



## Nearly Departed in Deadwood (Deadwood Humorous Mystery) (Volume 1)

By Ann Charles

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“The first time I came to Deadwood, I got shot in the ass.”—Violet Parker Little girls are vanishing from Deadwood, South Dakota, and Violet Parker's daughter could be next. She's desperate to find the monster behind the abductions. But if she's not careful, Violet just might end up as one of Deadwood's dearly departed.

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**Nearly Departed in Deadwood (Deadwood Humorous Mystery) (Volume 1) By Ann Charles  
Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #609395 in Books
- Published on: 2011-02-01
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .94" w x 5.25" l, .94 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 376 pages

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

"This gem has a bit of everything ... mystery, romance, comedy, suspense, and even a bit of the paranormal." \*\*\*\*\* FIVE STARS! ~Huntress Reviews

"It's no wonder Ann won an award for this story. Her storytelling capabilities are tremendous." \*\*\*\*\* FIVE STARS! ~ParaYourNormal Book Reviews

### From the Author

Dear Reader,

Once upon a time, I thought my crush on Deadwood, South Dakota was going to be just a summer fling. Boy, was I wrong. I had fallen head-over-heels. Deadwood had gotten under my skin. Its golden history filled my mind with daydreams; its promising future spurred tales that needed to be told.

Nearly Departed in Deadwood is a contemporary mystery full of colorful characters that have been taking root inside of my noggin for almost three decades. The seed was planted when I was a young teenager sitting on the bench outside of the old Prospector Gift Shop on Main Street, waiting for my mom to get off work. Over the years, the seed sprouted as I hiked all over town, strolling around Wild Bill Hickok's and Seth Bullock's gravestones at Mount Moriah Cemetery, sitting on the steps outside the Deadwood Public Library, walking up and down Main Street, perusing the tourist shops.

As times changed, so did Deadwood. The drugstore where I used to buy candy, the clothing store where I bought my favorite Levi's, and the Prospector Gift Shop are all gone now. At first I was sad to see them go, but then I realized that Deadwood had to transform and grow in order to survive. Just like I did.

A couple of years ago, I was driving down Strawberry Hill on my way into Deadwood when an idea hit me. It was a "what if" moment that sparked the fire of a story in my head. This time, the "what if" involved a single mom, living in Deadwood, struggling to make ends meet with two kids--twins--for whom she had to provide. I had one young child and another on the way at the time, so taking care of kids was front and center in my mind (and my body).

As I drove through Deadwood that day, memories ran rampant in my mind, and the story you hold in your hands began to take shape. I could see it clearly. I'd name the heroine Violet, an old-fashioned name. I could hear her voice; see her in her favorite purple cowboy boots. I knew exactly the location of the realty office where Violet would work, the street she'd live on, and how I'd pull Deadwood's past into the story and intermingle it with the present.

Over the following month, I plotted this story. My poor husband was forced to listen to my ideas morning, noon, and night; there was no shutting me up. Then he caught the Deadwood bug, too, and he joined me in brainstorming and planning. Before I even wrote the first line, I knew that one book was not going to be enough to tell this story, but I had to start somewhere. Finally, after months of writing, I reached "The End" of Nearly Departed in Deadwood, the first book in a series, with much hooting and hollering in celebration.

Now, after several rounds of editing and a lot of polishing, I want to share Violet's story with you. If you

have half as much fun reading it as I had writing it, you'll close the book when you're finished with a big grin on your face--especially since you know there is more fun to come.

Thank you for joining me in this adventure. Hold on to your hat!

Welcome to Deadwood.

Ann Charles

#### About the Author

Ann Charles is a multiple national award-winning mystery author. Her novel, *Nearly Departed in Deadwood*, won the 2010 Daphne du Maurier for Excellence in Mystery/ Suspense and the 2011 RWA Golden Heart Award for Best Novel with Strong Romantic Elements.

Ann has had a huge crush on Deadwood, South Dakota for many moons. She dreams of the day when she can afford a vintage Victorian house of her own in Historic Deadwood. Currently, she lives near Seattle with her clever husband, charming children, and one hell of a sassy cat!

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Susan Swain:

Here thing why this Nearly Departed in Deadwood (Deadwood Humorous Mystery) (Volume 1) are different and reliable to be yours. First of all examining a book is good nonetheless it depends in the content of the usb ports which is the content is as delicious as food or not. Nearly Departed in Deadwood (Deadwood Humorous Mystery) (Volume 1) giving you information deeper and in different ways, you can find any reserve out there but there is no book that similar with Nearly Departed in Deadwood (Deadwood Humorous Mystery) (Volume 1). It gives you thrill reading journey, its open up your eyes about the thing this happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. You can actually bring everywhere like in playground, café, or even in your approach home by train. Should you be having difficulties in bringing the branded book maybe the form of Nearly Departed in Deadwood (Deadwood Humorous Mystery) (Volume 1) in e-book can be your substitute.

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### **David Peacock:**

Do you one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt when you are in the book store? Aim to pick one book that you just dont know the inside because don't judge book by its include may doesn't work at this point is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not as fantastic as in the outside appearance likes. Maybe you answer can be Nearly Departed in Deadwood (Deadwood Humorous Mystery) (Volume 1) why because the amazing cover that make you consider regarding the content will not disappoint anyone. The inside or content is actually fantastic as the outside as well as cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly direct you to pick up this book.

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