



Scotched

Kaitlyn Dunnett

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Hundreds of the most creative minds in murder are assembling in the tiny town of Moosetookalook, Maine—and before the final page is turned, one of them will be writing in the past tense...

Liss MacCrimmon, purveyor of all things plaid at the Moosetookalook Scottish Emporium, couldn't be more pleased that her hometown is hosting the First Annual Maine-ly Cozy Con. The mystery book conference promises to attract plenty of popular authors, as well as new business for Moosetookalook's unique local shops. And with her new fiancé Dan's family-owned hotel filling with attendees, the outlook seems very bonnie indeed.

But soon, Liss and Dan discover just how far some authors take their research. When a muckraking reviewer with a grudge takes a swan dive off a scenic lookout, no one wants to believe it was homicide. After all, it's one thing to dream up imaginary crimes—but to commit a real one takes motive, means, and extreme maliciousness.

The more Liss learns, the more she realizes just how many people are glad the deceased has written her final story. And with an entire conference brimming with potential suspects—from a famous actress-turned-bestselling author to her power-broker agent, and an overextended events coordinator with plenty to hide—it will take a killer instinct to figure out which writer belongs in the true crime section...before the murderer pens *The End* for another innocent victim...

Scotched Details

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From Reader Review Scotched for online ebook

Gillian says

Loved this one. Left me giggling instead of worried.

Kelly Roll says

I want to make it clear that this is not a review of the book per se but rather my reaction as a reader to the book. I had expected to really enjoy this particular cosy because of the cover. Yes, I did judge a book by its cover and with two cats and a pile of mystery books on the cover along with a quick blurb stating that our amateur sleuth runs a Scottish emporium I thought I'd be in for a treat. Let me explain a little: part of the appeal of cosies for me is that I generally learn a little something about an occupation or a craft, so, for example, I know quite a bit about the care and feeding of zoo animals, vintage clothes and antiques. (Thanks to one vintage antique series I now covet a hoosier cabinet big time.). I was mildly disappointed to find that our sleuth's profession would have little or no connection to the mystery, but kept reading. I thought that perhaps the mystery would be intriguing enough to keep me going. Sadly it did not. It took me months of putting the book down and then picking it up again to finish it.

Liss MacCrimmon, is very much of the "I'll continue to stick my nose into everything, even though I've been told not to" type of sleuth. Perhaps it is because I started with the fifth book in the series that I felt no connection to or interest in Liss. She just didn't intrigue me as a person and her repeated assertions that she was really scared and would back off investigating grew a little old for me. None of the supporting characters were of much interest either. I did finish the book but the story didn't do much for me nor did I really buy the reason for the murders.

I did appreciate the fact that the author poked fun at a small town having all these murders over the years. One character states something along the lines of Moosetookalook turning into a Cabot cove.

The reasons the book did not work for me may not mean that another reader may not enjoy this book. It just wasn't my cup of tea.

Lynn says

I can't really decide if I liked this installment or not. Part of it might be that I accidentally spoiled the ending for myself when I caught a glimpse of the last pages when I dropped the book. But more is that it simply is not the best of the series. The mystery really didn't hold my attention, and by the end, I really didn't care whodunit. I just wanted the annoying people to go away. I thought there were too many characters and too much going on, and yet not enough time with the series regulars. I'll keep going in the series because I like the regular characters, but this one can easily be skipped with no harm done. It is very much like "filler" episodes of a regular television series. It can fall anywhere in the timeline of the series because there is no series advancement.

Over all, I think I was disappointed in the book because I expected something different.

Heather says

With the blossoming love of Dan and Liss, the return of Gordon Tandy, and planning a wedding, Liss can never catch a break. Oh yea, and might as well add a murder in the midst of the First Annual Main-y Cozy Con.

It seems the best place to have a murder mystery book event in a place where a real murder happened, but add in the fact that a woman named Jane (who signed into the hotel under a different name), a reviewer who writes scathing reviews about books and who was currently trying to dig up dirt about the recent murders in Moosetookalook and tying in Liss with them, calling her a magnet rod for murder. Then she is found dead at Lover's Leap. Who did it? Liss doesn't even get to think much about it until her aunt's friend, Nola's body shows up at the same place in the same way. Now suspected of murder by Gordon, she has to clear her name and figure out a double murder. But with her knack of getting into near death situations, can she come out of this unscathed?

Nora-adrienne says

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By: Kaitlyn Dunnett

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This is by far the most complicated and interesting mystery that Liss MacCrimmon has been involved in. She and her fiancé are working the case while trying to stay out of the way of Gordon Tandy (her ex boyfriend) who is the investigator in charge of this latest death. Being part of the State Police means his presence trumps all the local cops.

Things start out really simple for Liss. She has a table at the First Annual Maine-ly Cozy Con. Granted, most people aren't interested in Scottish books or clothing, but Liss thinks that she will make sales. Besides, her best friend Nola has a table there also, selling books by the authors who are at this con. The Conference is full of readers, fans and well known authors.

Finding out who done what to whom is going to bring real life mystery to this mystery gathering.

I love this series. It pulled me in the minute I started reading the first book (Kilt Dead). Ms. Dennett's style

of writing is entertaining and informative also. I learned a lot about Scottish heritage and sports from these mysteries. I highly recommend her to all lovers of mystery and good humor.

FTC Full Disclosure: I received this book from the publisher who only asked for a fair and impartial review.

Jeannie and Louis Rigod says

Our Scottish emporium owner and sleuth, Liss MacCrimmon is back. This time she is a vendor at the first annual "Maine-ly Cozy Con" in Moosetookalook, ME. The convention is being held in her Fiance's Father's hotel and it means big money into the little town.

