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Orchard's "Over Maya dead body" (Book Review)

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Book Reviews



Orchard, S. (2017). *Over Maya dead body*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell. 352 pp. \$14.99. ISBN 9780800726706

Sandra Orchard is the recipient of several Canadian Christian writing awards. Also available in electronic form, this book shows why she has been so lauded.

FBI Special Agent Serena Jones travels with her family to Martha's Vineyard to attend the engagement party of a long-time friend of her father. Unfortunately, upon their arrival they discover that the friend has been found dead. Whether he died accidentally from a fall or whether he was murdered becomes Agent Jones' focus over the next several days. To add to the mystery, someone appears to be trying to harm her and those around her. A romantic element is added when two friends, both of whom are interested in dating her, arrive to help solve the mystery and to keep her safe.

Orchard is definitely a talented writer. From page one I found it difficult to put the book down, having to find out how Ms. Jones would get out of a difficult situation, or whether a suspected person was really guilty. While the book is classified as Christian fiction, the characters' religiosity is not blatant. I thoroughly enjoyed reading a murder mystery that did not have foul language, was clean, stretched my imagination, and yet was fun to read.

I would recommend this for a public or church library.

Reviewer

Mary Ann Buhler, Manhattan Christian College