



Sins of the Fathers

Patricia Sprinkle

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Always ready to help a friend, Katharine Murray has made her way to Bayard Island off the coast of Georgia with Dr. Flo Gadney, to attend to an unsavory errand. Burch Bayard, local patriarch and greedy landowner, has a nefarious plan to build McMansions up and down the island--and over graves that may belong to Dr. Flo's ancestors!

The friends set to work to make sure that Dr. Flo's family tree has its roots in the old cemetery, a task made very difficult by the lack of Southern hospitality from the island's inhabitants. One old woman even tries to shoot them! But when that woman later turns up dead, Katharine and Flo realize there's more than bodies buried on that land. And if they keep unearthing the island's secrets, they might be digging their own graves.

Sins of the Fathers Details

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Author : Patricia Sprinkle

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From Reader Review Sins of the Fathers for online ebook

Liz Thomas says

I enjoy suspense and mysteries and her book gave me both of them.

Nikki says

I'm not sure Katherine Murray, heroine of Patricia Sprinkle's Family Tree mystery series, will ever get around to researching her own family, since she keeps getting caught up in other people's searches. This time out, it's Dr. Flo Gadney, retired Spelman professor, who asks her help in finding out whether some graves on a Georgia sea island belong to her ancestors. An amazing find of the type every genealogist longs for leads to murder and tragedy. Well-drawn characters and a thrilling plot make this a worthy second entry in the series. I especially enjoyed the setting.

Kari Gulbrandsen says

Could not deal with the relationship of the main character -- her husband was a controlling b*stard, and the old married boyfriend who kept coming around? Really?

Suzi says

This is the second in a new mystery series. I liked this one better than the first. Looking forward to a new one when it's available.

Leslie says

I liked this story; it was very interesting, but there was a major problem with, what I suspect, was OCR. This book was not proofread by a human; otherwise we would not read Dr. Flo also represented as Dr. Ro and Dr. Ho multiple times. Other errors, like pointing with a "linger" instead of "finger," distracted as well. The main character, Katherine, struggles to repair her life and home after two very destructive break-ins (in the previous book). Her fears are extremely well described and make the reader feel vulnerable.

The historical and genealogical matter were largely lost by the struggle over island land being left natural or developed into a mass of "stucco and Yankees." The other large issue was the Bayard denial of any black people in their family tree. The climax of the story seemed a bit jumbled and I'm not sure motive was provided, but the danger was very prevalent.

Linda says

This is book #2 of a 3 book series called Family Tree Mysteries. I've read books #1 and #3 and have been looking for this book for a good while. I'm really into genealogy, love history, and mysteries are my favorite genre so- I highly recommend this series! Katherine Murray has a beautiful home but a rather empty life since her husband is always working in Washington DC and her grown children have left home. In this book she agrees to travel to an island off the Georgia coast to help an old friend search for some graves that may belong to her ancestors. The owner of the island wants to have the graves moved so that he can build up the island with posh vacation homes and the law says that he has to contact relatives for permission to move the graves. Once there Dr. Flo and Katherine run into hostility, to say the least. Dr. Flo is sure that the man buried in one of the graves is her grandfather but the owner of the island refuses to believe that anybody except a white person could have been buried on his island. Searching for the truth puts the women in grave danger from a sniper. The only woman living on the island who was cordial to them ends up shot to death. What the women discover is that secrets may be buried, even for more than a century, but eventually they surface. The title of the book is appropriate.

Avid Series Reader says

Sins of the Fathers by Patricia Sprinkle is the second book of the Family Tree Mystery series set in the contemporary South. Katharine Murray is bored and depressed with the task of refurnishing her house after cruel vandals destroyed her possessions (details in book 1). As usual, her husband is away on business. She's happy to get away from the house for a few days to help a friend. Dr. Flo Gadney may have ancestors buried on an island off the coast of Georgia. She's been contacted for permission to move the graves, so a developer can build upscale vacation homes. Katharine and Dr. Flo immediately find that a hostile family dominates the island, determined to keep old secrets from being revealed. The nasty, closed-minded patriarch will stop at nothing to get his way. To discover what really happened a century ago on Bayard Island, Katharine and Dr. Flo must survive continued attacks to continue their research. The story is an entertaining combination of genealogy and mystery.

Kim Ashford says

A book that is a mystery and contains a splattering of genealogy sleuthing? It is a winning combination for me. I enjoy her books.

Nancy McLaughlin says

Screaming wake up

All anyone talked about was how much danger they were in & yet, were any of their decisions based on that . the answer is no & there lies the frustration of this book. Great premise, fascinating history yet... scratching my head at actions taken by supposedly smart women.

Kathy Rippel says

I enjoyed the genealogical aspect of this book; I had most of the "mystery" of the family relationships figured out, but had to keep reading to see if I was right or not! There were times I was thinking, "but you need to check these sources!," etc.

All in all, an enjoyable cozy. I did think the very end was weak compared to the rest of the book.

Jane Irish Nelson says

[
My only quibble is that when they s

Sandra Strange says

Yay! A series of mystery that's clean, with good plots, enjoyable and affectionate satire of families and Southern aristocratic society, and with genealogy complications that teach Southern history and culture in a very enjoyable way. I really enjoyed these puzzles and the admirable and unwilling "sleuth."

Mel says

This book was so much better than book one. The mystery was laid out better and the background stories weren't as distracting.

I still found that I wasn't crazy about the main character, Katharine. I really don't want to see every 10 pages thoughts about how she doesn't think her husband loves her. I far prefer Dr. Flo, Posey, and Hollis. In fact, I wouldn't mind Dr. Flo being the main character of this series.

And, this book was very much Dr. Flo's. She learns that a couple of plots in a cemetery on someone's land might belong to her family. The book is about uncovering who the names on the tombstone are and how several people don't want her to find out at all.

I thought this one was suspenseful and interesting. There was much more genealogy research in this book than the first one in the series. I liked that! I enjoyed the family history part but I also enjoyed trying to figure out the culprits. I'm really looking forward to book three in the series.

Babs says

In this one Kathryn helps Dr Flo find out about her past and they run into some interesting characters yet.

This was a fun read.

Brenna says

This was a read that I really enjoyed. Part genealogy, part mystery, Dr. Flo finds what she thinks is her great grandfather's grave. She soon gets to know the family that owns the land, and a few other characters. Patricia Sprinkle's writing of her characters as well as her description of the small town keeps the flow going well with a few surprises for the characters interwoven into the story. I found myself becoming fond of several of the characters. Those I did not like were characters that were not meant to be liked. Sprinkle's description of the land surrounding the grave made me appreciate the importance of what land meant to people in the 1800s and early 1900s. Her writing gave personality to the area.
