



Murder in Wizard's Wood

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Fey both beautiful and vicious hide in the Georgia backwoods, guarded by four-hundred-year-old peanut farmer, bootlegger, and wizard Jedediah Shine.

Protecting humanity and the fey from one another is normally child's play compared to teaching magic to his new foster daughter and a Cherry Coke addicted dragonling, parenting an out-of-control half-elven teen sorceress or keeping his jealous elven ex-lover away from his new girlfriend.

Jedediah's delicate balancing act is thrown into turmoil when rebellious, young centaurs launch a genocidal war against humanity from within his borders. At the same time, a vengeful mercenary company lays a trail of suspicious murders directly to Jedediah's door. Unwitting pawns to a deeper menace, both serve a centuries-long plot to steal magic's deepest secret.

The bloody conflict thrusts Jedediah's family into Death's reach. As the body bag count rises and law enforcement closes in, Jedediah is forced to make desperate choices to protect his loved ones and magic itself by stopping the murders in his wood.

Murder in Wizard's Wood Details

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From Reader Review Murder in Wizard's Wood for online ebook

Jill Ramlow says

This book has a strong beginning, which is essential to grab the attention of readers. I found the story rather easy to get sucked into. The southern setting is easy to picture, even if it is a little unexpected for fantasy. Instead it puts a unique spin on the traditional fantasy story.

The main character Jedediah is not your typical fantasy character either. While it's common in popular stories for the main character to know as little about the world he's discovering as his reader does, Jedediah knows a great deal about how his world works. However, most of the aspects about how magic and its components work in this book are not explained outright, which usually feels clunky and dull.

What the author did instead was casually mention each aspect as it came up naturally, showing through context as each element comes up naturally while the characters play out the story. This isn't the easiest writing technique to conquer, but it has been done very well here. Reading this story feels more like visiting a friend in their home whose life you know little about ahead of time, and diving right in.

I also enjoyed the "in plain sight" aspect. Drake, the dragon, disguises himself as a bloodhound, and even learns to "bark" so he can stand beside "normals" and not be detected as anything but a bloodhound. Some items the main character gives officers on his land serve a secondary purpose as a charm to ward off other creatures, so they don't even know they're being protected from creatures they don't know exist. It's a little bit different, and I like that.

The writing is fairly free of mistakes and the editing is fair. As a writer myself this is a must for me. On occasion I ran into a few instances of the same character's name being used in narration two sentences in a row (instead of switching to "him" or "he") or a non-essential and irrelevant description paragraph landing in the center of backstory, but overall the issues I noticed were not highly distracting and I considered this book a good and enjoyable read. Very deserving of its overall rating!

Rutger Painsczyk says

Today we are going to be talking about an EBook that I got to read it is called Murder in Wizards Wood, and at first when I got the book all I could see was the cover of the book and it looks like it was set in the medieval times, but when I started reading the book I noticed that the story is in fact set in the modern day.

There is a farmer named Jedediah and he is around 400 to 500 years old, and he is a wizard. He has a daughter who is half elf, half wizard, who lives with him who is in her fifties. She is an outcast among most of the Elves. Basically his farm is surrounded by woods where he allows other Fey to live, he is what they call a Guardian. So he protects all these Fey from humans or normal's from getting in there and causing problems, if he does allow somebody in the woods he gives them a pass or a token.

There is this evil group that is trying to frame him for murder, so that way he will go to jail, so then they can take over the woods and take over the Fey that live there. So you have the Fey that he is trying to protect and you got the humans that he is trying to protect and some of the Fey don't want to be protected and humans are being murdered on his land and he is being blamed. It is a super easy to read book. The characters are really liked all of them, the emotions that are between the characters felt real, and because of the modern day setting it helped balance the more fantastic aspects that came with the magic that was used. It was lighted

hearted in spots and funny in others. But all in all it was a fantastic book to read and I could not but the book down, I had to see what happened next. There is a major cliff hanger at the end. So I am going to have to get the second book, because I want to know what happened. But if you are looking for good fantasy book, that is not full on medieval and all knights and ladies, this is definitely the book to check out I really enjoyed it and I think that you guys would to.

Gijzette Strickland says

From the cover of the book you would expect the story to take place in medieval times but this is not the case. This is a modern day story of a Wizard farmer who has a dragon and protects the fae folk who live in the surrounding area.

