



Sign Off

Patricia McLinn

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Divorce a husband, lose a career... grapple with a murder.

TV journalist Elizabeth “E. M.” Danniher will tell you she committed two sins — she didn’t stay young, and she made an enemy of a powerful news executive — her ex. She used to break national news. Now her top story as the “Helping Out!” reporter at dinky KWMT-TV in Sherman, Wyoming is getting a refund for a defective toaster.

Tough, funny and determined, Elizabeth wrestles with isolation, keeping a professional edge, and an evolving self-image. Is Wyoming — the land of cattle, cowboys, tumbleweeds, and fewer than six people per square mile — her new home or a road to permanent obscurity?

Soon she’s in a battle of wills with ex-football player turned journalist Mike Paycik, who sees her as a handy rung on his career ladder. And there’s the matter of a deputy sheriff—missing or murdered? Elizabeth finds herself investigating at the insistence of a girl who’s set on proving her father’s innocence. Not that enigmatic rancher Thomas David Burrell makes investigating easy.

But Elizabeth won’t fade to black without a fight, no matter how final some might want to make her Sign Off.

Don’t miss any of *Caught Dead in Wyoming*:

Sign Off

Left Hanging

Shoot First

Last Ditch

Sign Off Details

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Marleen says

Smart and intuitive investigative skills is a capability I admire in any lead character, whether it's a police detective, a P.I. or in this case a reporter. TV journalist E.M. Danniher is quite a character at that. After losing out on her divorce and her top TV job on the East Coast, literally having been married to the person who was the boss in both, Elizabeth is being, let's say "exiled" by the network to the very small town of Sherman, Wyoming, to cover consumer affairs segments for the local TV station.

Elizabeth doesn't have long to rest on her laurels, or time to re-evaluate her career path as the disappearance of a controversial Sheriff's Deputy stirs quite a bit of talk in this small town. Elizabeth being the investigative journalist she is, can't help herself and starts asking questions, which people in town don't appreciate.

I thoroughly enjoyed the narrative of this mystery novel. The content wasn't gruesome and progression of the story was rather more rippling – the pieces of the puzzles coming together slowly, like they would in real life. Moreover, I enjoyed the compelling dialogues, and I look forward to more of Danniher's adventures in the next books.

Grandma Mush says

A good read especially when you want to be distracted. Events are Not as funny as Evanovitch but there are little comments here and there that are enjoyable and insightful.

Britney says

Good start to the series. I liked the small town reporter aspect. Kept you interested with what was going on. Story moved along at a good pace.

Beth Gibson says

This is the first book I have read by this author. The slug line read, like Janet Evanovich only better. Of course that was intriguing since I love Janet Evanovich. Though I think Janet still wins with her quirky characters, this book definitely has more of a plot.

TV broadcaster Elizabeth Danniher has made the network bosses mad somehow (not really explained, which I would have expected in a book 1) and is banished to a small town TV station to anchor a consumer advocacy monologue. It pays the bills but is fairly uninteresting. One of the local townspeople has been accused of a murder. It's not her beat and she tries to stay out of it, but ultimately she finds herself digging into it and trying to find out who did it. She becomes convinced the man is innocent, but she has to put her life on the line to find out who did it. Because no one likes nosy reporters.

I really enjoyed this book. The characters are real and imperfect, just like anyone. She does a very good job

not portraying a country Wyoming town like a bunch of hicks, which is probably what the average person would think before beginning reading. This town could be anywhere USA. The plot was interesting and held my attention. There were enough twists and turns that I could not easily deduce who the real perpetrator was. I cannot think of a single thing to criticize and that is rare. I will definitely check out other books by this writer.

Jan says

Unremarkable mystery. I was hoping for a story that captured the spirit and culture of Wyoming. This didn't deliver. The protagonist was very likable.

~Mindy Lynn~ says

AMAZON KINDLE FREEBIE 6/27/17

Betty says

Looking at book covers I saw Patricia McMinn Wyoming series and decided to read it. I have been to several places in the state and I liked Is the deputy the synopsis. I read it and did not disappoint me. I desire to read the rest of the series.

Elizabeth E.M. Danniher, a TV journalist is in Sherman, Wyoming until Her contract with the network expires. Instead of broadcasting breaking news, her beat the 'Helping Hand'. Gradually she hears about a sheriff deputy who went missing six months ago. A young girl asked Danniher to fix it so her Mother cannot get a judge to say she could no longer see her Father. Elizabeth's curiosity has her looking into the disappearance. She teams with the Sports director as he knows all persons who have issues with the deputy. At this time I was turning the pages as fast as I could and finished it in one sitting. Question Elizabeth needs an answer is a deputy dead? Did her Father fight with the deputy? Why was he so dislike by most residents? I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THIS BOOK AND and look it forward to reading book # 2.

