



Murder in Her Stocking

G.A. McKeveitt

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As the Moonlight Magnolia Agency revisits old memories on Christmas Eve, Granny Reid takes the reins back thirty years to the 1980s--back when she went by Stella, everyone's hair was bigger, and sweaters were colorful disasters. But murder never went out of style . . .

Christmas has arrived in sleepy McGill, Georgia, but holiday cheer can't keep temperamental Stella Reid from swinging a rolling pin at anyone who crosses her bad side--and this season, there are plenty. First an anonymous grinch vandalizes a celebrated nativity display. Far worse, the scandalous Prissy Carr is found dead in an alley behind a tavern. With police puzzled over the murder, Stella decides to stir the local gossip pot for clues on the culprit's identity . . .

Turns out Prissy held a prominent spot on the naughty list, and suspects pile up like presents on Christmas morning. Unfortunately, the more progress Stella makes, the more fears she must confront. With a neighbor in peril and the futures of her beloved grandchildren at risk, Stella must somehow set everything straight and bring a cunning criminal to justice before December 25th . . .

Murder in Her Stocking Details

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Author : G.A. McKevevtt

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From Reader Review Murder in Her Stocking for online ebook

Sarah says

I've written this review for Really Into This

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Happy Reading, friends!

MURDER IN HER STOCKING BY G.A. MCKEVETT BOOK REVIEW

A cozy mystery set in the South with a strong matriarch? Heck, yes!

PREQUELS FOR THE WIN

Similar to Christmas Cake Murder by Joanne Fluke, Murder in Her Stocking revisits a beloved mystery series with a prequel. truth be told, I'm brand new to the Savannah Reid series. But, as soon as I saw the heartwarming holiday cover for Murder in Her Stocking, I was desperate to read it. Starting a new series is so exciting, If you love the characters and the setting, you know you'll be in for a long road of beloved stories. Luckily for readers, the Granny Reid series is a winner.

STELLA REID

Stella is such an awesome character. First, she's hilarious & keeps it REAL. She's not putting on airs, trying to be someone else. When the going gets tough, she looks at the task at hand & figures out a way to get the job done.

While this is a cozy mystery, G.A. Mc Kevett doesn't shy away from serious issues. For example, Stella is so involved with her grandkids because her son, a long haul truck driver, is basically absent from their lives. Their mother, who can often be found on a barstool, is not any better. Now, I usually like my cozies to be absent of anything too rough, but this storyline melts my heart. We all know people in a similar situation as Stella. I'm talking about the people who sign up to care for kids when they need it most. This is Stella Reid. if her grandkids need her, she's there for each & every one of them. She will fight tooth & nail to make sure they get what they need.

GEORGIA SETTING

Oh, I just love that this series is set in McGill, Georgia. This means the characters speak with a Southern dialect. YES! For me, this makes the story all the more real. G.A. McKevett throws some awesome sayings into the dialogue that will have you rolling with laughter.

In Murder in Her Stocking, Mc Kevett introduces us to a cast of characters I'm looking forward to learning more about. Well, there's the sheriff & I may see some sparks flying between him & Granny. There's Stella's neighbor with troubles of her own. Undoubtedly, Mc Kevett will continue to explore the dynamic between Stella & her son & daughter-in-law as well. Basically, I've met these folks & I want to know more about them!

THE VERDICT

I am Really Into This book. I love starting a new series & I'm really excited about this one!

Check out my interview with the author, G.A. Mc Kevett aka Sonja Massie here.

Special thanks to G. A. McKevett & Kensington Books for providing our copy in exchange for an honest & fair review.

Carrie says

Murder in Her Stocking by G.A. McKevett is the first book in the new A Granny Reid Mystery series. This series however seems to be a prequel spin off series to the author's long running Savannah Reid series featuring Savannah's grandmother Stella Reid.

Stella Reid is a grandmother to seven young children who's mother isn't the best role model ever often choosing to go out and drink than watch her kids leaving Stella to pick up the slack. Stella is not one to back down to anyone or any challenge though and those kids mean the world to her.

