



## Miss Silver Comes to Stay

*Patricia Wentworth*

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When James Lessiter returns to Lenton after many years to claim his family estate, his reappearance opens old wounds never healed. Then he is found bludgeoned to death by a fire poker and the suspects are too numerous to count. Thank heavens Miss Silver is in town to visit a friend.

## Miss Silver Comes to Stay Details

Date : Published June 1st 1996 by HarperPrism (first published 1949)

ISBN : 9780061044045

Author : Patricia Wentworth

Format : Mass Market Paperback 288 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Cozy Mystery, Crime, European Literature, British Literature

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## From Reader Review Miss Silver Comes to Stay for online ebook

### Andrea says

This has a good character set-up, though the resolution of the murder simply involves someone listening in on a conversation that makes clear the murderer.

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### Sally says

I've now read 19 of the 32 Miss Silver mysteries. This is the 16th in the series. They are all pleasant cozy reads, with different plots and new personalities for Miss Silver to observe and analyze, but other than giving a synopsis of the plot, it is hard to give a meaningful review of each one. It does seem that each one has at least one really disagreeable character that either becomes the victim of murder or turns out to be the perpetrator, and in a way that makes them satisfying. Patricia Wentworth really knew how to make you dislike certain characters. It also seems that more often than not, blackmail is involved and more central to the crime than the other big motivators of greed and hatred. I particularly enjoy how the relationship between Maud Silver and the Scotland Yard man, Frank Abbot continues to develop.

Recently I viewed new presentations of a couple of Miss Marple stories on PBS Masterpiece Mystery and do think there are some similarities between Miss Marple and Miss Silver. It has been many years since I read the Agatha Christie mysteries, but I am finding that I really like Miss Silver, as a personality, better, and I think she is much more clever and subtle and not so doddering. I wonder why PBS has not done these mysteries, and if they did, who would they get to play Miss Maud Silver.

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### Judy Lesley says

The Patricia Wentworth series featuring that wonder of private investigation, Miss Maud Silver, can always be counted on to deliver a relaxing, comfortable reading experience. In today's mystery novel culture they are wonderful road trips down a small village street where you can be assured of hearing no profanity (surely there must be SOME, but it certainly doesn't stand out in my memory), of reading a description of murder couched in only the most oblique of phrases, and of knowing something lurking in the past will raise its ugly head to cause trouble in the present.

To be quite frank, the Miss Maud Silver novels are written to a specific formula. To say that I have read them all and continue to re-read them speaks volumes about how well Patricia Wentworth formulates her characters. You feel you know and understand these characters. There is something infinitely endearing to read about Miss Silver's high regard for her brooch pinned to her dress collar and the miniscule differences between her best and second best hat. These are added to other aspects of her personality which make me smile and feel soothed by the familiarity. On top of this, the mysteries are actually quite good and will give you a workout for your brain. Wentworth writes in the old style where words impress you and set the atmosphere. One example is when one of the characters is walking through a dark wood one night: "There was light enough when memory held so bright a candle." I think that style of writing is fabulous and so often lacking in modern novels.

This book was first published in 1951 and the story takes place after the end of World War II. There are some modern conveniences such as telephones and automobiles, but people are also still content with

candles and bicycles. The world is in transition and this novel is a great place to begin watching Miss Silver untangle the motive and perpetrator of the murder which has its roots twenty years in the past. Once you read one, you will most likely want to read them all.

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### **Emmanuelle Maupassant says**

Being an avid reader of Agatha Christie, I had high hopes for 'Miss Silver' - who is clearly inspired by the delightful 'Miss Marple'.

While her character failed to hold me, I largely enjoyed Wentworth's portraits of the main protagonists, and the writing was perfectly 'of its time', in the 'cosy mystery' style.

The theme of thwarted and lost love is one I am drawn to, so I was ready to settle to the story. Sadly, details failed to be sufficiently explored and I found my attention wandering about half way through. Moreover, I was often annoyed by the excessively 'baffled' manner of the police involved in solving the crime.

I know that Patricia Wentworth has a loyal following, so I must conclude that some of her other stories are more engaging than 'Miss Silver Comes to Stay'.

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### **Jaline says**

This is such a lovely series for light entertainment and fascinating sleuthing. It is one I enjoy between reads that are more demanding, and Miss Silver's stories are always refreshing to me.

In this, the 16th outing, Miss Silver goes to stay for a while with a friend she hasn't seen for many years. In this village, many years ago when they were 18, two close friends from childhood Catherine and Rietta meet James Theodulph Lessiter at a dance. He has just turned 21. There is a history there, and a year or so later, James leaves the village and no-one hears from him again. Until now.

