



## In Milady's Chamber

*Sheri Cobb South*

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## **In Milady's Chamber** Sheri Cobb South

Estranged from her husband through her failure to produce an heir, Lady Fieldhurst resolves to repay his neglect by taking a lover. Fate takes a hand when she and her paramour enter her bedroom and find Lord Fieldhurst lying on the floor--with her nail scissors protruding from his neck.

Idealistic young Bow Street Runner John Pickett has spent most of his brief career chasing petty pickpockets. Nothing in his experience has prepared him for low dealings in high society--or for the beautiful widow who is the chief suspect.

The popular press sees the case as a classic lovers' triangle and expects a quick arrest, while back in Bow Street, the magistrate questions Pickett's handling of the case in the light of his unprofessional interest in Lady Fieldhurst. Under increasing pressure from without and within, Pickett must uncover the true murderer if he is to save an innocent woman from the gallows.

## **In Milady's Chamber** Details

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Author : Sheri Cobb South

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## **From Reader Review In Milady's Chamber for online ebook**

### **Nancy says**

Inspector Pickett is a young Bow Street runner (24) has been assigned to investigate the death of Lord Fieldhurst who has been found murdered in the bedroom of his lovely wife and he has been killed with her nail scissors. Pickett sets out to prove that Lady Fieldhurst did not murder her husband, even though things were not good between them and all the evidence is pointing in her direction. Pickett is also attracted to the lady in question which causes all sorts of issues.

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### **Sheryl says**

This was a very entertaining historical mystery. The characters have a lot of potential going forward and the mystery itself was quite solid. While I did figure out "whodunnit", I did not figure out the motive. While some reviewers state that it is a blend of mystery and romance, the focus is definitely on the mystery with a very minor side of romance, in my opinion. For most of the book it was more of a one-sided infatuation or crush. There was, however, a hint of possible romance in future books.

As far as the audiobook narration, I was not as enamored with the reader as many of the other reviewers were. I felt that his voice sounded way too old for a 24 year old main character. It threw me off a bit, making me think Pickett was much older than he was supposed to be. I eventually got used to it, but it wasn't ideal in my opinion. The reader did a very nice job using distinguishable voices between the different characters. I think his male voices were far better than his female ones (though that is often the case with male readers in general, I think). I'm not 100% sure I would listen to another in the series but I would read one in print. I suggest listening to the sample, if the voice doesn't sound too old for the character and you like it, consider giving the audio a try. Otherwise, I do recommend the book in print.

\*\*Please note that this audiobook was provided by the author, narrator or publisher at no cost in exchange for an unbiased review courtesy of AudiobookBoom dot com.

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### **Reader says**

-nice to feast on a well written, well edited book for a change.

John Pickett, a Bow Street Runner trying to solve a murder but fell in love instead with the prime suspect. How the poor sod try to prove her innocent- up to the nth hour to the gallows. Very engaging.

In Milady's Chamber is book 1 but Pickpocket's Apprentice, the prequel is a good place to start John's story.

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### **Misti says**

You know that feeling when you come across a book on Goodreads and you wonder how you've never heard of it before, so you go to Amazon to get a copy and Amazon tells you that you purchased the book 2 years ago? Yeah, that happens more than I care to admit.

This didn't get good until about 60% but I did like John. He's the awkward, nerdy (did the Regency era have nerds?) guy that I just love to see come out on top. I'd like to read the next book in the series. I just hope I don't buy it and forget about it this time.

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### **Kathleen Schilling says**

Having read several reviews of the latest installments of this series, it got me intrigued enough to pick up book 1. I found it very enjoyable, the characters are a bit different than your typical mystery. While, John is a Bow Street Runner, he still has some naiveté that I find a bit refreshing. Julia is a bit more jaded. I am interested in seeing how they grow together. I am looking forward to book 2.

