felicia is stabbed in the back by a knitting needle and Ari is the prime suspect. She knows that one of the women at the festival is the killer but isn't sure which one and why Felicia was killed. When another woman is also killed, Ari knows she has to investigate before anyone else is killed. Not a bad book but a little wooden in places. I liked the concept but the book is too much like others I have read. I get a little tired of the heroine saying "I am not investigating" and then investigating. Just be honest and say you are doing what you are actually doing.

Sheila says

Enjoyable cozy mystery set around knitters and yarn crafters. Felicia Barr, owner of Knit It Up! Magazine, is murdered at a yarn fair. She stumbles into Ariadne as she dies. Ariadne can talk to the yarn people in a way the police cannot. She is warned not to get involved but who has more experience with these crafters?

I enjoyed this book. I liked the characters. The mystery was believable. I figured out the motive but not the who. I was surprised when it came out. I liked that Ariadne was plain spoken and that Josh may now begin to romance her.

A fun quick read.

Kelly says

Ariadne and Diane are displaying their wares at the Freeport Wool and Yarn Festival when someone from Ari's past shows up unexpectedly. Ari had met Felicia Barr when she lived in New York and was just starting her career as a designer. From the way it is described, it seemed that they didn't get along too well. When Ari goes across to the other building for coffee in a rain storm, she gets soaked. On her way back, with her head down to avoid the rain she sees feet heading towards her and realizes that they are Felicia's. Felicia falls into her and as they fall to the ground Ari sees a knitting needle sticking out of her back. Now Ari and Diane and the rest of the vendors are suspects.

Knitology says

Ariadne Evans swore her sleuthing days were over after her very own knitting shop became a crime scene a few months back. But she hadn't anticipated that the Freeport Wool and Yarn Festival would become the site of another murder -- with hers truly as a prime suspect. Since Ari was the one to find the body of Felicia Barr -- the much detested and influential owner of Knit It Up magazine -- with a knitting needle stuck in her back, the cops are needling Ari for answers. In a stitch, Ari dons her hand-knit detective cap and helps her on-and-off boyfriend, Detective Josh Pierce, untangle the day's events and solve a very woolly crime -- before the killer strikes again....

Patricia Rockwell says

Delightful cozy mystery. It reads almost like a script rather than a book with lots of great character dialog. Almost half of the book takes place at a knitting fair where a group of suspects in the murder of a knitting guru have been gathered together to wait as the police question each. I was immediately gripped with the heroine's desire to find the killer and her correct assumption that the killer was in the group of suspects. How could she finesse the killer to reveal herself? (all the suspects are knitting ladies). The plot twists and turns right up to very end. This one was a roller-coaster ride! Loved it!

Mary says

I think this one was better than the first one in the series. Very light cosy. I do enjoy the knitting references

but I was really amused that she felt the need to write that the coat hanger pattern was so simple she could do it in her sleep - 9 stitches garter stitch for 35 rows??? In her sleep, eyes closed and probably only take 15 minutes. And do we really need an explanation that a yarn over makes a hole? But a nice quick light read.

Lynne says

This is a cute little cozy. Ariadne owns a yarn shop. Currently she is a vendor at a wool show at the fairgrounds. In walks a famous knitting magazine editor. Ari has met her before and knows the woman can be ornery and cantankerous. Surprise, surprise, there is a murder and the police have it narrowed down to a few people who were at this wool show. Ari and Josh, a detective and a possible boyfriend try to solve the murder quickly before all the suspects are released. It was good and the ending took me by surprise. This is the second book in the series. I have not read the first book, but I still figured out the relationships of the characters and a bit of the previous story.
