



Murder on Edisto (The Edisto Island Mysteries, #1)

C. Hope Clark

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A big city detective. A lowcountry murder.

Peace, safety, a place to grieve and heal. After her husband is murdered by the Russian mob, Boston detective Callie Jean Morgan comes home to her family's cottage in South Carolina. There, she can keep their teenage son, Jeb, away from further threats.

But the day they arrive in Edisto Beach, Callie finds her childhood mentor and elderly neighbor murdered. Taunted by the killer, who repeatedly violates her home and threatens others in the community, Callie finds her new sanctuary has become her old nightmare. Despite warnings from the town's handsome police chief, Callie plunges back into detective work, pursuing a sinister stranger who may have ties to her past. He's turning a quiet paradise into a paranoid patch of sand where nobody's safe. She'll do whatever it takes to stop him.

Murder on Edisto (The Edisto Island Mysteries, #1) Details

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Author : C. Hope Clark

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Cheryl Barker says

A well-written page-turning mystery that kept me guessing the whole way through. In addition, it's filled with a wide variety of well-developed characters -- another thing that keeps me reading a novel. And of course now I'm wondering what happens with the two main characters in the next book in the series :)

Note: This is a general market book so for those who prefer Christian fiction, just a heads-up that it contains some R-rated language and two or three sexual situations.

Janet Brantley says

Hope Clark is one of my favorite writers. I love Southern writers, being one myself. Southerners have too often received short shrift in recent years, but there's great writing coming out of our region, and Clark's books embody some of the best contributions here.

Her first work of fiction, *Lowcountry Bribe*, captivated me and ensured I would read anything she writes, and Clark has not disappointed me with her later books. This new book, with Callie Morgan as a grieving widow determined to turn her back on detective work and protect her son, has the makings of a compelling series. Clark answered all the necessary questions by the end of the book, yet she left me with some unanswered questions, specifically about what Callie will be doing in the future. My bet is that she won't be able to steer clear of police work. It's in her blood.

Descriptions of Edisto Island life took me right there to South Carolina with the book's characters, and made me want to find a little beach cottage of my own -- albeit without all the murders and illegal doings. It's a great place to visit -- in the pages of a book.

I, too, read this book quickly and didn't really need a bookmark. But I had a great one, provided by the author when I ordered a signed copy directly from her. My copy arrived just days after I placed my order, so I have to commend Hope Clark not only on her writing but also on her marketing.

Karen says

My Review Title as Listed on Amazon:
Explosive Thriller from Start to Finish! No Bookmark Needed!

I read at a snail's pace. However, C. Hope Clark's, *Murder on Edisto* is a page-turning thriller that hastens even the slowest reader through this labyrinth of murder and suspense so cleverly detailed with character dysfunction to keep the audience guessing.

With an explosive start, Clark hurls the reader on a roller-coaster ride of anxiety, tension, and drama. Still grieving the death of her baby daughter and the haunting murder of her husband, Boston Detective Callie Jean Cantrell reluctantly moves to the family beach home with her teenage son, Jeb. Callie quickly learns she

cannot leave her past behind and confrontation may be her only resolve for a leisurely life on this unhurried beach. Instead, the murder of a beloved neighbor thrusts her into a hunt for a killer who finds pleasure in stalking her. Callie must deal with small town antics on her own terms, while grappling with her sanity that makes this protagonist seem every bit the antagonist to her quirky neighbors, each with their own laundry list of disorders that could qualify any one of them as the murderer. With the perpetrator a half step ahead of Callie, this book ends as explosively as it began.

I thoroughly enjoyed the suspense as well as the expertise of character and setting. The author captures the intricate details of each character, making them genuine as if the reader already knows them personally. Clark artistically intertwines their strengths and flaws allowing their entangled dysfunction to find closure and acceptance as the plot unfolds. She masterfully gives life to the island letting the reader enjoy the vibrant warmth and laid-back charm of Edisto. Excellent read!

Toni Kief says

Great read, the characters are excellent, with their own demons like in real life. Plenty of twists and turns. Kept me up even though I need my sleep.

Mary Davidsaver says

We meet Boston detective Callie Morgan on the worse day of her life. When we meet her again two years later she's still swirling on the edge of losing what's left of her family and her sanity. It takes the help of her son, some new friends, and a puzzling crime spree to get her back into fighting form.

The sights and sounds of beach are very enticing for tourists and locals alike. The stage is set for an entertaining series.

Stephen says

I was at first disappointed that C. Hope Clark's latest novel was not about her original character, Carolina Slade (who I love), but I was quickly converted, and I could not put this book down. This is the best book she has written so far; they keep getting better and better! This story was very fast paced. You can't stop reading because events make you gasp and you have to know what happens next. Callie Morgan is flawed and she has been through a great deal when this tale begins. She and her son have fled the past to Edisto Island, South Carolina and hoped to find some peace and security. I don't think that is a spoiler to tell you that does not happen. As usual, Clark has all the elements of a great mystery: a criminal with frightening audacity, multiple suspects, eccentric neighbors, and potential suitors for Callie. Buy this right now and start reading--as long as you have time to spend with it. I guarantee you won't want to stop.

H.W. Bernard says

Hope Clark's MURDER ON EDISTO is a page turner. The drama will keep you guessing until the end who

the murderer is, and keep you rooting for Callie Jean Morgan, the protagonist. Callie, a former Boston Police detective, has come to the Low Country of South Carolina and settled in the bucolic island community of Edisto, hoping to right her life after a series of traumatic events in Massachusetts.

