



## **Catherine's Cross**

*Millie West*

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When Jenks Ellington experiences a sudden, alarming sense of panic about her identical twin sister Gigi, she has to wait until nearly midnight before learning the reason for her unease: Gigi has drowned while diving for artifacts in a Low Country river near Beaufort, South Carolina. Although Beaufort County detective Seth Mason is suspicious of Gigi's diving partner, there is no evidence of foul play. But, when Gigi's Port Royal home is broken into and ransacked, Jenks discovers two clues--one of which leads her to the home of a local Gullah medium. In a painstaking search for answers, Jenks delves more deeply into her twin's life. Along the way, her bond with Detective Mason reaches unexpected depths. And what secrets could medium Meta Jane be holding? Was Gigi's death really an accident?

## **Catherine's Cross** Details

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Author : Millie West

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## **From Reader Review Catherine's Cross for online ebook**

### **Ireney583 says**

A very easy summer read! I couldn't put it down. Short chapters and a suspenseful plot mixed with romance make for an enjoyable read. I can't wait to see what else Millie West comes up with next!

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### **Linda Branich says**

I received this book from a Good Reads First Reads drawing at no charge, but this fact in no way influenced my review.

This is a who-dunnit that I found hard to put down because of the author's style of writing. The location is the Low Country of South Carolina and the Sea Islands. Ms. West has cleverly taken actual history and created a fictional historical history of the area that was so believable that I had to research it myself. Her characters are very likeable. The story does not just focus on finding the murderer and motive. The characters are developed through recounting of their individual histories, the growing relationship between them, and their relationship with others. Seth's friend Rory is a disabled veteran who is haunted by the death of a female member of his former unit. We see the depth and commitment of a strong friendship between Seth and Rory, compassion, concern, and deep suffering. Jenks volunteers in the local library and develops a relationship with a girl who is lacking self-confidence and is not a strong reader. In this relationship we see commitment, caring, compassion, and dedication. The growing relationship between Seth and Jenks mirrors all these traits and more. They are the real deal. They are consistent, and they are honest. The way they are with others is the way they are with each other.

I do not want to spoil the story, so I will only give a brief accounting.

Jenks Ellington, a teacher in North Carolina, goes to Beaufort, SC after learning of the drowning death of her identical twin, Gigi. Once there Detective Seth Mason tells her the circumstances of Gigi's death and that he is not convinced that it was an accident. Gigi does not believe it was an accident either and with help from Seth, she begins to learn that there was more to her sister's life than teaching and diving as a hobby. Jenks' journey of discovery takes her to a manuscript written and hidden during the civil war, to the discovery that Gigi may have recovered valuable relics and treasure from a ship sunk during the Civil War, and even to the Virgin Islands and Belize.

This was a thoroughly enjoyable read.

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### **Nancy Stafford says**

WOW...look for this to be a movie soon. It has everything: romance, adventure and Southern charm. I can't help but compare the scene and character development to Steinbeck and Hemingway.

The author's vibrant life shows through her characters' reality.

I am an avid reader and often give authors low marks for their lack of reality, especially when they leave their readers without closure. This book more than satisfied me by tying up all the story themes.

I really can't say enough about my enjoyment...this is one of the best books that I have ever read.

Grab it and see what I mean.

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### **Marielle says**

This was a great read

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### **Vanessa says**

This book had a slow start for me. Once the story picked up, it captured and held my attention. I woke up around 3am and could not go back to sleep until I had reached the end. I found that Catherine's Cross had a good balance of suspense and romance. Too much of either and the story would not have flowed like it did. There were a couple of tastefully done sex scenes and action sequences. This is the second book by author Millie West. I like the region that she picked for the setting of this story. Charleston, SC and the surrounding area is rich with culture and history. West incorporated a bit of this in Catherine's Cross. I would definitely read other books by this author and recommend them to my friends.

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### **Peggy Toya says**

**Intrigue; mystery; murder; romance and telepathy ... all in this book ...**

I had a hard time stopping when I started this book. Right away, Jenks was a favorite character. Her strength and independence and loyalty to her sister was obvious and heart-warming. The relationship that grew between her and the detective, Seth, was beautiful and sweet. The author did an excellent job describing the cityscape and countryside - I found myself right "there", next to Jenks, with every step and breath along the way.

Catherine's Cross is an excellent book - you won't be disappointed.

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### **Alina Fraley says**

Reads almost like a grown-up Nancy Drew mystery with lots of Beaufort history thrown in. Fun quick read!

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### **Terri Leidich says**

I like the reviewer who described the book as containing "drama and suspense" but in a "calm and soothing"

manner, because I totally agree. And that's one of the reasons I enjoy reading Millie West's books. . .it's like curling up with a cup of tea (or glass of sweetened ice tea if you're from the South) and a good friend as she tells you a story that will keep you engaged, pull at your imagination, and leave you feeling totally content when the story is done.

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### **Jillian (NetGalley Addict) says**

This book was part of a blog tour I was given a copy for my honest review  
3 1/2 stars

Jenks and her twin sister Gigi have always been to sense when each one of them is in trouble, one night Jenks feels this and knows something is really wrong. Hours later her mother and police officers show up to tell her that Gigi is dead, devastated Jenks goes to where her sister lived to find out what happened. With the help of Detective Seth Mason Jenks sifts through her sisters' life and forms a relationship with Seth. Can Jenks find out what happened to her sister or will she end up another casualty? This book was slow and mellow like a quiet walk through the park. There was drama and suspense, but the way it is written it's not the oh my god yell at the characters kind, the only way to describe it would be calm and soothing. Jenks has just lost her sister and still she tries to help everyone around. Seth knows how Jenks feels since he was a twin and had lost his brother, the relationship between the two of them had a natural feel to it. My favorite part of this book was the history, the author added so much to the book by including journals and other stories from the area. If you like action packed books or ones filled with steamy sex scenes this is not the book to read. If you are looking for a book with a good story but more laid back this is a good one. I was in the mood for this type of book so I really enjoyed reading Catherine's Cross.

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### **Nina Norstrom says**

It's a fictionalized story set in a southern state of South Carolina. And oh what a tale it is. I was grateful to this author for the way she presented characterization (players and scene). She truly has a talent for drawing the readers into a story. I found this one to be very intriguing, somewhat mystifying, and filled with a bit of romance. There is plenty of wanting to know . . . what's coming next behind those pages. It is evidence from reading her work the author has captured another great story, under her cap. Millie, I must say, you did it again! Readers, you may want to pick up a copy . . . just to see what the talk is about.

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### **Anne Hare says**

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Excellent writing with twists and turns. Unusual apprehension of murderer. Liked the twins throughout the story with true insight to their feelings. Enjoyable reading.