There is the usual mix of interesting characters as well as the Authors attending the convention. One author is an actress/novelist which makes her the 'Guest of Honor.' Liss notices that an obnoxious woman is confronting persons and the conversations do not look friendly. Next, she gets confronted and finds out that this woman is a blogger with unkind intentions, especially towards herself.

There are town meetings and the store owners go on alert, but, not before the woman is found at the bottom of 'Lover's Leap.' Did she fall and why was she on the wrong side of the railing in the first place?

Liss feels she has to help save the convention and begins to investigate.

This was a quick and comfy read. The character-driven story had me turning the pages.

Deb says

Who wouldn't want to at least dip in to a cozy mystery that is set in Moosetookalook, Maine? The idea of a business which specializes in all things Scottish is also intriguing. The story, which involves a conference of mystery writers and their fans, was also fine. But why would there be a huge conference center hotel in a tiny town in western Maine and how could it sustain itself through what have to be pretty fierce winters? I know I'm not supposed to be worrying about that, but when the town revolves around a square with a bookstore, the aforementioned Scottish emporium (most business done by internet), a hair salon, a ski shop and a diner, I can't help wondering...

I liked the characters well enough, and the fact that the author shifted between three narrators was interesting, but the murders were predictable and it was hard to care who had killed at least the first victim because she was presented as so thoroughly unpleasant to everyone. Too much back story was needed to provide motivation for the killer as well.

Lynn says

We are back in Moosetookalook, ME for a Maine-ly Mystery Convention held at the old-fashioned resort

hotel, The Spruces. Liss' Aunt Margaret is the event planner for the hotel and has helped the coordinator of the event, an old-friend from Moosetookalook - Nina, bring in big names and the event promises to be the first of many.

The book-store owner is really excited about this and has roped Liss in to be a vendor as well -- so Liss meets many of the authors and Convention goers. All is going well until an angry blogger comes sharing some nasty comments about secrets she knows. When she 'accidentally' ends up at the bottom of the cliff questions start the rounds and it seems that many people have secrets they would rather not share on the internet.

This is a good book in a solid series. Revisiting Moosetookalook and all the characters there is a pleasant trip -- anyone from a small town who enjoys mysteries will find this a comfortable jaunt.

Vicki Cook says

I've read some of the other books in this series and really enjoyed them but this particular one was a thumbs down for me. Too many characters to keep track of but what really ruined the book for me was the MC. She was so annoying in this book - pushing herself into police business despite being told numerous times to keep her nose out of it or wind up in jail. And when the officer in charge actually lets her question the murderer? Too unrealistic. Also when she and her aunt use a passkey to get into guests hotel rooms and snoop.....too unrealistic also.

Kaitlyn Dunnett says

Still doing my read-a-thon of earlier books in the series and taking notes before I go back to work on the thirteenth Liss MacCrimmon mystery. Still enjoying the journey. It's been long enough since I wrote these that it's almost as if I'm reading someone else's book. I have no urge to revise. Good thing, since it's way too late to change anything.

Kristi says

Should be 3.5 stars. I continue to still enjoy the murder mysteries in this series and the overall coziness of it. I have two complaints that linger, the fact that Liss is a bit annoying and the lack of chemistry between her and Dan.

I will continue to read the series but tend to skim a bit at times...

Dawn Michelle says

Sigh.

I want to like these books [and I believe I have really liked at least one] and I do, to a certain extent, but sometimes, as with this one, the writing seems forced and the mystery is tepid [though the first one was good

because, well, if you read it, you will know why], Liss was really annoying, and I don't know. Its just a weird meh book.

I WAS surprised at who the killer was and that made the book a little better, but it wasn't enough to bring the rating up to 4 stars.

I have the next one to read and I have decided I will give these one more try, but if it is like this one, I will be finally, be officially done with them. Maybe. ;-)

Samantha says

So painful. I got this from the library as some basic mindless fodder. I got that, but this is so poorly written that I kept asking myself "where's my royalty cheque??" I honestly feel bereft of intellect.

Shelly says

Liss MacCrimmon runs the Moosetookalook Scottish Emporium. She also lives in Moosetookalook, Maine which is where the Mystery Book convention will be held this year. All is fine in book-land until someone comes up murdered - and Liss is a suspect.

I'm not an huge fan of murder mysteries, but this one kept me reading. I especially liked how I had NO idea "who-dun-it" till the very end. Usually, when I read a murder mystery I figure out who did it half way through the book and just want to set it down. That wasn't the case here.

I gave it only four stars because I thought that Liss seemed a bit meek and let too many people tell her what to do. It actually became slightly annoying after a while and made me cringe a few times.

Pam says

Liss and her friends are back. This time at a mystery book convention, which is a great premise for us book lovers. The plot is more complicated than in the previous releases, mostly because of the two murders; a venomous blogger and a ghostwriter. That means multiple murder suspects, some more believable than others.

There are a huge number of secondary characters weaving their way in and out of each scene, almost too many too track off, so pay attention or you'll get confused. We do get to see a great deal of prominent people from the past...Margaret, Dan and Gordon. Their personal interaction with Liss, mixed in with the investigation keeps the story moving forward at a steady pace. But be aware this is definitely a character driven story, so don't expect a police procedural...it's not that kind of mystery.

Over all the story isn't great literature but it's entertaining. You'll find it a fun bit of fluff and a comfortable read that isn't full of blood or gore despite the two dead bodies. Liss isn't even seriously threatened with death this time despite sticking her nose in everyone's business. Again. I don't know what's planned for the next release, so keep checking the author's website.

