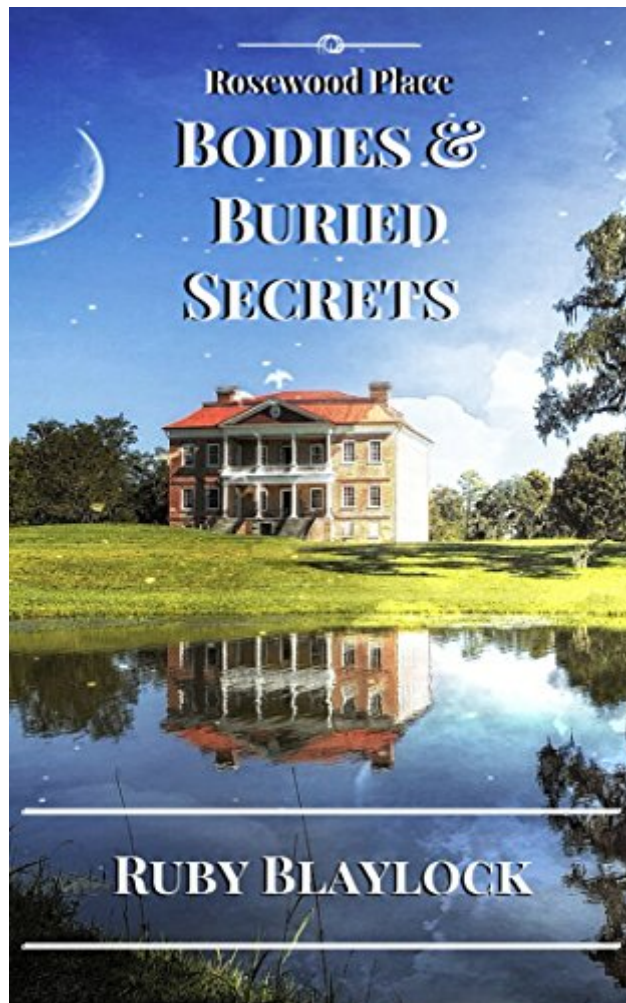


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Bodies & Buried Secrets: A Rosewood Place Mystery (Rosewood Place Mysteries Book 1)



Synopsis

When Annie Richards finds herself widowed at the age of 40, she leaves her home in New York City and returns to the small South Carolina town she grew up in. Hoping to create a new life for herself and her teenaged son, Annie teams up with her mother, Bessie, to buy a run down old plantation which they plan on turning into a beautiful bed and breakfast. When an old enemy of Annie's turns up on her doorstep demanding that she sell her new home, Annie is determined to keep the woman from destroying her new dream. When the woman winds up dead in Annie's kitchen, it looks like the dream has become a nightmare as the police begin to suspect not only Annie but her contractor, Rory, as well. Rory has a past that involves a stay in prison for assault and a high school romance with Annie. Will she let her old feelings for him cloud her judgment, or is he actually capable of murder? And why do people seem to think that there's some sort of buried treasure on the plantation's overgrown, long-vacant grounds? Annie finds herself in the middle of a deadly treasure hunt that could end up costing her more than just her new bed and breakfast--it could cost her her life, too.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I absolutely loved this book. It looks like a murder mystery story but it is so much more. There are hints of hidden treasure in Annie's new property but no one seems sure whether it is just a legend to lure people to visit Coopersville or if there is really some truth to the centuries old rumour. Things get suspicious when one of the deceased's fiancée turns up to drill Annie about her knowledge of the house and its history. Apart from the story, I adored the character of Bessie, Annie's mother. The old woman is an adventurer at heart and keeps the company in good spirit with her undying enthusiasm and good food. It also gives the readers a glimpse of Southern American hospitality. Blaylock's writing is top notch and there was not a single moment when I felt bored or felt the pace lacking. Every character is well thought and the conversations between them flowed out naturally. I would highly recommend this book for lovers of suspense, mystery and treasure hunts!

When widowed Annie Richards moved back home to South Carolina to turn a 200-year-old farmhouse into a bed-and-breakfast, she never expected an old childhood rival to try and buy it from them the night they moved in. Or for the same woman to be found dead, in their kitchen, the very next morning. I received the book free in return for an honest review. I really enjoyed the first book in the Rosewood Place series. While the story was a little slow getting started, it turned out to be pretty exciting, with pirate treasure, hidden spaces, and more dead bodies. I like that Annie seems to be a strong woman with good intentions to take care of her family. She's willing to give an old boyfriend, an ex-con, the benefit of the doubt when he's quickly set up as a possible suspect. Likeable characters and a well crafted historical mystery. I'm looking forward to the next book in this series to see where Annie and her family go from here.

When I started reading, I just couldn't put the book down. I was there every time I picked up the book. Loved Bessie. Only one, hopefully constructive criticism, to the author. My mother died at 92. I, like Bessie am 68. Calling Annie's mother "the old woman" and Rory helping "the elderly woman", just seemed out of place, like she was some stranger. She was Annie's mother. 68 is not elderly. Getting "older", yes, but again seemed out of place to use these phrases. Loved the book.

What a fun and engaging read! Good plot and character development. Annie was a little slow identifying "the bad guy" but how she got out of the difficult spot she was in was still very creative. Stayed up late to finish it!

As an avid reader, cozy mysteries are not usually my go-to type of reading material, but I have to say that being asked to do an ARC reading of this book has made me very open to reading more books in this genre in the future. The characters of this book had just enough flaws to make them endearing without being corny or contrived, the plot was something that could well have taken place in any number of small southern towns and the pace moved quickly, keeping me interested and moving ahead as a reader. I have not yet read other books by Ms. Blaylock, but I have put her (and this series) on my list of new author's to follow and although I read this one as an ARC, I will happily buy the next one in the series.

Just finished *Bodies and Buried Secrets* and loved it! Annie was like many people that I know who have had to start over. Plot was good and book wouldn't be offensive to anyone. I was sorry when I finished it and caught myself thinking about it later. Would make a great beach read. Looking forward to the next one!

There is some violence in terms of dead people appearing in the story line however they are found dead and there is no description of the murder as it occurs. I really liked the story line and look forward to more books in this series.

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