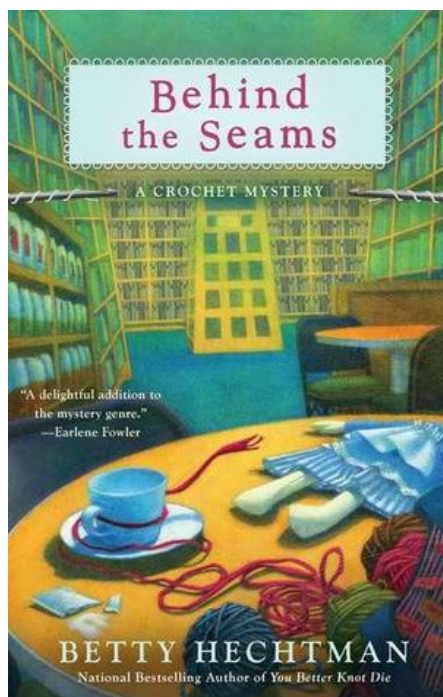




Behind the Seams

Betty Hechtman

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The Tarzana Hookers learn that the entertainment biz can be deadly. The crochet group's informal leader, actress CeeCee Collins, has a movie out, and thanks to the Oscar buzz, she's scheduled to appear on the famous Barbara Olive Overton Show. Molly and the girls tag along, but when CeeCee's niece Nell-a production assistant on the show-is accused of poisoning one of the producers, Molly and the Hookers must set aside their crochet projects to clear Nell's name. And if they don't soon, someone else will be the next Hollywood headline.

Behind the Seams Details

Date : Published November 1st 2011 by Berkley (first published January 1st 2011)

ISBN : 9780425241424

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Format : Hardcover 295 pages

Genre : Mystery, Cozy Mystery, Fiction

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From Reader Review Behind the Seams for online ebook

Laura says

Boy-oh-boy what an ending! I can't say I'm unhappy with Molly's relationship with Barry, by the end of the last book-I didn't like him! All thru this book-I found his character controlling + boorish! The character of Mason seems "made for Molly" but will their "fun" stop if they become a cpl?

Laura says

I picked up this book from the library to finish the series and get it behind me. However, I just noticed that there's an 8th book in the series which I may have to pay for... then donate to the library.

I've come down with a summer cold so I really wanted to keep my reading light. This series is definitely light. I both like and dislike how the murderer needs to monologue. I realize the author is using this as a device to solve the mystery and provide a rationale for the murder but, really, a monologue?

On the positive side, it looks like the big Barry vs. Mason thing may be over. It's about time! Barry is a jerk.

Angela says

Great read. Small quip at the end leaving you anxious to read the next book, but story is complete in this book.

Christine says

CeeCee Collins is currently a hot name in Hollywood, and she has landed a coveted appearance on a popular talk show. Molly Pink and the rest of the Tarzana Hookers crocheting club go to the show's taping to cheer their fellow club member on. The show goes well for CeeCee, which is surprising since she's been ask to lead a cooking demo and she doesn't cook! However, the show's overbearing producer Robyn Freed collapses and dies after drinking a latte backstage. Unfortunately, CeeCee's niece Nell, who works at the studio, is the one who gave Robyn the latte and is now a suspect in her murder. As a favor to CeeCee, Molly agrees to look into the murder even though her homicide detective boyfriend doesn't approve.

Molly is a capable amateur sleuth and a character with which readers can identify. She is widowed with two grown sons, one of whom has returned to the nest. She enjoys her life and isn't sure if she is ready to take the next step in marrying her on again, off again boyfriend, Barry. It doesn't help that he is less than thrilled that she has agreed to investigate Robyn's murder. There are times when Molly is tempted to bow out of the investigation, but she sticks with it out of loyalty to her friend CeeCee, even when Nell doesn't always act grateful. With either her best friend Dinah or good friend Mason at her side, she makes a good detective. The mystery is interesting and is wrapped up nicely by the end of the book. I also like the talk show backdrop which adds some extra entertainment to the story.

