



# Haunting Jordan

*P.J. Alderman*

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## Haunting Jordan P.J. Alderman

RITA-nominated author P. J. Alderman weaves present-day supernatural sleuthery with nineteenth-century intrigue in the first book of an enchanting new mystery series set in picturesque Port Chatham, Washington.

Jordan Marsh left L.A. for the quaint Pacific Northwest town of Port Chatham in pursuit of some much-needed R & R. As the prime suspect in her cheating husband's murder, she *had been* hoping to immerse herself in the restoration of the charming Victorian she'd just bought—and put all talk of homicide investigations behind her. But as she soon discovers, the coldest of cases cry out to be solved, too.

For this old house comes fully furnished—with two garrulous ghosts who have a century-old murder of their own they'd like her to look into. Now, if Jordan can keep the L.A. police at bay, and sort through a suspect list of shady characters circa 1890, she might just clear a wrongly accused man's name—and her own.

## Haunting Jordan Details

Date : Published September 29th 2009 by Bantam (first published January 1st 2009)

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Author : P.J. Alderman

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Genre : Mystery, Cozy Mystery, Fantasy, Paranormal, Ghosts, Paranormal Mystery

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## From Reader Review Haunting Jordan for online ebook

### Christine says

This is a nice cozy mystery that takes place in a fictional town in the Northwest. Its an easy read with fun characters and a decent plot, maybe a little easy to figure out but sometimes that's ok. Sometimes books are meant to be pure entertainment.

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### Lisa Kay says

★★★★½

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### Emma says

I really enjoyed this cosy mystery. Lively characterisation, lovely descriptive writing plus I loved the sense of place that the author managed to convey.

I know that some other reviewers have muttered crossly about the plot (not the book's strongest point, but not terrible either) & about the jumps between time. I feel that the time jumps were important in helping to heighten the sense of drama in the novel -- by seeing through Hattie's eyes we are doubly motivated to solve the mystery of her murder. The author writes beautifully of Jordan's appreciation & awareness of the history of the town -- again, the jumps enable us to experience the vibrancy of the town as it once was -- Jordan's house renovation is not just a way to excise her own ghosts (so to speak) & a symbol of her new beginning but a connection to a meaningful past & an affirmation of her value. While she (& the house) have come through turbulent times, they will not only survive but flourish.

4 stars, maybe 4.5.

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### Yvonne says

After being accused of murdering her ex-husband, psychologist Jordan Marsh leaves L.A. and goes to the Pacific Northwest to the small town of Port Chatham. Still the center of a major murder investigation, she buys an old house in Port Chatham with the intention of restoring the historical home. Along the way she meets up with a crazy dog who decides to stick by her side as well as a couple of ghosts who seek her help in solving their own murders dating back to the 19th century.

As the murder of her ex-husband heats up, Jordan delves into old diaries from the 19th century, courtesy of her new ghost friends. She gets closer and closer to solving the murder mystery, but no closer to the one she is facing in the present day. In fact, things are looking more and more dire for Jordan as the police are convinced she's the killer and they aren't looking any further.

Jordan befriends a local cop, as well as the owner of the local bar, who happens to be a former criminal attorney. Jase takes Jordan's case and together they conduct their own investigation of both murders.

PJ Alderman weaves together two murder mysteries. I actually found the mystery from the 19th century to be more intriguing than the current murder. My one problem is what is the likelihood that Jordan would be allowed to leave Los Angeles during a major murder investigation, especially since she is the prime suspect? But, I was able to put that aside (honestly, my only knowledge on things like this come from TV shows) and really enjoy this book.

This is the first in a series of "Port Chatham Mysteries" and I think it's off to a pretty good start. The characters are all very interesting and quirky. I love quirky characters :) It is fast-paced and I'm looking forward to the next one which is already downloaded to my Nook.