When Stella is out one night though she hears a scream and when going to investigate she finds Prissy Carr in the alley behind the tavern. With the help of her grandkids Stella knows a murderer is on the loose and she'll do whatever it takes to find them before Christmas.

Again I have accidentally stumbled into a series that while this is the beginning it's also a spin off leaving me the feeling that I was missing something or other when I started reading. For me that feeling that things weren't introduced as new to readers leaves me a bit disconnected to a story.

Stella "Granny" Reid also seemed to be doing a lot more interacting with the kids than solving a murder, which makes sense when her granddaughter will become a sleuth herself one day, but that also seemed to slow this down a bit. I think fans of the original series will probably love this one but not being familiar with it myself it was just an OK read.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.com/>

Stephanie Tadlock says

Christmas has arrived in sleepy McGill, Georgia, but holiday cheer can't keep temperamental Stella Reid from swinging a rolling pin at anyone who crosses her bad side—and this season, there are plenty. First, an anonymous grinch vandalizes a celebrated nativity display. Far worse, the scandalous Prissy Carr is found dead in an alley behind a tavern. With police puzzled over the murder, Stella decides to stir the local gossip pot for clues on the culprit's identity . . .

I following the Savannah Reid series, this was a great backstory to Stella Reid (Granny Reid) and all the Reid family. A good cozy mystery and subplot the thing you would do for family.

Thank you netgalley for the arc in exchange for my honest opinion I this review

Gloria says

Murder in Her Stocking is a great start to a new series that is an off shoot to the Samantha Reid series. I have not read the series but this story has gotten me interested in looking into it. As the story starts, Stella "Granny" Reid is spending time with her adult grandchildren and friends at Christmas time when she is thinking back to another Christmas thirty years ago in McGill, Georgia-a Christmas that was good but also had some sadness. I was drawn in from the beginning and laughing out loud at the dialect, witty conversation between Granny and her seven "grand-angels," all named for towns in Georgia where their mother had lived. Stella is the only responsible person in the children's life. Their father, Macon, Stella's son, is on the road all the time and never around to help with the children while their mother, Shirley, spends all of her time at the local tavern. Savannah is the oldest and is very mature for a twelve year old because she has to look after the others. Waycross is the only boy and second to the oldest. Savannah devours Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys books and plans to become a policewoman when she grows up.

She gets her chance at detective work when she and Stella along with Waycross hear a dying scream one night while taking care of some mischief that Waycross had gotten into. The local lady of the night, Priscilla Carr, has been injured and is dying when Stella reaches her after securing the kids at the sheriff's office.

Many wives in the town have reason to kill Prissy but so do others-men who spent time with her. Besides the mystery of who killed Prissy, there is a secondary mystery when Bud, the abusive husband of Stella's friend Flo's, disappears after a big fight with Flo.

This story is rich with small town colorful characters who love to gossip and know each other's business but also show support in a time of need. Stella and her son's family are poor as dirt but she is rich in love and respect for others, especially with her grand-angels. When Christmas Day arrives, Stella and the children have a special day with friends and a few lovely surprises.

I received a complimentary ARC from Kensington Publishing through NetGalley for an honest review. The opinions stated are mine only.

Kate says

I have read only one Savannah Reid mystery and wondered if I would be able to follow this new series which includes many of the same characters. Thankfully this series completely stands on its own and you don't need to know anything about the author's other successful series to fully enjoy this one. The writing was really excellent, a bit deeper than most surface cozies, but still something to curl up with on a cold night. The Christmas season was well described and I loved the unique setting of a sleuthing grandmother watching over all of her grandbabies. An excellent book!

Thanks to Net Galley for the comp!

Jeannine says

This is the first of a new series featuring Savannah Reid's grandmother Stella Reid and set in the small town of McGill, Georgia, when Savannah was just 12, and she and her 6 siblings were pulled back and forth between their mother and grandmother. Their mother is a neglectful mother and dedicated alcoholic who hates her mother-in-law with a loud passion. It is from their "Granny Reid" that the children find love and

stability. Into this complex situation are added neighbors and friends missing and in jeopardy, the pranked town nativity (shiny black mustaches on all the figures!), the murder of the town floozy, and a kind and smart sheriff sweet on Stella.