While I like Molly, I don't like how inconsistent she is in the way she deals with other people. I quickly

started to lose patience with the way Molly lets Barry treat her. He disapproves of her friends, of her investigating, and even where she lives. He goes behind her back and makes important decisions for her, but it takes her forever to speak up to him. Perhaps if I had read prior books in this series I would feel differently, but Barry comes across as so controlling, it's actually a little scary. While Molly puts off standing up to Barry, she doesn't hesitate to repeatedly tell her boss she needs time off from the bookstore she works in order to work on the investigation. Then, she will turn around and let her obnoxious co-worker Adele make cutting remarks to her in front of their whole crochet group and never say a word. I wish she would show some of the courage she has facing suspects when she is dealing with her friends and loved ones.

Since I'm new to this series, I was a little confused by all the characters introduced at the beginning of the book. Dinah, CeeCee, and Adele are the only members of the crocheting club that I really got to know in this book. Background information is given about the other characters, but not enough for me to differentiate one character from the other. On the other hand, I adore Molly's friend Mason, the lawyer to the stars! He is always there for Molly and lets her be herself. They make a great team and I'm hopeful, but not sure of the direction the author is taking their friendship.

I like that crocheting is central to the book and in solving the case. The book ends with a few basic crochet projects and a couple of recipes that were featured in the book. Readers who follow this series won't want to miss this installment in order to catch up on new developments for Molly in the romance department. There is a major cliff-hanger at the end that definitely makes you wonder what will happen in Molly's love life. I would rate it 3 1/2 stars. New readers who enjoy Elizabeth Lynn Casey's Southern Sewing Circle mysteries or the Needlecraft mysteries by Monica Ferris will enjoy this crochet-themed mystery.

This review was originally written for The Season E-Zine. The book was provided to me in exchange for an honest review.

Jeannie and Louis Rigod says

This was a pleasant crochet trip to solving a murder. Molly Pink is our sleuth, that works for a book shop as an event planner. The owners of the shop have created a space for persons that enjoy working with yarn for crocheting or knitting. The group of crocheter's is an interesting mix.

Cee Cee, a Hollywood celebrity, has an Niece, Nell, that gets accused of murdering the segment producer of a popular talk show. Cee Cee demands that Molly solve the crime for the police.

This was an easy read.

Debbie says

"Behind the Seams" is a cozy mystery with a crochet theme. It's the sixth book in the series, but it can be read as a stand-alone and doesn't spoil the mysteries in the previous books.

The whodunit was on my list of possible suspects from the start, and I was certain of whodunit long before Molly was. However, the clues weren't obvious, so it was believable that Molly and friends didn't suspect. I found it less believable that Molly kept getting arrested because she was near a crime and due to misunderstandings. The being arrested part, maybe, but not the number of times within a matter of days.

The suspense was created by Nell potentially being arrested for murder and the relationship tensions between Molly and her boyfriend. It was clear that Molly wasn't committed to the relationship, though. While it was realistic that she took some time to realize this, it lacked the intended tension and so these sections felt slow to me. It might have been more suspenseful if I'd read the previous books.

There were also several scenes that headed toward a very exciting climax then jumped in time until the scene was over (which was confusing) and then had people discussing what had happened. This also cut down on some of the potential tension and excitement.

While the mystery part of the story was completely wrapped up, the author added a relationship cliff-hanger to the last paragraph of the book. But with the guy I didn't like.

Basically, I was left feeling like it should have been a really exciting, interesting book. It had all the right elements. But due to some of the writing choices, the excitement didn't engage me like it could have.

Kissing and such were only implied. There were no sex scenes. There was no bad language. Overall, it was an interesting cozy mystery with an interesting crochet method described in the story and in more detail in the back.

I received this book a a review copy from the publisher.