I will try to give you a good synopsis of the book without providing any spoilers. The Wizard, Jedediah, has to deal with murder on his property. It is obvious that something other than the usual murder weapons has killed the victim. It's up to Jedediah to figure out who or what has perpetrated the murder and all without getting himself arrested for said murder.

The author, Michael J. Allen, writes an exceptional story. He captured my attention a few pages in and kept my attention throughout the entire book. I couldn't wait to turn the page to find out what happened next.

In just about every chapter a new character is introduced but the main characters all stay the same. This kept the story moving along and the reader wondering about what was going to happen next. This made for a very good mesh of fantasy and mystery.

My only disappointment is that the book ends in a cliffhanger. Luckily the sequel has been published so I can find out what happens next.

Whether you like a good mystery or are a fan of fantasy you will love this book. If you are a reader like myself who enjoy both genres then you will be glued to the pages.

I received this book in exchange for an honest and unbiased review. All the books I review I have personally read and my opinions are my own.

Marybeth says

Very interesting story. Pretty dense of a read. Lots of characters and tons of back story. A little intense. As far as it being a mystery it was a little all over the place for me to figure things out. But omg great dialog and even has a tiny bit of romance.

I noticed a few formatting issues. But that's the ebook formatting fault not the author.

Trisha Smith says

This was a great fantasy story. Exactly the type of book I enjoy reading. It was interesting being able to see a story set in a more modern setting than most fantasy stories are written in. I found myself drawn in to this story from pretty much page 1 and couldn't put it down until I finished it. I am going to have to get the next book now to see what else happens!

The author does a great job of weaving a spellbinding story. He has a real talent for storytelling and demonstrates it in this work. I am glad I took the time to read it and get to know his style. It is super easy to read, fast paced, and full of surprise and intrigue. I had no trouble keeping up with the flow, and felt the plot was well developed, as were all of the characters. I was able to picture them in my mind, seeing the story unfold as if it were a movie.

I was pleased to see the writing was relatively free from grammatical mistakes, and there were no major mechanics errors to distract me from the reading. I hate when books need a good editing despite being published. But that was not the case with this book.

If you are a fantasy fan, this is definitely well worth your time. Great book!

Kiki Lemons says

A wizard who lives as a farmer in the real world is put into a life of chaos. The book adds real elements as well of complex family dynamics. He is forced to choose between love, sacrifice, and failing at what he was sworn to do. The book was delightfully entertaining and right up my alley in the magic world. It was written artfully and kept my interest.

Candy Skalberg says

I was selected to read 'Murder in Wizard's Wood' by Michael J. Allen, which I found through a book review website. Honestly, I was surprised, in the best way. Michael J. Allen has an excellent sense of humor and an unquestionable talent for adventure fantasy. This book ran me through all of the emotions and that is something I enjoy most about reading. I went into this book expecting something more 'Forgotten Realms' but was instead greeted by a fantastic host of mystical characters in a modern day atmosphere. I don't typically read contemporary fantasy but I am glad I found this. The plot will keep you interested and revolves around this southern "peanut farmer" Jedediah Shine who is actually an exceptionally old Wizard in some serious trouble. Bouncing between the magical world and the 'real world', this book will bring you along Jedediah's tremendous journey through evil, magic, romance, humor, and more. Michael J. Allen went way beyond my expectation. With his ability to build suspense, I can't wait to read the next edition.

Renee Franklin says

I am actually still reading this book, but it's great so far. I am already hoping that this author will make a

series out of this book. The end is always bitter sweet because we never really know what happened to the characters.

Laurel Cordell says

I love the feel of this story. The modern setting is a great balance to the fantasy aspects. I felt an emotional connection to all of the characters and could feel myself in the settings. All of the different types of fey had individual cultures that were fun and interesting to discover. The emotions felt real as did the connections between the characters. I was given this book for free in exchange for my honest review. I cannot wait for the next book.

Darla Casteel says

Wow, just...wow! Brilliant read from a brilliant author. What better story than a 400+ year old wizard living in modern times dealing with modern issues but with the morality of an ancient world. Fairy tale characters with full, well thought out lives and personalities. Human emotions given to our favorite fantasy characters.