This is a wonderful small town story filled with believable, lovable characters, hard quandaries and decisions, and complicated relationships, plenty of humor (best funeral ever), all wrapped around the framework of a murder mystery. It is highly successful on all levels. I really enjoyed it.

My copy was an ARC from NetGalley.

RO G'ma says

Murder in Her Stocking is the first book in G. A. McKeve's Granny Reid Mystery series. This delightful read had me laughing aloud one moment and then reaching for a box of tissues the next. The storyline is well thought out, the well-developed characters are affable, is full of compassion and caring, and the dialogue is witty and engaging. There's some adult language, but no graphic violence or sexually explicit situations. This quickly paced whodunit kept me guessing until the reveal.

The Reid family and friends are gathered together on Christmas Eve in California and while Granny Reid is rocking her newborn great-granddaughter, Vanna Rose, she reminisces about the past. Her focus is on a Christmas season over thirty years earlier in McGill, Georgia, when her seven precious children came to live with her. Stella's son, Macon, is an absentee father and her daughter-in-law, Shirley, neglects and abuses the children and spends too much time drinking in bars. While Stella Reid and two of her grandchildren, Savannah and Waycross, try to repair the town's recently acquired nativity display that an "anonymous" person vandalized, trouble breaks out in the alley behind a tavern. After taking Savannah and Waycross to the nearby police station, Stella returns to the alley to help the person in distress and ends up holding Priscilla "Prissy" Carr in her arms as she takes her last breath. Prissy had a well-deserved reputation as a loose woman, but that doesn't stop Stella from wanting to find her killer and provide peace in the afterlife for her. Savannah, who wants to be a policewoman when she grows up, wants to help her granny and Sheriff Manny Gilford solve the case. Small towns are notorious for their gossip circuits, and Stella stirs McGill's up looking for clues. Stella and even Savannah, help Manny with his investigation into Prissy's death and locating the "missing" husband of her friend, Florence Bagley.

I received an Advance Reader Copy of this book from NetGalley and voluntarily reviewed it.

Elisa Hordon says

I have loved each and every Savannah Reid story many times over, so I was super excited for the very first Granny Reid mystery as she is an absolute favorite book character in our house and I was not disappointed far from it this book is an absolute treasure.

Sheila Penwell says

This is the first Granny Reid Mystery that I have read and I really loved it. Besides the story around and finding the murderer which was hard to figure it out. Just when you thought you had it, you didn't., you had a

story along with it relating to Granny Reid's family which really was a sad situation. You also saw the amount of friends that Granny had and how the small town came together for them plus her love of many years. There is a lot in this book to absorb but I just thought it was a wonderful mystery as well as story and would recommend this book highly for any one looking for a great story.

Gail C. says

Murder in Her Stocking by G. A. McKeveit is a stand alone mystery that is also a prequel to her popular Savannah Reid mystery series. As a mystery it stands alone, but much of the book is also exposition for Savannah Reid and others of the Reid family. Because this was the first book in the series for me, I was somewhat at a loss as it began, feeling as if I should know these characters better than I did.

The story of the Reid family, and Granny Reid in particular, is more prominent than the mystery itself. Throughout the novel there was emphasis on creating the atmosphere of the poverty stricken Reid family in the hardscrabble town of McGill, Georgia. The narrative was made up of an abundance of colloquialisms and other southern phrases, some more famous than others. There was a familiarity in these initially that helped to create the book's atmosphere, but they became somewhat redundant as they were used so often they created a feeling the author had a list of sayings she was determined to include before the book ended.

Overall, the story of the Reid family comes across as a bit cliché. It's the typical portrayal of the simple, but good, uneducated southerners who have hearts as good as gold and an abundance of common sense. The story is written to occur at Christmas, during a cold winter, but the feel is more consistent with barefoot children shuffling down a dirt road on a long hot summer's day and adults spending the majority of their time gossiping about the other adults in their small community while fanning themselves with a hand-held funeral home fan.

