



Close Knit Killer

Maggie Sefton

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Springtime in Fort Connor, Colorado, is a breeze until a veteran con man shows up in town.

Everyone—including the House of Lambspun knitters—is up in arms, and once again it's up to Kelly Flynn to untangle the threads of a complicated crime...

Years ago Jared Rizzoli operated a Ponzi scheme that defrauded countless Fort Connor residents—including Barbara, one of the shop's knitters. Jared went to jail for his crime, but after being released for good behavior, he's back to ruin more lives.

When Jared is found dead in his car outside of Lambspun, Barbara becomes a prime suspect, much to the shock of the knitting community. Kelly and her friends now need to sort through a long list of fleeced suspects to pin the crime on the true killer...

Close Knit Killer Details

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Author : Maggie Sefton

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RuthG says

This was a disappointing book. There seemed to be little story and lots of time devoted to recounting previous facts and stating where Kelly was and how much coffee she was drinking. There was also a lot of emphasis on the 11 year old girl that made her sound very naive as well as younger than her years. The mystery was easy to figure out and I knew who the killer was very early on without any of the final clues. I always enjoy the descriptions of the shop and of Colorado, but those were less prominent in this story.

Deanne says

I wish I'd like this book more. I've read every one of these knitting mysteries and feel loyal to the series, but this book was boring. All the details came out through extremely redundant dialogue. Another point of contention -- we get it, Kelly likes coffee and feels bad about eating at the diner. The mystery was interesting, but there was no character development. Actually, everyone seemed a bit robotic. I'm sticking with the series out curiosity and loyalty. Praying next summer's book is better.

Dawn says

I'm always torn on this series. I like it somewhat but at the same time it's: A) easy to figure out the culprit at least mid-book. B) still the same cafe food and caffeine fillers to take up space (or make up a word count for editing I guess) and C) still the same "See Jane. See Dick" dialogue between some of the characters.

The book jacket says the author has a degree in literature, I'm begging her to please (PLEASE) give us readers some credit as adults who can follow a written conversation in a book without having to know Burt is talking to (Ernie) Kelly in almost EVERY sentence of their conversations. (Really, it's starting to feel like Sesame Street at times.) This totally throws off the natural flow of the dialogue. (Though would totally work for a drinking game). I'm still asking the same question, do these people have severe memory problems making it necessary to repeat the person's name 5 times a conversation? Maggie, please read other books and compare, it would make it so much easier to get into the story without these speed bumps.

Also, it's frustrating as a spinner to read "spinning yarn in her lap into yarn". Seriously? Roving, top, batt, wool, sliver, alpaca, mohair, silk, camel, yak, buffalo, FIBER, etc...they all work, but "Yarn into Yarn"? Noooooo! A simple google search could go a long way.

Andrea Kelly says

I've never been particularly impressed with the writing in the Knitting Mystery series by Maggie Sefton, but the books were still enjoyable, and the mysteries engaging - until this one. All Kelly seems to do is walk back and forth from her cottage to the knitting shop for coffee, and hang out with "the gang". Halfway through the book the mystery is barely to be found, and once the murder does take place, it's still a backseat

plot point compared to "character development" (if you can call it that). The descriptors are repetitive, the dialogue childish. I'm sad to say, but this is yet another series that has gone on longer than the author can thoughtfully sustain.

Erin says

Ugh. I really wish this series would end. Somehow, I feel compelled to keep reading about Kelly and her 1-dimensional friends, although these books make me want to poke my eye out with a 16-inch #7 needle.

April Schilling says

Another great book in the Kelly Flynn series!

Amy says

I think this may be the last Maggie Sefton book I read. I have some compulsion that makes me feel like I have to read every book in a series but these books leave me more frustrated than entertained. Her pacing is odd, there is no sense of time and as a Colorado native I HATE the liberties she takes even though she lives in Colorado too. And a giant wildfire for the next book? Really...lets capitalize on the misery of others why don't we. Ugh..

Laura says

Dumb , coffee , dumb

Amy Mcveigh says

I like this book as I liked the last books in the series. The only thing I'm not enjoying is the the author repeats insignificant details over and over. For example Flat Tire Ale every time someone drinks a beer it's mentioned by name and you know if its resting on a knee or tipping back. Coffee, it's mentioned more than murder and its a murder mystery. The other thing is there's a ton of talk about the recession and I thought it was knitting mysteries not recession mysteries. It seems like she needed more pages or words so she added all that stuff. I might be done with this series. We'll see how she ends this book before I decide.

As I get through the book I've noticed that there a ton of conversations between characters that have nothing to do with the story or even the on going stories from the series in general. I don't know why we need to know that Kelly is going to bring a t-ball stand to a softball clinic or that Lisa has a slow week.

