



## Santa Claus, Lies, and Murder

*Sibel Hodge*

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Santa has gone missing and the fate of Christmas is in Amber Fox's hands...

When the bones of St Nicholas, the original Santa Claus, are stolen from a special exhibit at the Natural History Museum on Christmas Eve, insurance investigator Amber Fox is hot on the thieves' trail.

Jinxed spells, freaky insects, and a sack full of secrets take Amber on a bumpy sleigh ride. But can she restore the relics back to their natural resting place and preserve the true spirit of the Yuletide Holly Days? Or is Santa lost forever?

\*\*Santa Claus, Lies, and Murder is a novella, or short novel length mini mystery, approx 100 pages\*\*

## **Santa Claus, Lies, and Murder Details**

Date : Published August 5th 2014 by Wonder Women Publishing Limited (first published July 28th 2014)

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Author : Sibel Hodge

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Genre : Mystery, Holiday, Christmas, Cozy Mystery

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## **From Reader Review Santa Claus, Lies, and Murder for online ebook**

### **Mjuneb says**

#### **Who stole St. Nick?**

A museum break in just before Christmas and St. Nick's bones have been stolen along with all the touring memorabilia. The curator didn't consult with his insurance company about security. Now, working for free can they save Christmas for the kids? Great story and quirky characters. Not the normal museum heist!

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### **Mina says**

Sibel Hodge has another winner, The Amber Fox Mysteries series ROCKS!

Amber and Brad are on the Saint Nicholas detail in this book after his bones are stolen.

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### **Dianne says**

What could be more fun than an Amber Fox Christmas Mystery? In this novella, the bones of Saint Christopher along with several other artifacts are stolen from Natural History Museum. Even though Brad's insurance company is off the hook on paying for the loss, he feels it is their duty to save Santa Clause and return him to the exhibit. Will Foxy and Brad find and return Saint Christopher in time for Christmas? This series continues to be fresh, fun as well as funny and a bit sarcastic (which is what I love). Who doesn't love a character that loves to eat junk food and is madly in love with her hunky fiancé? This story is well written and draws you right in from the beginning – it is very hard to put it down, but given that it is a novella, you don't have to!

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### **Joanne says**

I was really pleased when I saw that Sibel Hodge had written another Amber Fox mystery. Although 'Santa Claus, Lies and Murder' is short it is full of the usual fun, mystery and entertainment, and the regular characters appear in their full colour. Even though this is part of an ongoing series it can be read alone and still be very enjoyable.

I highly recommend this novella as well as the complete series.

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## **Tom Elder says**

Sibel Hodge. Amber Fox 4.5

Santa Claus, Lies and Murder.

This is a short story in the brilliant Amber Fox series, in which you'll find both captivating and hilarious. Amber who is an investigator for the hi-tec insurance company gets a case involving the theft of St Nicholas's bones from a local museum. Where do they start to look, and when an employee winds up being murdered things begin to fall into place. The in house banter between Amber, Brad, Tia and Hacker is brilliant, it makes this book so easy to read.

5 stars.

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## **Debkerri says**

Loved it! Amanda, Brad, and family do it again. I actually learned some things about St. Nicholas that I didn't know, that made it doubly interesting. Thank you, Ms Hodge for writing such engrossing books. I refuse to start one, unless I can read it uninterrupted! I literally can't put them down!

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## **Sarah says**

Santa Claus, Lies, and Murder is a short novella featuring Amber Fox from the Amber Fox Murder Mystery series. I wouldn't say it is essential to have read the rest of the series before reading this, personally for me, I would have liked a little bit more background so that I could have really connected with the main character as I felt like I wanted to get to know her better.

You get a real sense of Christmas with the story due to not only being set at the festive time of year, but because Amber needs to resolve the theft of the bones of the man himself, St Nicholas.

I enjoyed my first introduction of Amber. Things are certainly never boring where she is concerned. Through her work, the reader is taken on a light hearted and enjoyable journey of a real good old 'who dunnit' story.

This is the ideal book for readers of stories that are full of mystery and suspense and that are not to taxing on the brain. It doesn't take long to read and great for when you are in the mood for something that bit quicker. Certainly made me want to go back and read the rest and see what I have missed out on. For a novella, the author certainly doesn't scrim on the action and fun.

Highly entertaining!

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## **Joo says**

Amber Fox is back and I'm happy to read a new story, even if it is just a shorter filler.

It is Christmas Eve and St Nicholas' bones have been stolen from a small local museum.

