



Buried Diamonds

April Henry

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Claire Montrose discovers an engagement ring that has gone missing for 50 years. Did the young woman who owned it really commit suicide? One of Claire's elderly neighbors harbors an old secret - and will kill to keep it hidden. Past and present grow more entangled when neo-Nazis target Claire's Jewish roommate. Henry's trademark mix of quirky characters, humor, and vanity license plates also explores the persistent shadows of the past.

Buried Diamonds Details

Date :

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Author : April Henry

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From Reader Review Buried Diamonds for online ebook

Judy Goodnight says

Read for a library winter reading challenge

Jan says

This was a quick read that kept my interest through most of the book. The setting is Portland, Oregon, a city I live close to and know well. I always enjoy reading books set in a real location that's familiar, as I can picture all the places mentioned very clearly in my mind.

So, like I said, I enjoyed most of the book. There was a puzzling mystery to be solved dealing with a group of friends, as the story moved back and forth between events that took place in 1952 and present day. The mystery is solved and the killer found in the final pages, but with some very obvious details missing. It's great that I found out who did what and why, but if you don't give me any explanation as to how they actually pulled it off, because believe me this one is rather far-fetched, then the ending and most of the story leading up to it just falls flat.

Carol Snow says

Didn't care for all the dead animals at the first. The sex. But stopped reading with the "f" word on p. 21.

Debbie says

"Buried Diamonds" is a mystery with a historical element since there were flashbacks to events that occurred in 1952 and 1944. While the mystery was interesting and the solution not obvious, the clues weren't as subtle as they could have been. However, it felt realistic that Claire and the others didn't figure it out sooner. Like real people, the guilty person let slip things they shouldn't have yet Claire and the other characters "heard" what they assumed was meant rather than what was actually said.

The characters were varied and sometimes quirky. The suspense was created by tension in personal relationships and from physical danger. The setting details did a good job of bringing the story alive in my imagination.

There was a very minor amount of bad language. It was implied that most of the characters were having unmarried sex, but there were no sex scenes. Overall, it was an interesting mystery.

Kae Cheatham says

Interesting story line. Written in third person, which I prefer. It almost seemed too complex a plot, but it was well developed.

PLOT: Protagonist Claire Montrose finds a ring in the mortar of an old wall. Her 80-year-old housemate knows to whom the ring belonged. They work together to determine how the ring got in the wall, and to prove that the original owner had been killed — fifty years earlier. This puts them both in jeopardy from the eccentric murderer.

A lot of back story which give an interesting picture of 1950s Portland. Characters were well drawn.

Dale Harcombe says

It took me a little bit to get into this book but once I did I enjoyed it. Not gripping but enjoyable.

While out jogging Clair Montrose finds a diamond ring in the crevice of a fifty year old stone wall. Her elderly housemate Charlie is astounded when she shows her the ring as it had belonged to Elizabeth a friend of hers from the past and who was engaged to the man still living in the house behind the stone wall. Claire senses there is more to the story than a woman who committed suicide and a ring that everyone thought she had given back at the end of the engagement. Between Claire and Charlie they seek to uncover the truth.

Action switches between the past and the present and provides insight into conditions and hardships for Charlie in a concentration camp.

For those who like puzzles there are individual license plate headings to some chapters. Some were easier than others to figure out. But if you're interested there's a list at the back of the book so you can see how well you did.

Francie Shoemaker says

Having lived in Portland, I found myself preoccupied with trying to figure out exactly where this wall was so I could go find some diamonds.

Christine says

Buried Diamonds is full of unexpected twists and surprises. It makes for a good afternoon's reading.

Karen says

My least favorite of this series, but a cute little cozy. Too much of "kind of" history aspect and not as much history as I like.

Moon says

Keyanna Taylor says

Buried Diamond written by April Henry, was a very enjoyable mystery/historical novel. The plot surrounds a woman named Clair Montrose who encounters a 50 year old diamond ring within a old stone wall of a house one day while out jogging. She shows the ring to her elderly housemate Charlie who recognizes the ring as belonging to an old friend Elizabeth, a woman who broke off her engagement and committed suicide many decades ago. It was believed that Elizabeth returned the ring after she broke off the engagement but, Clair suspects there is more to the story and is determined to uncover the truth behind the ring in the stone wall. More and more of secrets from Elizabeth's life begin to resurface and Clair soon learns of more people who would want Elizabeth dead, Clair soon realizes that someone out there believes that old murders must stay hidden... at all cost. I enjoyed this novel for many reasons, one being that although it does not encompass seat gripping suspense it still grabs your attention and is mystery packed. It was also very interesting because the author adds flashbacks allowing for the setting to shift from present day to the past such as the early 1950s making the novel slightly historical. The amount of physical detail and the nice pace of action made the novel feel very realistic and believable. I would recommend this novel to those who enjoy a great mystery you will surely not be disappointed.

Alex says

I love this series! I really wish there were more books, I'm not ready to say goodbye to Claire and Charlie yet.

This particular book included flashbacks to Charlie in the concentration camp and they were horrific. Kudos to the author for including them, because they really fleshed out Charlie's character.

I really like that I don't solve the mysteries in these books right away. I had figured out part of who was doing the beatings, but had not figured out the Elizabeth mystery quite yet. I usually solve mysteries in books before the end, and it's nice to not do so with these.

I feel like the ending was very open-ended, and I really, really wish there was another book.
