



NANCY: A page-turning mystery full of red herrings and an engaging cast of characters leading us through a dynamic tale of a barn fires, kidnapping, near suicide and death. In this first book of a series, Gaskill creates a wonderful newspaper editor and sleuth, Addison, who draws us in, staying one step ahead of the police, facing demons of her own. I recommend you read this one!



MOLLY: I liked how this book encourages you to cheer for the underdog, especially Tully and Jaylyn. The multi-dimensional characters highlight that sometimes those who you might think would be outstanding citizens are all but. What an intricate mystery, too. I liked this book.



KATHARINE: Well, I think this book helps remind us that sometimes evil lurks in the midst of Christian institutions, even as their leaders try to convince everyone they are right and others are wrong. I could see this as an interesting discussion starter for our religion classes. And I agree with Molly. I would ask the students, “Who was following Jesus in this novel? Where did you see love?”



SALLIE: Oh my goodness, what a story! I loved that little girl, Lynzee. I don't want to spoil the story for you, but she warmed my heart and showed how kids can be resilient and surprise you again and again. I hate that this world is one where we need to protect our children from kidnapping and that this sort of thing really happens to our innocent little ones.



PRISCILLA: Do you really think all this could happen on a campus of a Christian college? I certainly hope not, but I know if you read the news, a lot of bad things that happen to children, like especially in the Catholic church, and some of the others, too. I agree it was a page-turner, though. Kept me up late finishing the story!



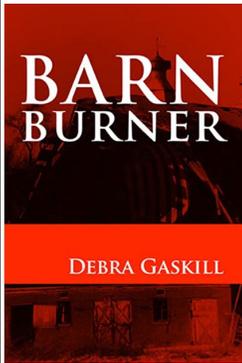
ABIGAIL: An intriguing story with many twists and turns, although I thought the killing was a bit much and maybe unnecessary. So much death that after awhile, you go numb to it. I really appreciated the way she dealt with Isabella's mental illness, though, very realistic and hopeful.



JANE: Go, Addison! She's my type of lady for sure. I want to read the rest of this series and see what she solves next. One smart newspaper editor that can outfox the police and get the job done. And the fact that her husband takes care of the home front makes me respect her all the more.



Discussion Guide



About the Book

Title: Barn Burner

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Questions for Discussion

1. What were your general impressions of this book?
2. The author had a career in newspapers, and the main character, Penny Addison, also works for the newspaper. How do you think this influenced her writing?
3. The book takes place partially on the campus of a Christian college. What did you think of the Christian college characters? Do you think these people are typical of Christian colleges? Why or why not?
4. In the course of the story, we discover that Addison's daughter, Isabella, is dealing with a mental health issue. How does the author treat this issue?
5. What has been your experience with bipolar disorder? How has it affected people you know? Did the story seem realistic to you in the way it played out?
6. This story has quite a cast of characters who might have committed the crime. What did you think of the various characters and were you able to figure out whodunit?
7. How does the author deal with the issue of domestic violence in the case of John Porter? Does this jive with the situations you know?
8. Read over the MAMs comments on this book. With whom do you agree/disagree and why?
9. Will this book change your life or perspective in any way? Explain.

Check out the other books in the Jubilant Falls Series:

The Major's Wife, Lethal Little Lies, Murder on the Lunatic Fringe and Death of a High Maintenance Blonde

Then meet Fitz and the Fracktown Gumshoe Series in these books:

Call Fitz, Holy Fitz, Love Fitz, Kissing Fitz, Toxic Fitz, Finding Fitz and Hidden Fitz,