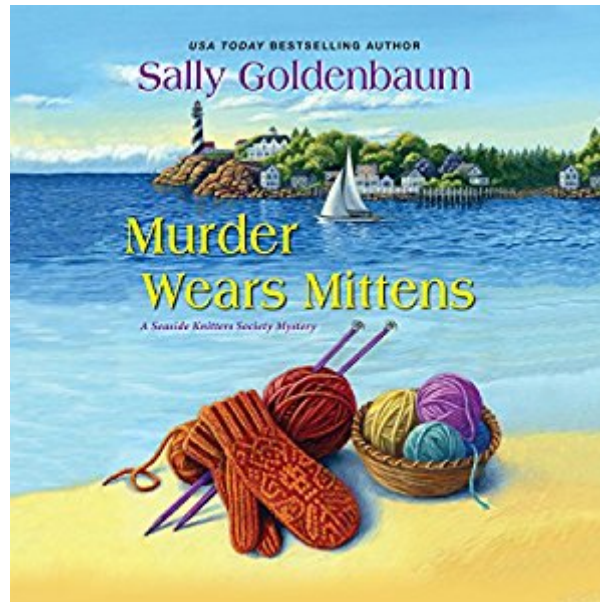


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# Murder Wears Mittens



## Synopsis

After retrieving fresh lobster nets from a local laundromat, Cass Halloran rushes to attend a last-minute gathering with her knitting circle. But Cass can't stop worrying about the lonely boy she saw hanging around the dryers and the school uniform he left behind in a hurry. When she and her friends return the lost clothing the next day, they find the child and his younger sister alone, seemingly abandoned by their mother. The knitters decide to facilitate a family reunion, but when the death of a recluse from the edge of town occurs, they end up investigating a crime instead - especially once they discover that the missing mother and one of their own are tied to both the victim's hidden fortune and her murder.... Before scandalous secrets break bonds and rumors tear Sea Harbor apart, the Seaside Knitters must string together the truth about the victim all while preventing a greedy murderer from making another move!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

What a lovely way to spend a day. I was going to just sit on my patio for a few minutes and begin to read this long awaited book. That was at 10 AM. A long about 2 PM I realized that I hadn't had lunch and that might explain my stomach grumbling at me. 15 minutes to bolt down some cottage cheese and check FB and then back to the company of my beloved Seaside Knitters. Now with the book so satisfyingly ended I realize that all I had accomplished today was to spend it happily reading a wonderful book and wishing to live in the world found there. The characters are so wonderful and so fully realized that, having read the entire series, I feel as though I actually know them. (I do wish that

Willow were included more though because I wonder how she is doing.) The mystery, as always in this series, is both deeply human and puzzling enough to keep you guessing. The only bad thing is that now I know I will have a long wait for my next visit with these wonderful people in that wonderful place.

I'm not a knitter but wish I were. That being said I have to tell you that these mysteries are always very good. I started with the first one which I would advise. I love catching up with this group of loving friends and cast of characters. Their group is expanding as they welcome more into their fold. But don't be fooled. There is always a good mystery for the 4 friends to unravel as they meet every Thursday for their knitting, wine, and wonderful food. A bonus for knitters is a pattern at the end of the book. Even though I don't knit I do love this series.

Cass Halloran has returned to the laundromat to retrieve her lobster nets from the dryer when she finds someone has decided to dry some children's clothes close in her load. Before she knows it a young boy enters the laundry to retrieve the clothes and Cass becomes concerned with why he is alone. Cass can't help but continue to worry and when she shares the encounter with the other Seaside Knitters the ladies decide to check on the boy. When the group finds the boy along with his sister alone they do their best to reunite the children with their mother and think their job is done with the good deed. But then the body of Dolores Cardozo, a local recluse, is discovered and not only the mother of the children but even one of their own seem to have ties to Dolores so the group find themselves trying to uncover a murderer. Opening up *Murder Wears Mittens* I became concerned when the first thing I see is a long list of characters that would be included letting the reader know who was who. I always cringe when I see something of this nature thinking the story should introduce me to whoever is in the book and get to know them so if this is needed then perhaps I won't enjoy the book. However, in this case it seems that these characters have been around for quite a while for this author with eleven other books in the *A Seaside Knitters Mystery* series. I was under the impression when I picked this one up that it was a brand new series, the *Seaside Knitters Society*, but this wasn't the case. My rating on *Murder Wears Mittens* is basically due to the fact that jumping this far into an ongoing series leaves me feeling that I've missed a connection to the characters. The story was an alright cozy read it just didn't grab me as I would have liked and I believe if maybe I'd been reading and getting to know these characters from the beginning I would have been more connected to them with so many involved in the book. I may even try to

eventually go back and read about these ladies from the beginning as it seems like it would be a nice small town cozy if I felt I could get to know them better in earlier reads. I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

I did not enjoy this book as much as the first one in the series. It seemed overly complicated. The list of characters is mind-boggling and mine mind just simply did not want to dedicate that much brainpower to remembering each and every one. It took quite a long time for the conversation to be centered at the knitting shop, which is something I had enjoyed in the first book. Quite a bit of the conversation took place around the dinner table of a knitters home. Once we returned to the knitting store, Then for me, the action began to knit together. And then I really enjoyed reading it. I mean, it is a knitting oriented mystery series, right? The complicated plot was designed with other mysteries to be solved as well as subplots. In the end, it came together, but not always neatly.. For example, I found it odd that after so much verbiage about everything else, the actual murder scene itself was barely described. I had to write in my own mind what actually happened since the murderer's story was very incomplete. I do not feel that it was my job to do that. I enjoyed the premise, the scenery in the bookstore and out on the beach but I felt it needed to have more focus, it seemed to be all over the place. Not to the point of unraveling, but close.

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