Until the final few chapters, it was only with an occasional reference to the cold, or to a typical Christmas activity such as buying a tree, that would remind me the story actually took place in December. The timing was made clear in the prologue of the story, but was quickly forgotten as I became engaged in the story itself.

I found the mystery of "who done it" easy to solve, as well as the process to lead to the unmasking of the murderer which was a bit of a mystery of its own. Because the solution of the murder was not as central to the book as some of the other storylines, there were some good clues, but not many red herrings. This resulted in the feeling more of reading a novel about the Reid family than a mystery novel with well identified suspects, clues and false trails. As such, it may be more enjoyable for people who are acquainted with the Savannah Reid mystery series and who would like more information on her early days, along with more in depth information on the early years of her family.

Anna Fox says

This is the first book I've read by this author and it was a fun read. I hope for many more in this series. It was interesting enough for me to add her to my TBR pile. Granny Reid is a great character.

I received an eARC from the publisher via NetGalley for an honest review - try this book even if you haven't read her other series.

Lisa says

G.A. McKeveitt has given all of us Savannah Reid Mysteries fans a true gift in this new series. Granny Reid has long been a favorite character of mine, so when it was announced that she would be getting her own book series, I was beyond thrilled! Murder in her Stocking is a prequel to the Savannah Mysteries. Granny (Stella) Reid reflects back to the 80's, giving us a huge insight into the Reid gang, and how she came to raise them. Without giving away any spoilers, I will say that the mystery in this book is fantastic-just when I thought I had it figured out, something would happen and I had to rethink things. I personally loved getting a deeper look at Granny, Savannah, Waycross and the other members of the Reid family. I laughed and I cried while reading this book. A true, well deserved 5 star rating for Murder in her Stocking! **I received an ARC from the author after participating in a Facebook contest.** PS-If you haven't read the Savannah Mysteries, do yourselves a favor and start with book 1, Just Desserts and get to know and love the Moonlight and Magnolia Gang as much as I do!

Christine says

I love G A Mckeveitt Savannah Reid series so I was excited to learn Granny Reid was getting her own series. This story takes place before the Reid kids came to live with Granny. Granny, Savannah and Waycross are out and her a woman scream. Granny sends the kids to the police station and goes back to help the person. She is of course too late. The sherif asks for her help and of course Savannah helps as she wants to be a policewoman when she is older.

The book also shows how the kids came to live with Granny and how living with their mother was like. I enjoyed seeing the kids when they were small and to see that their personalities didn't change when they got older. I liked seeing Savannah and Granny team up just like always. This book had everything that I love about this series . It always makes me happy to read about the Reid family. I know need to reread all of my Savannah books now. That's how much I love this book. Great first book in a series .

Brenda says

Granny Reid, from the Savannah Reid Mystery series, is the headliner of this new series.

It's all about the love as the Moonlight Magnolia Agency gathers on Christmas Eve, remembering the events leading up to the first Christmas the Reid children spent with their beloved Granny as their guardian is the basis of this story.

Raising 7 children ages 11-6 in small town McGill Georgia has Stella Reid stretched. Finding herself holding Prissy Carr as she takes her last breath, Stella is determined to do right by Priscilla by helping Sheriff Manny Gilford investigate the murder.

Meeting a young Savannah and seeing the dynamic woman who shaped her was a true cozy experience.

I am looking forward to more Granny Reid stories.

I volunteered to read an ARC through Net Galley

Lisa Morin says

Murder in Her Stocking is an exciting start to the new Granny Reid series by G. A. McKeveatt. This story goes back to a time that will leave you laughing and crying, and hoping the story never ends. We learn how all 7 of her grandchildren come to live with Granny Reid and the heroics of a young Savannah.

I read this book in two days, only because I had to get some sleep in between.

I love this first in a new series and cannot wait to read the next book in the series.

I volunteered to read and review an ARC of this book provided by the publisher and NetGalley.
