

Death at The Downs
By Annabelle McEntyre
REVIEW BY ROSE FRANKCOMBE

I first got to know Pat and her sister Kate during the workshopping sessions, when members of one of SWWT's postal magazines were given the opportunity to comment as the Annabelle McEntyre's story of a death at Mella Downs progressed. During those times, I, along with others, was intrigued as the plot unfolded. But I'm especially pleased to say that I didn't get to read the dénouement of the story at that time, but have been able to savour the unfolding of it in the final published version, just recently released through Ginninderra Press.

Harry Mellafont is a shady character, the girls' absentee father whose private and public life has been lived on the edge. And now he has a new bride, five years after the death of their mother. Who is this young woman and how did she become so involved with their father?

Putting the shock of the new stepmother to one side, why on earth is Harry so insistent the family come together for a 'happy' Christmas celebration?

Against their better judgement, the girls journey back to the home farm where memories ooze from every corner. Tired, they don't expect murder to be on the menu, but it is and from here another journey begins.

A cast of characters enters, throwing their shadow over the proceedings. The Dubbo police ring the doorbell and the case becomes official.

Written in her inimitable style designed to entertain the reader, the dialogue is natural and flowing, revealing in a few words larger images.

Death at The Downs is an easy read that takes you through on to some complexities of international intrigue with some unexpected twists along the way.

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