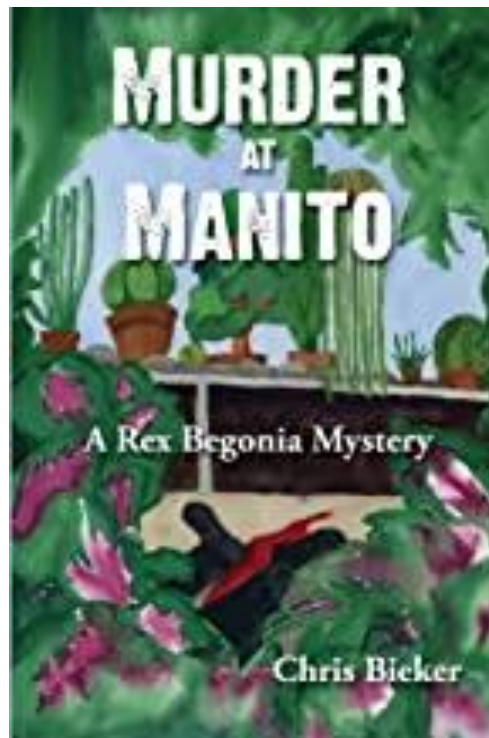


Murder at Manito



By Chris Bieker

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

Murder at Manito begins when Bill England, Manito Park's head gardener, is found murdered in the greenhouse. He was very charming and popular with the public, but as the story unfolds, the reader discovers he is a bit of a cad and has enemies in the gardening world.

Since the Lilac Parade is coming up soon, the mayor wants this murder to be solved quickly. Thus, Chief Detective Rex Begonia and his new partner, Ivy Lizei, arrive on the scene. Through numerous cups of coffee and good detective work, they eventually solve this crime and capture the murderer in a very dramatic way.

Local writer Chris Bieker has written a page turning murder mystery with a surprise ending. I liked the creative names she gave to some of her characters. I liked that the story took place in Spokane in my favorite park, and that she wrote about the goings on of the various garden clubs and the Lilac Parade. If you like mysteries, this book is for you. It's a good read.



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