Catherine and Rietta are now 43 and James returns to the village a far richer man than when he left. Catherine's and Rietta's lives did not exactly go on "hold" all that time – they had their own romances and responsibilities that kept them close.

When a murder occurs, the entire village is affected. As they say: *People will talk. They will talk whether they have anything to say or not. You can't stop them talking, so you may as well carry on and not worry about what people will say.*

As always, there are plots within plots in this novel and at one point I was only certain of a couple of people not being guilty. It was too easy to suspect everyone else – even though I knew that all but one would be a red herring.

In the end, all my strong suspicions were awash – and I never did suspect the person who committed the crimes. And yes – there was more than one crime to deal with.

I thoroughly enjoyed this read, and it was easy to get lost in the story. I had several things going on and many time demands while reading this, yet each time I picked it up during a lull, I was swept right back into the story.

Great work, Patricia Wentworth! I appreciate every moment I was able to spend in your finely knitted story . . . much like the little outfits Miss Silver knits for the little ones of her many friends and previous clients while her mind pieces together all the bits of evidence until she arrives at the truth.

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### **Laura says**

New to me series that I'd like to go back and start at the beginning. Characters were interesting and I love the knitting!

Brit-tripping Nottinghamshire

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### **Nathan Eilers says**

This book is average. Wentworth is no master of prose, but neither is she terrible. Her mystery is sadly bereft of the usual suspense a murder mystery has because she eliminates too many suspects as she goes. Her protagonist isn't much. Miss Silver's main talent exists in getting people to trust her enough to tell her what's going on, which I suppose is a talent, but it puts her well below the Miss Marples of the world. She never really *sleuths*.

There were small annoyances in this one. I grew extremely weary of reading "Miss Silver coughed." Miss Silver is always coughing--sometimes in a meaningful way, and sometimes for no reason. Couldn't Wentworth think of a better distinguishing character trait for her title character? I guess she knits, too...

I see my review has been mainly negative to this point, so let me stress that for all the above faults, I never wanted to give up on the book, and some of the characters are likable. It has a decent end, but not the exciting, "One of the people in this room is guilty!" scenes that I enjoy so much. I don't discourage you from reading this one, and neither do I encourage you to read it. I probably won't read more Wentworth any time soon.

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### **Amy says**

An absolutely charming cozy mystery. The small English village setting and characters were perfectly done.

## Mo says

### 3 1/2 stars

So you think you've got this one all figured out early in the story... HAH!

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## Sep says

This Miss Silver books brings forward an old and favorite pupil of Miss Silver's, Randal March, who is now a chief constable. Randal is over 40. (One can only assume that Miss Silver was 20ish when she taught him.) He has fallen in love and his beloved is one of the suspects.

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## Ahmad Sharabiani says

Miss Silver Comes to Stay (Miss Silver #16), Patricia Wentworth

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## Tweety says

The coziest of who-dunits!

With a cast of characters both likable, unlikable to downright hateful this little English house Mystery sets it's alongside the likes of Agatha Christie, Georgette Heyer and other. There's a light romance, and plenty of busybody villagers who know how to eavesdrop.

I'm not doing a synopsis since its a mystery were the least said the better. But I can say that I just knew who had done it, I felt so sure and then, near the end I found out who it really was. If you can guess who the murderer is, you're much more intuitive than I am.

**PG-G** a very mild PG, I'm only marking it such since the murder was rather violent, but we don't ever get a close up of it. One or two swears, nothing else.

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## Anna Catharina says

Patricia Wentworth schafft es immer wieder, mich auf's Glatteis zu führen! Bis Seite 300 von 339 war ich zu 100% sicher zu wissen, wer der Mörder ist und dann kam doch alles ganz anders!

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## Miriam says

Instead of tracking down the beginning of the series as I meant to, I read #16 because I'm at my mother's and she had it on the shelf. I doubt it makes too much difference, although I am curious now about this prior mystery that involved Randal Marsh and his sisters, students of Miss Silver's from her governess days. Randal is now grown up and a police detective. Miss Silver always seems to be drawn into these mysteries through various old friends or their distant relatives. And she always seems to stay with old connections so the title could be used for any of these mysteries.

A pleasant read, innocuous. Sometimes amusing in a quiet way.

*there are virtues which are very well in the abstract, but which, encountered in the flesh, can be a source of extreme irritation.*

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**XX Sarah XX (former Nefarious Breeder of Murderous Crustaceans) says**

Un bon roman policier "à l'ancienne".

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