

Hearse of a Different Color

Tim Cockey

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Hitchcock Sewell, Baltimore's hippest undertaker and civilian sleuth, is back in a second sly, original mystery.

One of the most charming and offbeat amateur detectives to come around in years, Hitchcock Sewell does for the undertaking profession what Marilyn Monroe did for the ukulele--gives it a touch of class. In this rollicking follow-up to Tim Cockey's "witty, punchy, snappy, well-written, and dang funny debut" (Harlan Coben, author of *The Final Detail*), a surprise blizzard dumps more than snow on the steps of Sewell & Sons funeral home--it leaves behind the corpse of a murdered waitress as well. Hitch's television meteorologist girlfriend sees the crime as an opportunity to move into hard news. Her unctuous mentor wants to beat Hitch to the punch. Hitch's snooping takes him from low-life strip joints to high-tone mansions, proving yet again that undertakers and their clue-happy cohorts can be a pretty lively bunch.

Hearse of a Different Color Details


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Author : Tim Cockey

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From Reader Review Hearse of a Different Color for online ebook

Trudy says

Better-than-average mystery written with wit and humor.

Nancy H says

The thing I really liked about this book was the ending, because I love a mystery that surprises you, and this one did that for me. However, I didn't rate the book higher because I thought it was a somewhat slow read. I still consider this a very good series, though, and will definitely read the next one.

Mathieu says

Deuxième aventure du croque-mort. Si la lecture est agréable, le héros m'est insupportable : Arrogant, sûr de lui. Même ses vices sont en fait là pour le rendre plus sympathique. Encore une fois : A héros parfait, Mathieu insatisfait.

Jerry B says

This is the second, and our second, in the five-book Hitchcock Sewell undertaker and amateur sleuth series. Hitch spends little time at his funeral parlor in this one – rather, he really does roam throughout Baltimore chasing one clue after another, and one suspicious party after another, in search for who bumped off a waitress and dumped her body on his mortuary doorstep!

As with the first story, there is plenty of humor to go along with the mystery. However, “Color” features a somewhat more complex plot; and even manages to mount some ongoing suspense, as an overload of potential villains takes till near the final pages to sort themselves out. Hitch turns out to be quite a ladies man as well, spending much of the book prone, but not on his undertaker’s slab! By now, we get a pretty good sense of what these stories will be like, and will no doubt pick one up when we’re in the mood for a light-hearted mystery that is as amusing as it is puzzling!

Jen says

Fantastic book. If you love to laugh and a good mystery too--this is a great series to read. Excellent story and so funny it will make you laugh out loud. Hitchcock Sewell is a funny undertaker with too much free time.

Maurean says

During the wake of a prominent Baltimore doctor, a murdered waitress (also, the daughter of a stripper, nude model, small time porn star, and mother to a 3yo son) is unceremoniously dropped off at the doors of Sewell & Son. So, Hitch and his new meteorologist girlfriend, Bonnie, set out to find Helen Waggoner's killer.

Another good installment to the series; not as good as the first, but it kept me interested anyway.

Chandra says

so i really like these books! the narrator/main character is such a smart aleck that it keeps you laughing. of course i love crime dramas so the plot keeps up your interest throughout. bonus is that it's set in baltimore and i am relating with each location/bit of information in his descriptions. perfect fast beach/airplane read!

Patrick says

This installment of the Hitckcock Sewell series dragged like a mamma-tamma. Super-convoluted plot with an over-reliance on snowstorms to move the story along. Skip it.

Cynthia says

Like reading a Carl Hiaasen novel, except it's about an undertaker in Baltimore instead of a reporter (or whatever) in Florida. Very funny, a lite and entertaining plot, very interesting but still believable characters, quick and fun to read, lots of good wisecracks.

Writerlibrarian says

Less zany than the first one in the series. Hitch is still a smart aleck and defender of the helpless. He gets roped into a tangled web of family deceptions and despair when a body is dropped on the steps of his funeral home when inside a family gathers around a doctor who died of a heart attack. Coincidence, act of defiance, remorse, warning? Nothing and all of the above perhaps.

A better structured plot, a lot less secondary or just passing through zany characters make this second novel in Cockey's undertaker/detective series much more interesting than the first one.

Judi says

"The wake was a bust. Everybody was crowded into the front hall, leaving the dead doctor to his own devices. One of his colleagues was kneeling in front of the couch, gingerly lifting the bloodstained front of the dress and peering inside. He meant well, but it was a perverse sight."

A dead waitress is dumped on the steps of Baltimore's Sewell and Sons funeral home in the middle of an unscheduled pre-Christmas blizzard and a wake for one of John Hopkins prestigious heart surgeons. On the surface, it isn't so odd for dead bodies to be delivered to funeral homes, but they don't normally arrive unannounced nor do they have fresh bullet wounds. So who is she and why this funeral home?

Read my review here: <http://mostlyfiction.com/sleuths/cock...>

Jenny says

I enjoyed the first person narrative - Hitch is both humorous and likeable. How funny that he's an undertaker and it actually made sense how he got entangled in the mystery of Helen. I didn't like how he had Helen and Haden and then Bonnie and Billie - of all the names, you have to have two sets that start and end with the same letters? Toss that in with Helen being Vickie (or not) and it got a little muddled at times for me. Overall, the mystery's resolution was a little underwhelming but I liked how Hitch ended up with the better woman. I would definitely read more in this series!

Ed says

#2 in the Hitchcock Sewell series.

Baltimore mortician Hitchcock Sewell series - When the murdered corpse of Helen Waggoner is dumped on the front steps of Baltimore's Sewell & Sons Family Funeral Home, which Hitch runs with his Aunt Billie, it's especially perturbing because a wake is in progress. Hitch's new girlfriend, Bonnie Nash, an inept television weathergirl, convinces Hitch to help her make a career move to investigative reporter by finding out who killed Helen. Naturally, complications arise. Helen's young son, Bo, goes to live with her estranged sister, Vicki, who is being harassed by the boy's jailbird father. The search into Helen's background leads Hitch and Bonnie into the Baltimore netherworld of strip joints, prostitution and pornography. When an up-and-coming lawyer and the owner of a strip joint are murdered in a similar style, the investigation expands. The lawyer represented Dr. Richard Kingman, whose wake Helen's body interrupted, and Hitch discovers a connection between Helen and the Kingman family.

Lee says

In the second installment of the further adventures of Hitch....our undertaker/amateur detective. The hilarious, and still friendly friendship he has with his ex-wife, makes for some good reading. If you need some chuckles in yer life, and a pretty good who-dun-it, this is a fun/entertaining series.

Todd Stockslager says

OK, maybe I wasn't as alert this time, but he hit me with a huge plot twist in the last 15 pages that I was not at all expecting. This is the second of his three mysteries so far, and having read the last first I can see the clear progression of his talent.

No pretensions for classic literature, just good fun.