Normally I don't read fantasy but I thought I would give it a whirl since I love his other works. I am so glad I did. This story was engaging, emotional and smooth from beginning to end. As with his other books, the characters draw you right in and make you feel as though you are a spectator to the events unfolding. They make you feel emotions, getting angry at them and with them, crying with them and being happy with and for them.

Klucasspot says

This is a book written by author Michael J. Allen. The book fits in the category of a mystical suspense thriller. I would gauge the book as high school level of difficulty for reading. The book has some length to it at over 350 pages. It can be purchased as an ebook, hardcover, or paperback.

This book deals with mystical powers in modern time. The book has many different types of beasts from centaurs to dragons. From the cover of the book it is pretty easy to tell that the main part of this story takes place in a wooded area. Please be careful with only reading the back of the book this really does not do the story any justice. There is so much more that goes on in the book that it can not be put on the back cover.

When it comes to the writing skill of the author he seems to do a very good job. The book flows smoothly, keeps the reader busy, great character development, and a great imagination. I think it is a book for high school level readers and up. I think any younger than that would have a difficult time keeping pace.

If you are a reader that enjoys a mystical environment, creatures, and magic this a book I am sure you will enjoy. I know I enjoyed the book from cover to cover and I would like to thank Delirious Scribbles Ink for sending me this book to read and offer my opinion.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received a sample for free in the hope that I would mention it on my blog. Regardless, I only recommend products or services I tried personally and believe will be good for my readers. No other form of compensation was received. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255: "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Kristyn says

Currently still reading. I am really enjoying this fantasy world!

Nichole Kennedy says

Its an enticing read that will draw you in with every word and character. I read when my children are sleeping so i can uninterrupted and I caught myself reading chapter after chapter needing to read more as the plot rises. I love the characters and their mischevious tendencies as well as a good mystery to solve mixed with thrills. I will say however i did have to re read a few paragraphs at least twice to understand what was going on due to it sometimes jumping from one scene to another but overall its a great read that takes me into the mythical world of cenataurs and wizzards.

Dianne says

Looks like Michael J. Allen knows something about creating a fantasy that has all the elements one would expect and MORE! **MURDER IN WIZARD'S WOOD** is a fun and chaotic tale starring one 400+ year-old wizard accused of several murders and his uphill battle to prove his innocence. What, not unique enough for you? How about adding the fact that Jedediah is, to the normal CONTEMPORARY world, a good ole peanut farmer in the South? No knights in shining armor to be found anywhere, but you will find a dragonling who is hooked on Cherry Coke, his royal mother, and a host of sometimes quirky, sometimes evil, fantasy creatures freshened up with this author's own take.

Jedediah is being framed and the human world has no idea how he is, so how can he tell them? It seems bodies are dropping all around him, children are being kidnapped and this often snarky and crotchety farmer is suspect number one. But there is more to this wizard than meets the paranormal eye, besides his vast power. Under his wickedly powerful wizard façade is a soft-hearted guy willing to take a chance on the unwanted, the difficult and the inexperienced magic makers who cross his path. And, he does all this while straddling both the human and magical worlds, being a suspect with the police and trying to find the evil group bent on ending his long, long life. He may find he needs a little help from both his friends and enemies alike, because the secrets he is protecting is bigger than all of them...but its his job and somebody has to do it.

Enjoy this wild fantasy ride filled with humor, heart, mayhem and murder as one wizard straddles the line between normal humans and a myriad of magical creatures. Michael J. Allen has something for everyone from suspense lovers to romantics. And those of you allergic to peanuts? I think you're safe.

I received this copy from Michael J. Allen and it was a pleasure to read and review!

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For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Kelly says

I just finished reading this book, I received it in exchange for my honest review. One word really sums it up for me and that word is wow! I absolutely loved this book.

When you see the cover first thought that comes to mind is you will be reading a story about a wizard in the middle ages but quickly and surprisingly you learn the book takes place in modern times. The main character Jedediah Shine is a 400+ year old wizard living as a farmer. He has a half elf, half wizard daughter and a dragonling disguised as a bloodhound that lives with him as he teaches them magic. His farm is surrounded by woods that house other Fey he protects from humans even though some doubt they need such protection. A nefarious group wanting Jedediah out of the way shows up and begins a plot to frame him for murder while a particular group of Fey denying their need for Jedediah's protection begin to rebel.

I was at the edge of my seat for most of the book. It was hard to put it down for even a second. I can not wait to read the next book, I have to find out what happens next.