Dawn says

I seem to really enjoy the first of these types of mysteries but end up feeling a bit let down as new ones come out. Maybe I've just read too many lately and am getting jaded at the lack of quality I find in subsequent stories.

I know nothing is perfect, and authors can often be repetitive, but there a few things I would've liked to see or change: Molly's constant coffee drinking, she needs caffeine, I get it, but I don't see the necessity of being told she has a cup on every other page. Then there was Nell's overt rudeness to Molly when she was only trying to help her, it was...odd. I didn't enjoy reading it and kept hoping she'd just get it out there and ask for appreciation. I mean, who in their right mind would be put down like that and still be risking her own life to solve a crime? Then there's the constant put downs in her thoughts about Adele, yet she never says anything to her face, the whole "friendship" thing is again...odd. I would love to see Molly get some backbone and more dialogue. There can be such a great story there without all the cups of coffee and better development of Molly's character in relation to the other characters. Maybe I don't like seeing her be such a wimp. Yep, maybe that's it.

Snap says

I enjoy this cozy mystery series. Molly Pink, our fearless heroine, is a widow with grown children. (I do get tired of the sweet young things.) She is the event coordinator for the bookstore Shedd and Royal Books and More. She's also in charge of the recently added yarn department. Seems that crochet and books go together (I could have told *them* that)!. She also dates a police detective. Her best friend is Dinah (a character I enjoy) and then there is Adele. I guess every book has to have a character that drives the reader nuts and for me Adele makes my skin crawl but she does come with a few laughs. A crochet group meets at the book store and CeeCee Collins (actress) is the unofficial leader of the group. Her niece, Nell, is working for a TV

production group and serves up a coffee laced with poison ... whoops! Molly is on the case believing Nell is not a murderer.

Susan says

Widow, book store employee and crotcheter Molly Pink is shocked when a woman dies in front of her. To make things worse, her friend CeeCee's niece Nell is the leading police suspect. Molly understands why, but still feels sorry for the young woman (who frankly is a bit whiny to be a sympathetic character). Molly is not ready to marry again, but her would-be fiance police detective Barry is putting pressure on her. Since he also won't help her with the case, she turns more and more to attentive attorney Mason, which makes Barry all the more eager for a commitment from her.

Rachel says

I read the ninth novel in this series first, and now, I'm going through the series from the beginning. This sixth novel of the series was just as interesting and entertaining as the other books of the series I've read. As was also the case with the other novels in the series, I found the writing style to be good, and the plot was fun. I really enjoyed the novel and am looking forward to reading the rest of the series.

Susan says

Hechtman is back up to speed in episode 6 in the life of Molly Pink, who is asked to investigate after CeeCee's niece is implicated in the murder of her supervisor (who got a job as a production assistant on a popular talk show.) It so happens Molly was there when the lady died and is fairly sure Nell is innocent, so she finds herself navigating her investigation through the edges of entertainment industry, looking for the one who really snuffed out the competition. Mason is once again a great help, and Barry a big distraction which inevitably leads to a big decision.

Ch J Loveall says

Next

Paula says

Boring and improbable. I'd have given it a two-star rating because it had nice touches of humor, but I got to the cheap lead-on cliffhanger at the end and the small amount of pleasure I'd derived from sticking with it and reading to the end unraveled.

Stefani says

I wish I realized what I was getting into before i started reading this book. It's the 6th book in a series! By the time I realized the characters seem to know each other too well and look it up on Goodreads it was already too late. Well done Stefani.

This book is about Molly Pink who fancies herself an amateur detective. Crochet is a big part of the story. Molly and her friends have a crochet group and meet in a bookstore. Adele is a hilarious character. She goes on and on about the difference between crochet and knitting. I can do both so I see her point but I think a lot of people will just find it funny.

I liked the bookstore events part. The cover and titles are very good. It all makes so much sense after you read the book.

It ended on a huge cliffhanger. I wanna know what happens but at the same time I don't want to commit to this series. So I won't pick up the next book.

Margaret says

A good enough read.