Having read and enjoyed the first four Amber stories, I immediately felt at home in the story. In saying that,

I'm sure it works fine as a stand-alone, with just a few references to back story.

As this is a chick-lit mystery, you know how things will pan out, but it's all about the journey and this was an interesting, fun whodunnit.

Sibel Hodge has branched out into other genres recently, but I like this genre by her the best.

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### **Ping Naka says**

I almost didn't finish this book because I get very annoyed with Amber phobia.  
It's being mentioned not once, not twice but so many times.  
Funny chasing scenes makes me laugh!

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### **C4ROL says**

Love this short story so funny i have read this author before i love the Amber Fox mysteries books

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### **Robin Matheny says**

This is a quick and easy read. I had not heard of this series before I came across Santa Claus, Lies and Murder. Even though it was a part of a series, it stood pretty well on its own. That being said, it did leave me wanting to know more about the people. That's no fault of the author though, since it was my choice to read it out of order. All in all a fun and cozy short read that would be great for a plane or train trip.

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### **Cheryl Merrell says**

#### **Good**

Not a bad book. A basic Christmas type tale. I think more intrigue could have been written into the book.

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### **Fiona Dyas says**

A perfect Christmas novella to fit in between shopping and parties!  
Around Christmas time when time is precious I enjoy having festive short stories to read between fitting in all those other things we have going on! This is perfect!  
I have read all the other Amber Fox stories and enjoyed them immensely, so was thrilled when this came out. Amber is investigating the theft of the bones of St Nicolas, the original Santa, from an exhibition in a local museum. She just can't let Christmas come around without Santa! As usual there are loads of thrills and spills, and plenty of saucy action too, all coming together for a fantastic, fun, festive read!

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## Anne says

I thought I had read some of the books in the series when I started reading Santa Claus..., but I quickly realized I hadn't met Amber, Brad and their quirky sidekicks Hacker and Tia. The story stands well alone though.

The bones of St. Nick are stolen from a local museum and the story is about Amber and Brad working to get them back in the spirit of Christmas because although Brad's company insured the bones, the museum didn't meet the policy's requirements so Brad didn't have to pay out.

I could not believe Santa Claus was only 63-100 pages (depending where you read the description), we learned about the series' characters and some back background on all the suspects and the bones. We also learn about the real story on St. Nick plus we followed Amber on her investigation. To cap it off I learned about a new (gross) sexual fetish. (While there's some mention of sexual situations, none is described on the page.)

The writing was fast paced and enjoyable. The only quibble I have was the story ended a little too fast after the bones were found. 4 1/2 stars.

I've put the rest of the series on my wishlist because I really want to read about Amber getting cursed with voodoo and almost strangled with a bra.

I received a copy from the author in exchange for my honest review.

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## Joseph - Relax And Read Reviews says

Brilliant author Sibel Hodge, has very kindly sent me an advanced review copy of this book, the latest in her fantastic Amber Fox Mysteries series. I hadn't read any of the books in this series before, but now that I have, I am really glad to have started it as it is absolutely great, well written and entertaining.

It's Christmas time and someone has stolen a priceless, irreplaceable collection from the Natural History Museum in Hertford. This collection does not consist of animal or insect exhibits, but of antique icons, statues and the actual bones of St.Nicholas, the original Santa Claus.

Amber Fox, an Insurance Investigator from Hi-Tec Insurance, is sent by her boss (and lover) Brad to the museum to investigate this burglary and interrogate the employees.

Because of St.Nicholas's close ties with Christmas, Amber is desperate to find these bones and return them for everyone to enjoy as soon as possible, but she soon finds out that it's not gonna be easy; all employees at the museum seem odd and all seem to have something to hide.

To complicate things further, murder is soon added to the mystery's recipe. Who is the killer? Who stole the saint's bones? Where are they? Will Amber make it on time to find the key to unlock this mystery and bring back the priceless collection in time for Christmas? Or is Santa lost forever?

Living in a village whose patron saint is St.Nicholas, and having named a son after the saint, I really had an extra great time reading this book. I found myself chuckling and laughing-out-loud all the way, and the mystery kept me guessing till the end. The author in fact does a brilliant job in balancing humour with mystery throughout. Ms.Hodge also manages to give us a brief insight into the life of and the cult surrounding this great saint, who with time, folklore has morphed into the famous Santa Claus.

Filled with a bunch of very likeable and believable characters, this book is great and will keep any mystery lover entertained from start to finish. I highly recommend it and will surely read all the other books in the series.

Ms.Hodge Well Done!!

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