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### **Caz says**

#### **I've given this a B for narration and a B- for content at AudioGals, so that's nearer to 4 stars than 3.**

Sheri Cobb South's *The Weaver Takes a Wife* is one of my favourite traditional Regencies, and while I know it's available in audio, I didn't like the narrator based on the sample available at Audible, so chose not to listen further. But when the first of the author's John Pickett Mysteries, **In Milady's Chamber** (using a different narrator) came up for review, I decided to give it a go; I enjoy historical mysteries, and have heard good things about this series.

John Pickett made his first appearance in the novella, *Pickpocket's Apprentice*, which told the story of how fourteen-year-old John was taken under the wing of magistrate Patrick Colquhoun and, five years later, became involved in a criminal investigation that brought him to the attention of Bow Street. Now twenty-four, John is the youngest runner on the Bow Street force, and spends his days dealing mostly with petty crimes. But an accident which sees him in the right place at the right time catapults him into a murder investigation and into the rarefied world of the ton, a world outside his experience and which he is ill-equipped to deal with.

You can read the rest of this review at [AudioGals](#).

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### **Sally says**

I'm going to consolidate (repeat myself) reviews of this series, numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 4.5 and 5 because I had to get through all of those to resolve the romantic story begun in the the first book. I supposed most women like a touch of romance and these have it, albeit full of angst that is drawn out over a time period of about 10 months. I got impatient with the progress of the romance taking so long. I would characterize these stories as Romance with only a touch of Mystery rather than the other way around. At least there were mysteries to be solved by the Bow Street Runner, John Pickett and he was good enough to figure it out. I figured them out pretty easily myself.

I very much liked John Pickett. In my mind I pictured Colin Firth (as seen in Pride and Prejudice, except with longer hair). I could not quite get a visual image of the Lady Fieldhurst in my mind. I felt a little jolted every time it referred to her as a golden-haired blonde, so I suppose I thought she ought to be a dark-haired beauty.

The audiobook narrator, Joel Froomkin was pretty amazing. You'd swear it was another reader doing the female voices, as they sounded so naturally female. I did have a little problem, as a listener, with the heavy Scottish accents he used in Book 3, Family Plot, but felt that he probably did those fairly true to dialect and my ear was just not tuned in for the accents. (I was a bit curious to know if the print version had the dialect written out or if Mr. Froomkin just knew how to do them.)

There is a Book 6, but I might be satisfied to imagine that the romantic couple will live happily every after.

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### **Jo says**

The main characters were pretty interesting especially Pickett. The mystery was underwhelming. I liked that there were red herrings but those didn't lead anywhere with the obvious choice being the culprit all along. It was also frustrating that the other characters didn't suspect the guilty party at all even though there could have been no better choice. The secondary characters were also more like caricatures.

I am definitely going to read the next book but only because I'm interested in the romance, not because the sleuthing was any good.

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### **Susan says**

It's 1800s and Bow Street Runner, John Pickett is called in when a body is discovered at the home of Viscount Fieldhurst, by Lady Fieldhurst and her soon to be lover Lord Rupert Latham. It seems that there are plenty of suspects for Pickett to clear or not.

A good start to the series, I look forward to see how the characters develop.

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### **Linda says**

Great beginning for the John Pickett mysteries.

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### **Pamela Shropshire says**

Ooh, a fun, new historical detective series!!! In this installment, the newbie Bow Street Runner, John Pickett gets called to investigate a murder in Mayfair, in one of the big houses on Berkeley Square. Viscount Fieldhurst has been murdered with his wife's nail scissors. Of course, Lady Fieldhurst is the most likely suspect, but Pickett is convinced she is innocent. Mr. Colquhoun, the magistrate, thinks Pickett's belief in her innocence is a result of his obvious infatuation, but he allows Pickett to continue to investigate.

It's a pretty straightforward plot, with some interesting side plots, and a satisfying denouement. If you love Anne Perry's Victorian mysteries, you'll enjoy this slightly lighter in tone Regency series.

