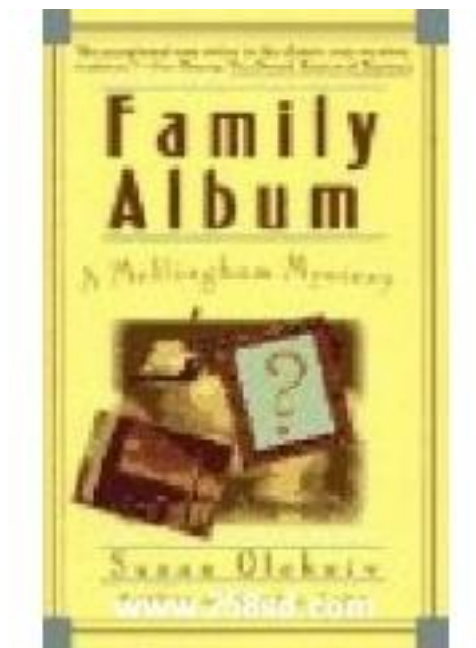


Family Album: A Mellingham Mystery



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著者:

出版者:

出版时间:

装帧:

isbn:9780684197319

From Publishers Weekly Secrets and unprecedented actions abound in the New England town of Mellingham in this absorbing third in a series. Dowager Catherine Rocklynd decides to sell her family's log cabin to George Frome instead of leaving it to her beloved nephew Edwin. Annalee Windolow, wife of monied Winston, is quietly educating herself on antiques by pumping art appraiser Kelly Kuhn, who follows his own agenda in their dealings. Gwen McDuffy, single mother of two, tries to keep a low profile, especially around the police chief she meets while volunteering at the Arbella Historical Society. Chief Joe Silva, seen last in *Double Take*, is asked to look into the security of Arbella House, museum headquarters of the society, when Frome suggests someone is stealing valuable antiques. When Frome voices his concerns to the Arbella trustees, Catherine gets woozy and the other board members

express disdain. After Frome is found dead in the attic, Silva must determine whether the death is murder or accidental poisoning. In the process, another death occurs, and additional residents of Mellingham come to grips with matters of family, allegiance and identity. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. Book Description Gwen McDuffy has returned to Mellingham with her two children, but something is haunting her. Distracted by her own worries, she barely notices the tension at the Arbella Society, where George Frome, determined to bring questionable practices to the attention of the board of directors, is systematically offending everyone he encounters. Catherine Rocklynd, wealthy patron, is on edge, and refuses to confide in her nephew, Edwin Bennett. Kelly Kuhn, art dealer and collector, is sinking into debt trying to woo customers like Annalee Windolow. Quiet, picturesque Mellingham cannot erase the secrets and sorrows of a lifetime, so its residents do their best to hide them behind facades of philanthropy and family. But when a secretary discovers a dead body in the attic of Arbella House, the staff and volunteers of the historical society are doubly threatened. Chief of Police Joe Silva knows he'll uncover some painful secrets when he begins investigating the murder, but he must prepare himself for personal disappointment as the murder investigation moves closer to Gwen McDuffy. Richly evocative in setting, with finely drawn characters and an absorbing plot, Family Album asks meaningful questions about family and identity, and the need to belong. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

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