



The Alpine Decoy

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When a beautiful young African-American nurse with a shady past takes a job in Alpine, some locals show their true bigoted natures, filling editor-publisher Emma Lord with disgust. But when a second newcomer -- a young black man -- is found shot through the head, Emma is stuck with a story she will never forget. Though Sheriff Milo Dodge connects the victim to the nurse, Emma believes there's something more sinister afoot. So she and Vida Runkel, her formidable house-and-home editor, try writing their own scenario. But the case offers too many subplots, too many suspects, and one crafty killer who leaves no tracks. That is, until Emma hits the deadly trail . . .

The Alpine Decoy Details

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Author : Mary Daheim

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From Reader Review The Alpine Decoy for online ebook

Erin L says

Not bad, but the race issues get repetitive. I get it. People in small towns are small minded (not really), while the narrator goes on and on and on about religious differences between the Catholics and Protestants.

Otherwise, interesting and fun.

Ailisa Evans says

A good story, but not as good as the previous books. This was a poor way to push the race issue onto Alpine. By the end of the story, I was more than just tired of the constant racial theme. If Mary Daheim's goal with this book was to be an advocate for racial equality, and show how people are prejudiced, then I think she went over-board. The racial issue gets tired quickly when it is written in every chapter. It's a good thing the next book in this series is an "Escape" from the direction Daheim took with this one.

Helen says

I think I enjoyed this one more than the first in the series, as the central issue of racial prejudice in a small town resonated with me.

Patricia says

This one was Okay. A cozy mystery. I like the main character, which is why I must keep reading these. I just found out the local library doesn't have the next book in the series (but seems to have the rest). That's frustrating.

VJ says

I know Catholics and Pentecostals don't necessarily see eye to eye, but it's as if every misbehaving Pentecostal came through Alpine. I promise, we are not all shifty-eyed, argumentative, stuck up mooners. Just like I know not all Catholics are drunks and not all priests are child molesters! Stereotypes are one thing, but continually harping by a character who claims to be so progressive is just a tad hypocritical.

I do like these mysteries that are not obvious. I don't like figuring out the who and why and how until I'm at least half way through the book.

Catherine Woodman says

This is a competent if not exciting series, and definitely one of my favorites by the author

Bobbi Foster says

Good book. I enjoyed it immensely.

Katie Taylor says

Susan says

Good cozy mystery series.

Glenn Harris says

Another great entry in the alphabetical small-town mystery series featuring newspaper publisher/editor Emma Lord and her many friends in Alpine. I do have to wonder, given the number of murders in each book, whether any of the town's population will survive all the way to Z.

Claudia Cheyne says

I've been going back and reading the early episodes in this series. It's interesting because so many of the characters are familiar and I know how they have evolved over the years. In this story two young black men are found murdered (in separate incidents) in Alpine. Neither one is from the area - so why did they come there to die? Clues lead to many suspects. Is it because of drugs or stolen music CD's? Even Emma and Vida are surprised when they realize who the killer is.

LJ says

THE APLINE DECOY - Good
Daheim, Mary - 4th in Emma Lord series

When a young man is shot in the head and a Black nurse, who has been experiencing problems with Alpine prejudice, is pinned with the murder, editor-publisher Emma Lord teams up with Vida Runkel to sniff out the truth.

Very light. I really only liked the first book in this series.

Janet Ankiel says

Not the best that Alpine offers to readers. Daheim's overly didactic comments on racism, bigotry, intolerance and stereotypes, lacked nuance and effectiveness. Having lived in a major urban area as well as in various small town settings, this reader feels irritation on several points. Fortunately, this is not the first Alpine title, so I shall simply move along.