Ok, I couldn't finish it. There was way too much that wasn't related to the actual story I just couldn't stay interested.

Judie says

Life in Fort Connor, Colorado, gets dismal when Jared Rizzoli, a financial advisor whose Ponzi scheme wiped out the savings of many residents, causing the death of some of them, returned after serving a ten-year sentence to conduct a financial seminar and purchase some property. He is unrepentant and, since this is a murder mystery, is murdered. Suspicion quickly falls on two residents but other possibilities arise.

Meanwhile, Pete Wainwright's Grandfather Ben, who lived in Denver and cared for Pete's eleven year old niece Cassie, had a major heart problem. Pete brought Cassie back to Fort Connor.

Kelly Flynn, the main character, continued her work as an accountant, drunk a lot of coffee, had her home repaired, and tried to find the killer.

There is a lot of information about types of wool the way it is formed from the original shearing until it becomes threads of yarn.

I really wanted to like this book. I looked forward to reading it for more than a month before it was published. I've read other books by Maggie Sefton and enjoyed them. Therefore,

I stuck with it to the end, even though I was ready to quit before I got to page 50. I should have quit. The book reminded me of the game of Telephone where the same message is repeated from one person to another. The difference was that in CLOSE KNIT KILLER the end message is identical to the original one; it is just repeated numerous times as a different character arrives on the scene.

I found all the conversation to be repetitious and very boring. There should have been a limit on the number of times we read about Kelly's love of coffee and a few other food offerings.

Except for Cassie, it was difficult to differentiate the characters because most of them sounded and acted pretty much alike. And I identified the killer very quickly.

I hope the next book is more developed and interesting.

Annette Ahrens says

Terrible, terrible book. The following is just a brief list of why I thought so:

1. Maggie Sefton apparently doesn't know that much about knitting. Sad, since she's written a dozen "knitting mysteries." It doesn't matter what size needle you use to knit something - it's the weight of the yarn and the number of stitches that determines the size of the finished object. Kelly doesn't want to knit a baby hat, because she could never use those "itty-bitty" needles. So what? Grab some size 15 needles, bulky weight yarn and have it - you can still knit a baby hat. Besides, according to the pattern at the end of the book, the premie hat is knit with US #8 needles. Since when is that itty-bitty?

Also, I'm not a spinner, but even I know that you use roving to make yarn. You don't spin yarn to make yarn. Please, if you going to base an entire series of books on a theme, please know what you're talking about.

2. What a boring, obnoxious, sanctimonious group of characters. The first half of the book was spent on all the characters congratulating each other for all the wonderful deeds they do volunteering for the community.

3. The dialogue is so unrealistic. Nobody continually repeats the name of the person they are talking to.

4. And speaking of repetition, (view spoiler) I might have forgotten. Oh, and did you know that Kelly likes

coffee? And every server in the cafe knows that Kelly likes coffee. And that she needs a refill of coffee?

I will finish off the series. I like to finish things I start, but man it can be kind of painful. Writing scathing reviews helps.

Nicole says

It's disturbing to read the tenth volume in a series and find so little character development or richness of plot. We're reminded again that Kelly likes coffee, is an accountant, is afraid of her knitting (what *is* that?). She and Steve scarcely speak, which is the natural next step after moving into a new house together, but also an improvement on earlier volumes' indications that they have sex. An impossibly well-balanced preteen girl enters the mix, and years of improbably trouble-free surrogate parenting will likely ensue. Still no one seems to suspect that Kelly is secretly responsible for all the murders. She obviously drugged Madge to make her confess. When will Burt wake up?

MsAprilVincent says

There's no good reason for me to keep reading these, but I do. I guess by now it's turned into hate-reading, which also carried me through the last Twilight book.

Kelly, the main character, annoys me with everything she does. She's nosy. She complains about calories. She speaks in expository dialogue that is clunky and inauthentic. She puts all her quirks down to being an accountant. She's been knitting 4+ years and still tells people she's awful at it. I'm at a real "look at that bitch eating crackers" level of annoyance here.

At any rate, the reveal was rushed, but the book could still have been 50+ pages shorter, if the author hadn't felt compelled to talk about Kelly's coffee addiction every three paragraphs.

Just grumps all the way down.

Yetimomma says

I have enjoyed this series from the first one, but this one kind of fell flat for me. By the end I really got tired of all the need for coffee references.

Melissa says

Hmmm, if you took out all the times Kelly is eating at the cafe or drinking coffee, this book would probably be five pages. And how many times did we have to hear about what an amazing girl Cassie is? Cassie this, Cassie that! Sometimes I think I read these books so I have something to get angry and complain about! I guess one good thing is that there weren't so many Ohhhhhh yeah's in this book as usual!

