



## The Fingerprint

*Patricia Wentworth*

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## **The Fingerprint** Patricia Wentworth

When she found the body of her beloved Uncle Jonathan, Georgina's mind went blank. Instinctively, she stooped to pick up the revolver, thus becoming the prime suspect. For Georgina stood to inherit a large fortune when her uncle died. But Uncle Jonathan had a second secret will and the beneficiary is the wide-eyed, seemingly innocent Mirrie Fields.

But there was also the puzzle of the missing fingerprint. It was the showpiece of Uncle Jonathan's collection and he enjoyed telling the story of how he had acquired it from a self-confessed murderer, who was still at large. When the old man was shot, the print had been torn from its album.

Was the missing fingerprint the clue to the murderer's identity? Maud Silver is determined to find out.

## **The Fingerprint Details**

Date : Published 2005 by Hodder and Stoughton (first published 1959)

ISBN : 9780340689714

Author : Patricia Wentworth

Format : Paperback 375 pages

Genre : Mystery, Crime, Fiction, Cozy Mystery, Thriller, Mystery Thriller

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## **From Reader Review The Fingerprint for online ebook**

### **Jean says**

Heavy on the romance and damsel in distress, but the mystery is pretty good.

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### **Peggy says**

I liked this book. It is very much like other Miss Silver episodes. I thought the killer was someone else. Patricia Wentworth is very tricky.

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### **Rachel Piper says**

[I REALLY wanted Mirrie to live up to her Cousin Julia from Summer of Fear introduction and be the murderer in the end, but she's just a standard dumb but allegedly irresistibly sweet girl (hide spoiler)]

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### **Katrina says**

I enjoyed this although it took ages to get to the murder. The more I read books involving Miss Silver the better I like her.

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### **Eric says**

This is a late Miss Silver, originally published in 1956, and is not of the best. It has a lot of the standard ingredients, a large country house, wills, beautiful heroine and tight-lipped hero, murder and secrets.

However, it is about as exciting and interesting as tepid ditchwater, full of unnecessary repetition, and depicting one of the most irritating female characters you will ever come across.

Frank Abbott could and should have solved this one pretty quickly without the late help of Miss Silver. The party-line listener-in was so obviously flagged up and was so well-known in the area that she had to have vital evidence.

Poor stuff as a mystery. Solution too long-winded and the ending not quite melodramatic enough.

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### **Susan says**

A man with a hobby of collecting fingerprints from people he meets shows off his collection to guests at a dinner party and tells a dramatic story about collecting a murderer's fingerprints. When he's later found dead, something doesn't look right to guest Frank Abbott, a Scotland Yard detective, so Frank gets the woman he irreverently calls his dear Maudie (aka Miss Silver) to help with the case.

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### **Chelle says**

rating = 3.5 stars

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### **Marchpane says**

On the one hand, a very readable cozy mystery with solid writing and engaging characters. On the other hand, this would have to be the most repetitious book I've ever read. Every scene and conversation is recounted, recapped and rehashed a half a dozen times.

Really, this book could have been half the length that it is without all that padding, but then it would have been obvious that the plot is rather underdeveloped.

This is the 30th Miss Silver mystery, and the first one I've read. I imagine the earlier instalments are probably stronger than this one.

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### **Ahmad Sharabiani says**

The Fingerprint (Miss Silver #30), Patricia Wentworth

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### **Julie says**

A collector of fingerprints is killed not long after again showing his collection and telling his favorite story of a criminal's fingerprint being among them. Frank Abbott calls in Miss Silver to see what she can figure out. There are many suspects.

Interesting story and mystery.

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### **Mo says**

Another enjoyable book in the series. Miss Silver has become a very dear friend.

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### **Robyn says**

Free | Trying too hard to be modern, and one truly awful female character | My biggest complaint is actually that Frank Abbott doesn't act in character. He isn't normally so insistent on the guilt of any one person based on circumstantial evidence, or so jaded and suspicious. For him to still say he's nurturing suspicions long after that character's motive had been washed out is not in tune with the Frank of the other books. There's also an astonishing amount of repetition. The series does tend that way, but this is at a whole new level. And in an attempt to fit the times we have a bad boy with a flick knife who steals cars, robs jewelry stores, and has about a dozen girls on the string. It was nice to revisit characters from Eternity Ring, though.

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### **Kate says**

For my full review click on the link below:  
<https://crossexaminingcrime.wordpress...>

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### **Denise says**

Miss Silver #30 -- another great read!

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### **Rebecca says**

Jonathan Fields collects fingerprints, and loves to show them off to visitors and tell their stories. His best story is that he has the prints of a murderer who was never caught. When he is later found shot, that page of his album is torn out. Is there a connection? Or is the murderer his ward, Georgina Grey, who found him and picked up the gun? Fields had just disinherited her--or has he?--in favor of a new-found impoverished relative, Mirrie Fields, who has secrets of her own. Inspector Frank Abbot is unsurprised when Miss Silver shows up, with her everlasting knitting, to put things right.

Another enjoyable country house murder with the perpetually coughing and reproving Miss Silver. Wentworth does a great job of building the world of country estates just after the war, and her characters are mostly typical of the time--she likes men who boss women around, and her women like it too (except for Miss Silver). This one is somewhat different in that the culprit is discovered before the climax of the book, and it becomes more a question of will he/she get away with it?

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## **Wendy Gamera says**

just like reading one of miss marple or hercule poirot mysteries!

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## **Jessi says**

Oh... my... gosh. It took me four times of starting and stopping this book to finish it. It's worth the read, but it did start off so... slow.

Frank Abbott has been invited to a party. There, he meets Georgina and Mirrie, both relatives living with their rich uncle Jonathon. Georgina has always been assumed to be the heir but Mirrie is new in the house and is quickly winning Jonathon's love.

In true "I'm about to be murdered" fashion, Jonathon announces that he is changing his will. After he's killed, it turns out that the new will was burned. Was it Mirrie trying to take advantage of a new will? Or Georgina trying to win back her inheritance? Or is it actually a result of Jonathon's hobby?

He has a well known collection of fingerprints. This book is set right after World War Two so his fingerprints include the likes of Goebbels and Goering. Also, it includes the fingerprint of an unknown murderer. It was a man Jonathon never saw but when the two of them were trapped during the war, the man borrowed Jonathon's flask and also confessed to murder.

Either way, Frank is called in to solve the murder. But it turns out, that he will need the help of retired nanny, Miss Silver.

The murderer is actually rather easy to pick out and Wentworth is very fair with giving readers the clues needed. This is also a trope that has since been picked up in other books so that also makes it easier. I'll try another Miss Silver book but not sure if I'll keep reading the series.

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## **Kailey (BooksforMKs) says**

I liked the story, and the mystery was quite good. The characters are great too!

But the writing is terribly repetitive. They repeat every single thing over and over again as if assuming that the reader can't pay attention long enough to remember that, for instance, the heroine called the villain on the phone at half past eight on Tuesday night. I remember. I read it already. You don't have to remind me twenty times that she called him on Tuesday night.

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## **Learnin Curve says**

I love miss silver but this is the scrapings off of the bottom of the pan. luckily I've learned a harsh lesson from Christie and am reading the later ones before the ones in the middle.

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**Sherry says**

Not a favorite! I found several main characters annoying and Miss Silvers role seemed less essential!

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