Releanna says

very pleasurable and witty. Really enjoyed reading :)

Nancy says

Entertaining story. Convuluted plot at times. And too many characters whose names begin with M! Myrna, Marty, Mona, Mike and there's also a peripheral Mel and a Matt. Couldn't the author use some other alphabet letters? Chuck, maybe? Laura? It's very hard to keep the characters straight when so many begin with the same letter. Having a father and son be Roger and Rog also got confusing. Calling a minor character Brent one time and Hanley another time didn't help. If other books in the series are available on Kindle Unlimited,

I would read them, but they aren't enticing enough to pay for.

Rhonda says

5 STARS

Book 1 in the Caught Dead in Wyoming Series

I was surprised who the killer was. It is a clean read. Lot of suspects, drama & good characters in this story. Victim no one liked.

Elizabeth Daniher is a big deal in reporting but getting a divorce from her T.v. producer. So she was sent to the small town in Wyoming to finish her contract.

The manager & anchor try and sabotage what little is left of her career.

Elizabeth is a consumer reporter and one day the grade school class was touring the T.V. studio when one little girl told her she needed to save her father. Her mom was going to stop her from seeing her daddy if he was sent to jail. She needed to help her that's what the tv show said.

Sheriff's Deputy Foster Redus had disappeared for a week before they started searching for him. The day he had a fight with rancher Thomas David Burrell. Thomas admitted to having a fight and there was blood found at his place.

Thomas ex-wife told everyone that he was jealous of her having a boyfriend. Thomas had the town torn into factions of who thought he was guilty and those who thought he was innocent.

The sport announcer wants Elizabeth looking into the story. Mike wanted to work with her and learn from her. Mike played professional sports till he had to retire from injury and he went back to small town to learn before going to national shows. Mike kept showing her different people who believe in Thomas. Even his Aunt who worked in sheriff office. Deputy whispered a trail for her to follow.

Elizabeth kept trying to find out about the deputy who was missing but everyone told her more about Burrell. Tamantha Burrell is a charmer and she wants her daddy to get the help he needs. She is not shy about what she wants and that is Elizabeth making things right for her daddy.

I enjoyed this book and hope that more come in the series. I will be on the lookout for them.

I was given this ebook to read in exchange for honest review by Netgallet.

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Debbie Oxier says

I might have rated this higher if it hadn't taken me awhile to warm up to the characters. There wasn't really anything special about them that drew me in. In fact, the book starts out rather slow. E. M. Daniher was married until everything fell apart and she found herself demoted and working at a small television station in Wyoming. She was supposed to be a consumer advocate but it doesn't take long before she's thrown into the mystery of a missing sheriff's deputy. She ends up paired with Mike Paycik, who makes no secret of the fact he's interested in her and also sees her as a stepping stone to help further his own career.

The plot was very good and kept you guessing until the end. There were plenty of suspects to go around, including the wife, the mistress, the mistress's ex, and even the sheriff, the judge, and a prominent attorney. The missing deputy was not a nice person and had any number of enemies who might have wanted him dead.

As I said, I would have enjoyed this one more if the characters had stood out more in my mind. As such, they were just so-so in spite of the well-thought-out plot.

Quenya says

I really enjoyed this book. The mystery was engaging and the characters were easy to get to know. The mystery itself had many suspects and motives. The author could have easily made the characters stereotypes but actually gave each character assets as well as flaws without making them seem comical or too exaggerated.

Highlights for me was the author showing how a small town can surround itself in a protective shield sometimes versus risking bad light on the community. Coming from a small town this is pretty accurate – I also liked the fact that the main character started to rely on her co-workers more throughout the book. It showed growth on both the characters and co-workers part as the relationship developed.

The reason I couldn't give this book 5 stars lies in the main character. She wasn't naturally likable and her inner monologues brought the story's pace dragging down at different points in the story. So I just couldn't give it another star.

The narrator did a fabulous job on the voices and I look forward to the next book in the series.

Hebby Roman says

Ms. McLinn is an excellent writer, and she knows how to craft an intricate, well-written mystery, too. I was kept guessing throughout the book, as to who the real villain was or even more than one villain that might have done the murder(s). Everyone was a suspect, and of course, I guessed wrong, so my hat is off to Ms. McLinn for creating such an interesting mystery with a large cast of characters in this small Wyoming town. The addition of the heroine being a TV news reporter also made for interesting reading. There was a touch of romance, too, though, Ms. McLinn left you guessing about that in this first book of her series. The only downside I perceived was I had difficulty "warming up" to the heroine (it was done in first person, so everything is seen through her eyes), as she was such an analytical person who really didn't address her "personal" problems throughout the story, except in passing. Probably her issues will be addressed in the next books of the series. Highly recommended for mystery fans, and I wouldn't mind reading more in this series.

Alan says

Elizabeth Danniher, a TV reporter in Sherman, Wyoming, investigates the death of a local deputy sheriff.

McLinn gives us plenty of twists and turns in this fast-paced mystery. Her unconventional protagonist is intelligent, witty and charming. Her settings are vivid.

An enjoyable read.

L.A. Starks says

This is a gentle mystery with an endearing, self-deprecating protagonist. I especially appreciated the book's Wyoming setting.
