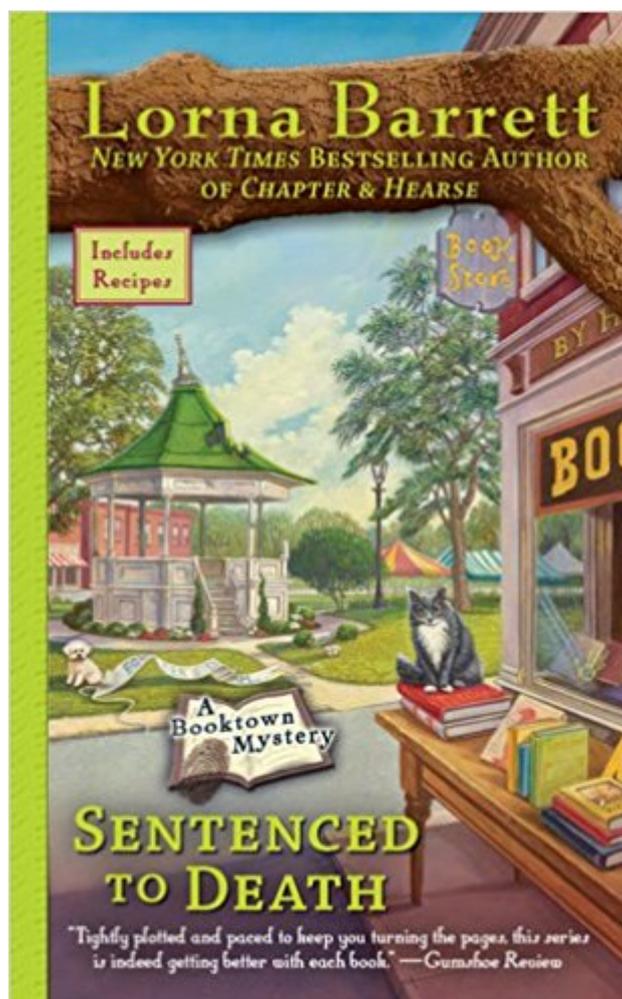


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Sentenced To Death (A Booktown Mystery)



Synopsis

As the owner of Stoneham, New Hampshire's mystery bookstore Haven't Got a Clue, Tricia Miles can figure out whodunit in the latest bestseller long before she gets to the last page. On Founder's Day in Stoneham, the whole village has turned out to celebrate in the square, including Tricia's friend and festivities organizer Deborah Black. As everyone watches Deborah give the opening speech, a small aircraft crashes into the village gazebo, killing both Deborah and the pilot. While the Sheriff's Department is convinced that it was an accident, Tricia has a feeling that there's more to the story. And when she reads between the lines of the case, what she finds is worse than the most sinister whodunit ...

Book Information

Series: A Booktown Mystery (Book 5)

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Customer Reviews

Unlike the other reviews I see here, I purchased this book for myself and therefore can be completely honest about it with no obligation to anyone. I purchased this book on because I have read the other 4 books in the series last month and really loved them. The series centers on Tricia, a divorced woman, who owns a mystery bookstore and lives alone over the shop with her cat Miss Marple. Her sister Angelica moved to town in the first book and this is a cause of some friction. The series is very well written and I feel like I know the characters. The author has a way of writing that is humorous and easy to read. I didn't like this book as much as I did the others because of the much darker tone. In some ways, the light-hearted feel was gone and this book took on a tone that

was not "cozy". It was depressing in parts. The interactions between Tricia and Angelica seemed cold most of the time. Tricia's relationships with men seemed ridiculous and dysfunctional. Ginny, the woman Tricia had done so much for in the series, just seemed to become whiny and selfish and got engaged to a man she just met despite just having gone through a terrible breakup. It also seemed unrealistic that the secretive outfit buying up stores would allow the store to be staffed by their agent's new girlfriend despite the fact that she had no management experience and would pay big bucks to buy into a sandwich cart. Tricia was quite calloused towards a poor woman with no friends who was so desperate to keep from being evicted, she called police to report a burglary, she was about to commit. I hated seeing the character of Deborah dragged through the mud and her husband David made out to be some sort of bizarre monster who abandoned a small child after her death.

It was Founder's Day Weekend in Stoneham, New Hampshire and the only thing buzzing, aside from the ever present gossip, was a small plane overhead. Deborah Black, owner of the "Happy Domestic" with her husband David, was the "architect of the celebration" and was poised to give her speech in the center gazebo. Meanwhile, the gossip was flowing as Tricia Miles held Deb's son Davey's hand and tried to ditch Russ Smith, her one time lover. Tricia was the owner of one of the ten book stores in town, "Haven't Got a Clue," and the only mystery to her was why some people didn't get the hint they weren't wanted. Russ was the editor of the "Stoneham Weekly News" and unbeknownst to him was going to get more than just a little blurb on a small town celebration. No sooner had Elizabeth Crane retrieved her grandson from Tricia, everyone saw the "small aircraft plummeting to Earth." The screams began as the plane crashed into the gazebo and a sense of disbelief washed over the residents of Stoneham. Ginny Wilson, one of Tricia's employees looked at the carnage and exclaimed, "I just can't believe it." It wasn't all that long ago that Jim Roth, along with his store, "History Repeats Itself," was "blown to smithereens." Tricia was totally shocked at this turn of events because Deborah was one of her first friends when she came to Stoneham. Tricia's sister, Angelica, decided to be an insensitive clod and declared, "And what a way to go, squashed like a bug." After a sincere apology, Tricia began to think about Deborah's appalling death. Monty Capshaw, the pilot, might have encountered a problem, but seriously "what kind of idiot of a pilot lets his plan run out of gas?" Things were starting to brew again in Stoneham and this time it wasn't at the Coffee Bean.

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