



Helen Hath No Fury

Gillian Roberts

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In the stately nineteenth-century homes on Philadelphia's Delancey Street, the wilder passions scarcely ruffle the peace. Murder is unthinkable, particularly a murder involving an upscale book discussion group, of which schoolteacher Amanda Pepper is a devoted member. Nevertheless, on the day after a heated discussion of a fictional heroine's suicide, book group member Helen Coulter falls to her death from her roof garden. Helen's death is declared a suicide but Amanda is convinced otherwise. Why is this admirable woman dead? And if she was killed, who performed the heinous act? Amanda's investigations will draw her into a zone of great danger, where Helen Coulter's ice-hearted killer is once more ready to strike. . . .

Helen Hath No Fury Details

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Author : Gillian Roberts

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From Reader Review Helen Hath No Fury for online ebook

Linda says

Although I can't find it mentioned in my notes, I believe I have read another in this series years ago – the stories take place in Philadelphia and feature a young woman named Amanda Pepper. I picked this up because it features Amanda's book club. At a book club meeting, Helen Coulter sparks a heated discussion about suicide, and the next day she falls to her death from her roof garden. The death is termed a suicide, but Amanda and other members of the club don't believe it. At great danger to themselves, they try to find the killer. I'll give it a B-.

Traci Shipley says

This was OK but I don't think I'm interested enough to read the rest of the series.

Heidi says

I liked this book, it was fun. A little predictable, but since I was in the right mood, beach bum mood, it was just what I wanted. Her handling of grief felt real and seemed close to how I'd have described moments when my mom passed away. For that reason, and others, Amanda Pepper seems extremely likable and real. I put the others in the series on my to read list.

Amy says

This was a good, clean, murder mystery. I've listened to two or three of these Amanda Pepper books, and the more I listen to them, the more I like them. This was my favorite of the ones I've read. Amanda Pepper is funny and finds the irony in all situations, even the ones that aren't necessarily ironic. She's a true blue women's libber who's also channeling her mother's "you need to get married" life motto. It creates quite an ironic conflict for Ms. Pepper. I like reading about Amanda's students and having a teacher be a heroine. I loved the ending. I always like it when the book ends with everyone happy.

Sherri Couey says

A nice cozy mystery with a little lighthearted but serious romance thrown in. Brings to mind 1930's screwball comedy/mystery movies. And sure enough the author enlightens us at the end the book.

Roltaire says

Did you ever pick something from a sales bookstore because it's cover is enticing and the plot summary is really engrossing? Yes. This book is the answer. HOWEVER, did you pick that kind of book and it turned out as a real treasure, inside and out? Then this book does not fit the description.

I was utterly devastated because throughout my reading, I was gripping that this novel will change my views in not-so-subtle-feminist books---forcefully picturing women's strength, and obviously self-satisfied author. I was hoping that this book has a feel of feminism because it was unintended and flowed freely with the storyline. It was a sad result. It was obviously written by a feminist, for feminists.

I respect the writing prowess of Gillian Roberts; I enjoyed her grammatical potency. But Amanda Pepper, our protagonist, was just annoying in several ways. I can say that because she was annoyed by every possible things! What can be more annoying than reading a character who gets annoyed EVERY SINGLE TIME??? Gosh, that's annoying, indeed! Ugh! Now I'm getting annoyed by the word "annoying." AAAHH!

Moreover, how did Amanda have the time to explain to the reader that her school's security lock and protocols were going to be upgraded when she was in the midst of being killed? That's ANNOYINGLY anticlimactic. Oops spoiler...nope that was not. Trust me! Not worth to spoil.

Paula says

I normally like Roberts' Amanda Pepper series, but this one just irritated me. The constant harping that there is only one acceptable response to teen pregnancy, the inability to acknowledge that people can make a mistake and learn from it (that's called wisdom not hypocrisy), and all Republicans* are horrible people left whole storyline weak.

*--Calm down, I've been a registered Independent since 1980, so I'm not a GOP apologist.

Fmorlan says

Amanda Pepper is involved in a book club. She finds out that one of the members dies - ruled accidental or suicide. She and her friends don't believe it and start to investigate. Other accidents occur while they look into the death. Also Amanda is worried about CK because he seems anti marriage. This had a lot of suspects and was good. Other things occur to make Amanda happier than usual. Good read for a cozy mystery.

Roberta says

Call me old school but I like to know a man's name before I sleep with him. At least that mystery is cleared up.

Amanda Pepper's modus operandi in earlier books was withholding evidence from the police, in spite of the fact that she sleeps with one, so she could have the edge when launching her own investigation. In this book

[page 102] she takes the next step and advises someone else to withhold information from the police. When she is not playing detective, Amanda Pepper is a lousy English teacher who makes up assignments on the fly because she is not prepared for her classes, who does not provide feedback for her students because she is busy detecting and neglects to correct assignments, etc. etc. etc.

Anne Hawn Smith says

This was the second book from this author that I have read, and I really enjoyed it. I find Amanda Pepper a believable protagonist and most of the people in the book are not two dimensional. A woman is murdered in Amanda's book group and it turns out that the group didn't know her at all. The hurt and confusion comes when they find out that she has taken her own life and none of them saw it coming. As a group, they begin to dissect what they know of Helen and try to find out how they, her friends, could have known so little of what was going on in her life to bring her to such an action.

I found the scenario to be totally realistic. The day before Helen's suicide, she had been adamant that the character in the book they were reading was weak and a coward for committing suicide. How could they then comprehend that she was to commit suicide the next day? How could they, as friends, not see through her actions and help her? It is the most natural thing in the world for them to try to learn more about her life and how they misjudged her. I am liking this series more and more.

Heba says

I know that I don't like a book when I start criticizing the protagonist and fast forwarding the soundtrack! I found the ladies the story either angry or stupid. Everything was repeated many times. the protagonist kept on irritating me and I gave up half way. What a shame because I liked her southern-talking detective boyfriend and I enjoyed their banter. I do remember reading one of her earlier books but I can barely remember it. I'm sorry but I guess I'm in the minority but this book is not for me.

Purlewe says

whoa. I read this book so quickly. Perfect little fluff book. Like a potato chip, eaten and gone.

Interesting to see a mystery set in Philly. The life of being a school teacher was very well done. Seeing Philly from another person's eyes was equally well done. The mystery was a good cozy. Neither upsetting nor disturbing. But it played out well.

Nancy H says

I like this series featuring Amanda Pepper, a high school English teacher. Having been a teacher and having taught high school English, I can certainly relate to her comments on high school students and their attitudes toward English class.

Jody Hamilton says

Not too fond of this book; by the time the killer was revealed I didn't care who "done-it." The best part of the book was the last few pages when Amanda discovered what her boyfriend's first name really was: "C.K. MacKenzie." Perhaps this means I don't have to read the last few books in the series?

Ferne says

I didn't realize that I had already purchased "Helen Hath No Fury" so I've also read this one out of series order but as always An Amanda Pepper Mystery is an entertaining stand-alone. For those reading the series, there has been a continual exploration in a significant question related to the southern, handsome detective named C.K. that is answered in wonderfully characteristic writing style by author Gillian Roberts and this novel is an excellent preview in the relationship growth between Amanda and C.K. for books 11 and 12. Don't follow my error (of reading the novels out of sequence) but read them in order for pure delight and reading pleasure.
