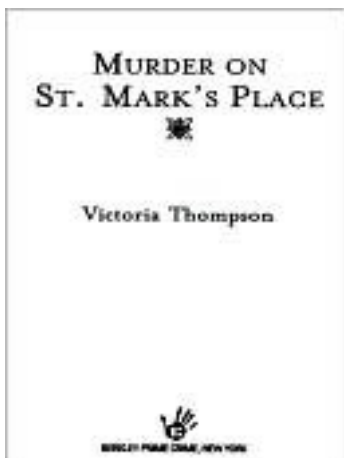

Victoria Thompson

Murder on St. Mark's Place (Gaslight Mystery #2)



Title: Murder on St. Mark's Place (Gaslight Mystery #2)

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Description

As a midwife in the turn-of-the-century tenements of New York City, Sarah Brandt has seen suffering and joy, birth and death-and even murder. And the crime ridden streets of the teeming city offer little relief from either. — Thinking she has been summoned by German immigrant Agnes Otto to usher a new life into the world, Sarah Brandt is greeted by the news of an untimely death instead. It seems that Agnes's beautiful younger sister, Gerda, had fallen into the life of a "Charity Girl." Caught up in the false glamour of the city's nightlife, she would trade her company - and her favors - not for money, but for lavish gifts and an evenings' entertainment. And now she was dead; victim, no doubt, of one of her "gentlemen friends."

No one cares much about the fate of girls like Gerda, but Sarah does. And she vows to find her killer. To do so, she turns to Sergeant Frank Malloy. As the two pursue an investigation that leads from the bright lights of Coney Island to the stately homes of Fifth Avenue, they find that their shared passion for justice may cost them dearly...

Insightful reviews

BJ Rose: I'm really enjoying this series about life in turn-of-the-century New York. We mainly see it through the eyes of Sarah Brandt, a widowed midwife, so we see a lot of the woes and worries and often sad lives of the non-privileged. Even though Sarah grew up as one of the Knickerbockers, she left that life when she decided to marry someone of whom her parents didn't approve. I'm warming up more to Sgt Frank Malloy as we learn more about his sad history, and see him finally realizing he can have a relationship with his young son. The mystery unfolded more easily for the reader than for Sarah and Frank, although admittedly they did all the work and I just reaped the benefits!

Terry Southard: 2nd in Victoria Thompson's Gaslight Mystery series - Sarah Brandt and Frank Malloy.

Who is killing the "charity girls"? The girls who are poor and give their favors away not for money (because that would make them prostitutes) but for pretty things - beads, hats, shoes, etc.

Coney Island figures into the story and it's a fascinating look at a different place. Thompson faces squarely up to the problems of the times - especially those affecting women.

I really like Sarah's mother. Constrained by the rules of society, she is managing to be a real help to Sarah in her quest to find justice for the downtrodden.

Linda: This is a story you want to have on hand when you finish the first book in the Gaslight Mystery series, MURDER ON ASTOR PLACE. Sarah Brandt and Frank Malloy have returned to the seamy side of late nineteenth century New York City with all its grime, decay and corruption. This time around Sarah was in search of the killer of the sister of one her patients whom frequented dance halls.

She headed underground where, in the dark of night, drinks flourished and gifts were given to working girls. It was a stifling time for women; it was definitely a man's world. Only this time, a sinister evil in the disguise of a beau, was cruising for his victims.

While reading the story, I warmed up to Sarah's superstitious and elderly neighbor, Mrs. Elsworth, that I first 'met' in MURDER ON ASTOR'S PLACE. Like Frank's aging mother, she thought Sarah and Malloy were attracted to each other. At this point, nothing could be further from the truth but *the two opposing characters needed each other*. I smiled every time I read one of the older woman's puzzling thoughts.

"I guess I should've expected Mr. Malloy. I broke a needle today, you know. And yesterday I saw three crows together."

Frank was called upon when Sarah realized she was going to need one of 'New York's Finest'. *He was the only one she trusted*. Still uncertain about their unusual friendship, their interest of each other's past life built slowly. Frank's wife had died from complications brought on by a midwife. And Sarah had lost her physician-husband by murder and whose case was now a cold file. And then there was Frank's three-year-old son with all of his problems.

Like in the first book, we witnessed Sarah's trust in her fellow man. She was still having issues with her naivety. She wanted to believe everyone had some semblance of goodness no matter how small. Unlike Malloy, who had no problem seeing good and bad. Well, plenty of bad but then he had committed himself to a career in law enforcement.

I think this series is addictive. I enjoyed when the two lead characters were working together but I had no problem with their individual searches. There were enough twists and turns with a gothic-like background to have me scrambling to find MURDER ON GRAMERCY PARK. And I am certainly learning enough about NYC at the turn of the century! It makes me happy I didn't live back then.

4.5 STARS

Sarah: This sequence is speedy changing into my new obsession and ebook 2 was once even greater than the first! It had an exceptional secret and whereas I knew who did it, i feel that was once extra on goal since it then grew to become concerning the chase to trap the guy. the purpose was once to teach that whereas we knew who it was.. we needed to watch to work out if Sarah may determine it out and the way her detective talents are coming along. I rolled my eyes a pair instances at how dense she was once being yet again, she isn't really a qualified and remains to be studying much at this stage. She is sure to make mistakes. i am convinced she is going to in simple terms develop and recuperate because the sequence continues. Now directly to her dating with Frank... this is often without doubt my favourite a part of those books! it's so plausible and that i do not feel whatever is being rushed or drug out. Their friendship is blooming precisely because it may still and could in this time period. Yes, they're an not likely pair yet that simply makes it even higher and that i cannot wait to continue! Seeing Frank ultimately melt towards his son used to be so touching and it simply exhibits what a very good

impression Sarah is even at this early stage. A+ good done!

Debbie Maskus: Thompson writes of recent York within the 1890's with a midwife, Sarah Brandt, because the major personality of this secret series, Gaslight Mystery. Thompson exhibits the plight of young, single immigrants ladies who wish greater than the not easy lifetime of a married woman. those single pleasure-seeking girls are referred to as Charity women when you consider that they provide sexual favors for trinkets rather than money. Sarah Brandt jumps into the research of the homicide of 4 of those women while she learns the police won't pursue the murders. Thompson exposes the nation of the police division in big apple and tricks on the reform begun through Teddy Roosevelt. Thompson additionally issues out the diversities among the bad and the rich, and the beginning of the time period Knickerbockers. Thompson describes the pleasures and attractions on the newly opened Coney Island, in addition to offering a standpoint of the cost of pleasure. Sarah Brandt, a widow, is a strong-minded, self sufficient lady at a time in background while girls married or lived with parents. i'm hoping to learn extra of this series.

Casey: A nice, fast learn that used to be predictable yet nonetheless held my attention. i will not wait to determine what Sarah and Malloy are as much as next.

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