Things don't go smoothly, of course (or there's no story), and Callie quickly finds herself at the center of a murder, robberies, and assaults. Is the Russian mafia out for revenge after she helped break a big case in Boston? Or are the crimes the work of a local psychopath, maybe a cop or one of the many visitors who rent homes on the island for the summer? There are a multitude of options, and Clark handles them all with a deft author's hand.

The tale is complex enough to make a great story, but not so convoluted that you get lost. The novel, I might add, is as much about Callie and her personal demons as it is about solving the crimes. It gives the drama great depth.

Kudos to Hope Clark for an excellent book.

Marcia says

I bought this at a local bookstore on Edisto Beach, wanting to support both the bookstore and a local author and not expecting a great deal from the book. The bonus was that it is actually quite a good old-fashioned whodunnit with plenty of characters and a liberal amount of red herrings dropped along the way. There were some loose ends left hanging and a few plot slip-ups, but nothing that some judicious editing couldn't clear up. I will read the rest of her series so I can vicariously enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of Edisto until the next time I return.

Loralee Lillibridge says

Wow! Just Wow!

It's a rare occasion when a book literally keeps me up all night. This one did just that. Fast-paced, non-stop action and tight plotting combined with characters who pull the reader deep into the story makes this book Ms. Clark's finest yet.

Dwayne Keller says

Wow. This story starts off explosively, calms down, and then keeps you on edge the rest of the way through. The story opens with Callie's husband being killed, their house exploded and burned to the ground. Fast forward two years, and she and her teenage son move to Edisto Island to start anew. The day she moves in her neighbor and life long friend is murdered. As an ex-detective from Boston, everybody is a suspect. Well written to make you feel what she feels, and suspect everybody. Read this edge of your seat mystery. You won't be disappointed.

Marleen says

The book blurb and the high ratings given by so many other readers rather baited me into trying out this book. Unfortunately, this was a complete waste of my time. This story is filled with awful characters and the plot progressed at an excruciatingly slow pace. Not that I was unsympathetic to Callie's situation, but honestly, I couldn't warm up to her. Nor could I warm up to the community of Edisto beach; what a bunch of superficial nitwits and badly behaving people. I'm sorry to say this series is not my cup of tea, and I doubt that I will ever read another book by this author.

Tom L. Wiley says

Admittedly, I have only become interested in mysteries in the last few years, but I know a great book when I read one - and Hope Clark's Murder on Edisto is a great book.

I'm a loyal fan of Southern literature, so being set on an idyllic South Carolina lowland island immediately caught my attention. But it's Clark's deftly crafted characters, with their unique quirks and flaws, histories and haunts, kept me up late whispering to myself "Just one more chapter." Clark's main character, Callie Jean Morgan, is a Boston transplant who moves to her parents' beach house after tragedy strikes her family. Through loss after loss, Callie finds herself sinking deeper into her cups until she realizes - with the help of her son - she can't continue down this road, no matter how winding and difficult her life has become.

But most of all, I truly enjoyed Clark's writing style. I felt more like I was watching a best friend struggle through her issues than reading about them (talk about SHOW don't TELL!). Clark has a mastery of dialogue, a feat that takes true talent and hard work. Clark's ear for Southern banter and knowledge of local culture make this book as genuine as it is entertaining. I have the next three on my nightstand to read - and with the latest installment - Edisto Stranger - out now, I know I'll have that midnight oil burning for a while to catch up!

Kathy says

C. Hope Clark is a new author to me and I am so happy that I discovered her! Murder on Edisto is a great book! It is well written and a flowing plot. I am a big fan of Edisto Island so the title is what initially attracted me.

Murder on Edisto comes complete with an interesting story line, believable characters and a beautiful setting. It is well written. I found that I had a hard time putting it down. The author, C. Hope Clark, kept me in suspense throughout most of the book. I suspected who the murderer was but she did have the murderer very cleverly disguised. I enjoyed the twists in the book.

Callie Morgan is a retired police detective who retired after her husband was murdered by Boston's Russian Mob. She had just lost an infant prior to his murder. It is amazing that she could function at all. When her Charleston area based parents gift her with the family's vacation home on Edisto Island, she and her adolescent son Jeb settle in. And then mysterious things start happening. And her dear friend is murdered. It is a constant flow of strange events that keep the reader spellbound.

Highly recommend this mystery. Always refreshing to find a new author that I like. Cannot wait for the next one in the series!

Elizabeth says

First of all, I'm a sucker for all books that take place in the South. Add to that an author that is new to me and I'm hooked!

I'm happy to say I've found a new author and a new series! Murder on Edisto combined all the things I love in a mystery - of course, the South, the beach, hunky men and a really great storyline. This book did not disappoint. The characters were easy to get to know, the plot kept me guessing and the dialogue was lively and fun.

I look forward to Ms. Clark's next book in the series and plan to go back and read the Carolina Slade series as well!

Lisa Jahn says

My father told me when I was young that I could travel anywhere and experience anything with a good book. C. Hope Clark's new book Murder on Edisto embodied that assertion. I journeyed to South Carolina and it was a riveting adventure!

I met Callie and her son Jeb in Boston and instantly felt connected to them. When I opened the book, they were having one of those mother-son banter that seemed so familiar. But I swiftly realized how different their lives were from mine. An explosion and subsequent fire killed Callie's husband / Jeb's dad in the first pages and they were stumbling through grief and trying to put their lives back together as I read on. But the journey was far from over!

I had trouble leaving Callie each night; I just couldn't bear to put the book down. She used her detective prowess and took me on a trek of murder, mystery, and intrigue. All too quickly I was turning the final page.

I dare not reveal too much because I want everyone to enjoy the trip Hope will take you on! Murder on Edisto is exciting, thrilling, and almost impossible to put down! I can't wait to see where Callie takes me next!