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### **Meg says**

3.5/5 Total guilty pleasure book. I can't seem to stop reading this series ;)

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### **Debra J. Haggard says**

**The Pickpocket's Apprentice was a great read. At first I had a problem getting into the flow of the book. it was awkward. It was very interesting. And a murder right away! But maybe it was all the new characters developments. Because then it started to go quite quickly. I was hooked and enjoyed it immensely!**

I look forward to the next book. I'm going to buy it right now! I am hooked! Go buy it!

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### **Joan says**

"In Milady's Chamber" is the first book in the John Pickett Mysteries. Now it's ten years after "Pickpocket's Apprentice" and the protagonist is now a 24 year old Bow Street runner and he has been called to a crime scene of Lady Julia Fieldhurst's home and is thrust into a major murder investigation. John is immediately smitten with the beautiful Lady Julia, whose husband has been found murdered in her bedroom and Julia is standing over the body with her would-be lover. John is very young as an investigator but he is intelligent and astute, he is determined to turn over every clue to clear lady Julia from being charged, tried, and hanged for her husband's murder. The pressure is on for him to arrest Julia and wrap up the case.

I adored John Pickett, he is sweet, charming, and unassuming but has great instincts needed for investigative work. Lady Julia Fieldhurst is very likeable and the Regency setting feels real and accurate. I do wonder how two people from very different social classes will be able to bridge such a gaping divide. If any author can make this work, I have faith that Cobb South can work some magic in a realistic way.

This book is a well-written and entertaining historical mystery. It has the right balance of mystery, humor, and intrigue, with the romance being minuscule, the attraction was purely one-sided and from John's perspective. The author does a fantastic job of keeping to historical accuracy in plot and character development. I look forward to reading more in this wonderful series.

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### **Louisa says**

Review of a later book in this series on the Dear Author website was enticing, and I do like a good Regency mystery with a London setting so picked up the first book. I'm slow to notice clues so didn't guess the

murderer. John Pickett, a young Bow Street Runner, who hopes to prove Lady Fieldhurst innocent of her husband's murder, is a smart, sympathetic character, and Lady Fieldhurst is a good crime-solving partner. 3.5 stars.

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### **Kathy Randol says**

#### **Amazing!!! A Must Read!!**

I truly enjoyed reading this wonderful book. Full of history, remarkable characters. Twist and turns everywhere.

Now I'm going to spend the rest of my evening reading book two

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### **FangirlNation says**

John Pickett, at 24 the youngest detective in the Bow Street Runners, gets called to a murder in In Milady's Chamber by Sheri Cobb South. But it is not just any murder, but the murder of Viscount Fieldhurst. He was discovered by his wife, Lady Julia Fieldhurst, and the man she was considering giving into, since her husband turned to other women when his wife has failed to give him an heir. The viscount lay in front of the door from the inside of his wife's bedroom and was stabbed to death with Lady Fieldhurst's nail scissors. She looks very guilty to all but Mr. Pickett, who is deeply taken with the woman. He determines to prove the innocence of Lady Fieldhurst, but it will probably require him to find the real culprit to keep her out of Newgate Prison and possible hanging.

Read the rest of this review and other fun, geeky articles at Fangirl Nation

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### **Tory says**

Fun historical mystery starring sleuth John Pickett, a young Bow Street Runner. I liked the interaction between John and the murdered viscount's widow (and a possible suspect), Lady Fielding, who is close to John in age, but way above him in station. The writing is beautifully period.

This series reminded me of Bruce Alexander's Blind Justice series, which is set in an earlier era (Regency) with John Fielding and a young apprentice investigator as the principals.

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### **Kiesha ~ 1Cheekylass says**

Story is 3.5 - 4'ish. Narration is 5.

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### **CatBookMom says**

I liked this more than *A Dead Bore*, which I had picked up out of order. Pickett is a more-likeable character in this, and I do believe I might have liked *\*Bore\** better if I'd read this first. Worth reading, if you've run out of Georgette Heyer....

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