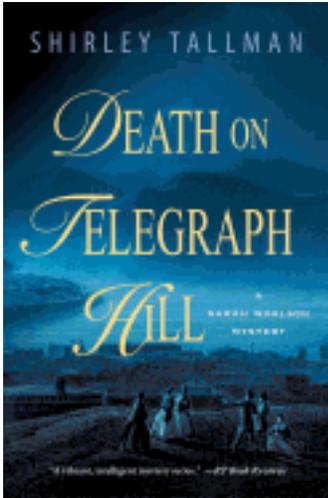


# What people are saying about the exciting new Sarah Woolson historical mystery series

## ★ PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (STARRED REVIEW)

DEATH ON TELEGRAPH HILL

A Sarah Woolson Mystery



Shirley Tallman. Minotaur, \$24.99 (352p) ISBN 978-1-250-0104388

At the start of Tallman's excellent fifth Victorian historical featuring lawyer Sarah Woolson (after 2010's *Scandal on Rincon Hill*), Sarah attends a reception in 1882 for a touring Irish poet, Oscar Wilde, held at the home of a newspaper publisher who's a friend of her crime journalist brother, Samuel, on San Francisco's Telegraph Hill. Shortly after Sarah and Samuel leave the party, a gunman seriously wounds Samuel, though it's unclear whether Samuel or Sarah herself was the intended target. Despite her family's fears for her safety, Sarah decides to track down the shooter.

Meanwhile, her struggling law practice receives a boost after a couple representing the Society for the

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals hires her to stop a

wealthy Mexican from building a bull-fighting ring, a proposal that already has the backing of City Hall. Tallman convincingly makes her lead a dogged and fearless sleuth. Agent: Miriam Kriss, the Irene Goodman Agency.

**NIGHT OWL REVIEWS:** Shirley Tallman's *DEATH ON TELEGRAPH HILL* is an opportunity to once again (after four previous stories) spend time with the brilliant and unstoppable Sarah Woolson. As a female attorney in Victorian-era San Francisco, Sarah undermines male prejudice about women working in a profession just as deftly as she solves complicated mysteries. Tallman's descriptions of late 19th century San Francisco are vibrant and the mysteries that Sarah Woolson finds herself in the middle of have enough twists and turns to keep you turning the page. Most endearing is Sarah herself as we see the characters, the time period, and the mystery unfold through her eyes. She is fearless, ready to take on any challenge, yet her greatest strength is how much she cares--about her family, justice, and uncovering the truth. I look forward to the next Sarah Woolson mystery. I'm sure it will bring more Victorian atmosphere, another cast of colorful suspects, and an intriguing mystery for brave and dynamic sleuth Sarah to solve.

**KIRKUS REVIEWS:** "Lively details of a lively time and place spice up a feisty heroine's struggles against sexism."

**BOOKLIST:** "...readers will empathize strongly with the obstacles (Sarah) faces and the triumphs she achieves."

**SEATTLE TIMES:** "...a solid historical mystery. Tallman has a nice way of setting the stage and moving her plot forward."

**THE OREGONIAN:** "A delightful historical mystery, not only well plotted with a satisfying denouement, but also cleverly incorporating the social mores of 19th-century San Francisco. ...Sarah throws herself into (her) cases with her trademark bullheadedness, resourcefulness and clever thinking, making for a spiffy little step-back-in-time mystery."

**LIBRARY JOURNAL:** "Period details, personages, events, and surroundings spring to life in (this) new series featuring a feisty and determined heroine. Strongly recommended."

**THE MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW:** "...an exhilarating legal thriller. Chutzpah Sarah is a wonderful protagonist!"

**CONTRA COSTA TIMES:** "Sarah Woolson is spunky as hell – law was a very male profession in the 1880s – and San Francisco is a great locale."

**HISTORICAL NOVEL SOCIETY:** "Sarah Woolson is a wonderful character – feisty, intelligent, and determined to get ahead in a profession that was practically closed to women at that time. ...an excellent new series."

**RENDEVOUS:** "Forthright and practical, Sarah cuts through the nonsense of sexism, racism, and frivolous society."

**NEW MYSTERY READER:** "Sarah Woolson puts her own life in danger in order to seek justice for those she represents. She struggles in a male dominated world but never loses her sense of femininity, grace, or sense of honor. Shirley Tallman does a masterful job of recreating the 19th century setting around a strong female character who is far from conventional."

**AUTHOR'S CHOICE REVIEW:** "The mystery is well-plotted and engaging, and the believable characters are very much a part of the world in which they live. The author has certainly done her homework bringing nineteenth century San Francisco to life. A very enjoyable read." (5-star review)

**ROMANTIC TIME BOOKCLUB:** "Engaging and unique, Tallman's novel sparkles with wit and suspense."

**AMAZON.COM:** "A very satisfying and engrossing read. The mystery was intriguing, the detective-heroine engaging and likable, the pace and manner in which the novel was crafted superbly done. I just had to keep on reading until I reached the last page." (5-star review by Tregatt)

**HARRIET KLAUSNER:** "Readers will gain immense pleasure from the SARAH WOOLSON series, as the heroine struggles with a male chauvinistic network while providing the best service to her clients. " (5-star review)

**JULIA SPENSER-FLEMING** Award-winning author *OUT OF THE DEEP I CRY* and *TO DARKNESS AND TO DEATH*. "Shirley Tallman's screenwriting experience pays dividends in her charmingly authentic historical mysteries. Redolent with hansom cabs, gas lights, bustles, the Barbary Coast and the ethnic stew that was nineteenth-century San Francisco, Tallman's lively plotting and clip ship-sleek narrative grips the reader and doesn't let go until ground-breaking feminist Sarah Woolson unmasks the culprit in true Perry Masson fashion. This series bears watching."

**MIRIAM GRACE MONFREDO** Award-winning author of the critically acclaimed Seneca Falls Series. "A delightful cleverly incorporating the social mores of 19th century San Francisco."

**PUBLISHERS WEEKLY** starred review! "In Tallman's top-drawer second mystery set in late 19th-century San Francisco (after 2004's *The Nob Hill Murders*), attorney Sarah Woolson takes on a couple of cases that draw a torrent of protests from her law firm. ...When all three clients' situations begin to intersect, Sarah realizes she has waded into dangerous, if not lethal, waters. Credible characters, cleverly subtle clues and a highly satisfying conclusion mark this intriguing tale as a superior example of its subgenre. ...Fans of Anne Perry will be well satisfied."

**BLUE RIBBON REVIEWS:** "Intelligent, intriguing, imaginative... *THE CLIFF HOUSE STRANGLER* is an empowering whodunit that will keep you "on the edge of your seat" guessing until the very end. Shirley Tallman is an exceptional storyteller with an inspiring flare for mystery and suspense. *THE CLIFF HOUSE STRANGLER* is a "Can't Miss."

**LIBRARY JOURNAL \* (STARRED REVIEW):** "Once again bringing Victorian San Francisco to colorful life, Tallman offers an entertaining mystery with an indomitable, independent heroine that will appeal to fans of Anne Perry and Rhys Bowen. This is a series to watch, sure to get better with each succeeding book."

**KIRKUS REVIEW:** "Tallman's intelligent heroine is a delight."