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### **Adrienne Testa says**

this is not your typical mystery or ghost story. And damn does the author keep you turning those pages. Jordan Marsh relocates after her husband is murdered to a small coastal town in Washington. Jordan buys a run down Queen Anne home to renovate while she takes time to reassess her life. Jordan becomes involved with the past owner of the home, Hattie Longren and her sister, Charlotte. Who killed Hattie and why, not only can Jordan see them but she can communicate with them as well. As Jordan uncovers the diaries and journals of the past, she is also forced to deal with the truth of her marriage and her patient. Interesting characters, you think you figured it out and then you doubt it when you turn the page.

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### **Sara says**

Very interesting concept to this series -- Haunting Jordan is the first novel and I look forward to more with Jordan and her friends.

I admit to feeling it was a bit slow-going at first; that's the reason for 3 stars instead of 4. Being the first book there are all the characters to introduce and "flesh out", plus a couple of very...ummm..."active" ghosts tossed into the mix. The author also alternates between present time and the 1800's but you soon get used to that as P. J. Alderman weaves her tale and soon you're drawn in wanting to know what happens next!

Jordan Marsh leaves LA under a cloud of suspicion after her soon-to-be ex-husband's murder. She buys a "quaint Victorian" in Port Chatham, WA which she soon realizes needs a bit more work than she thought. Along with the house comes a dog and to Jordan's surprise...two ghosts! As a psychologist, at first she's convinced she's having a psychotic break, while her new friends in town are jealous that SHE'S the lucky one who gets to see them.

Soon Jordan's not only trying to find her husband's killer and clear her name, but is asked by one of the ghosts to solve HER murder. As the story built, it pulled me in and I ended up reading the entire book (and it's relatively thick for this genre) in one sitting. Now to find book 2!

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## **Sarah Sammis says**

Haunting Jordan by P.J. Alderman is a paranormal mystery set in a Victorian era town in the Pacific Northwest. Jordan Marsh has left Los Angeles for this sleepy town in Washington to avoid the media buzz over the ex-husband's murder. She's bought an old Victorian house and just wants to get settled except that the ghosts who haunt the place want her to solve their murders so they can find closure.

<http://pussreboots.com/blog/2018/comm...>

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## **\* Jennifer says**

An excellent book! I was instantly drawn to the characters and Port Chatham, where the story takes place. The ghosts were likeable and the plot was great! I'm going to give it 4 stars only because the flashbacks were hard to read - I dreaded reading about the events that led up to the ghost's death. But in spite of that I seriously enjoyed this book and I've just pre-ordered the follow up, GHOST SHIP.

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## **Jennifer Black says**

First and worst problem for a mystery book- It was completely transparent. I knew who the murderers were from the very beginning. I hate that. Mysteries should be mysterious. And in case I couldn't pick up on all the subtle clues (I'm not sure there were any), we got whoppers like making sure that we knew the phone Jordan was using to talk about sensitive information was a business phone of the type that has multiple extensions, therefore allowing the murderer who is in the building to listen in on the call. Ugh.

Second problem (well, more of an annoyance)- I get that Jordan and the whole town are into organic foods and health stuff. Please stop telling me that Jordan went to the store to get some organic apples, and fed the dog organic dog food, and the restaurant only served organic, locally grown produce, etc. I won't think the character is any less healthy and natural minded if you don't mention every time she does, says, or eats anything.

This is one series I don't have to keep reading.

On a positive note, the book was fairly clean for being modern. The "romance" was just starting, and they were friends. Really. No sex. And any mention of sex was more alluded to instead of giving us all the graphic details. The language wasn't too bad either. There were a couple of unnecessary F words, but I don't remember anything else.

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## **Sarah says**

5 stars

I really, really enjoyed this. Murder mysteries set in both present day and in the 1890's, ghosts, a little violence, humour, jazz, small town, the sort of pub I'd be at home in and a huge dog. Who could ask for more!

I will definitely be reading the rest of this series and more by this author. Wonderful book.

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## C. says

The short statement is that I like “**Haunting Jordan**” and hope **P.J. Alderman** releases her delayed third novel. I haven’t found enough adult ghost stories since the 1980s. It is a beef of mine that the few authors indulging the subject, ruin it by over-modernizing the atmosphere. Jokes are cracked about being haunted and this ‘*Jordan Marsh*’ character in particular is the worst for sarcasm, eye-rolling, and her reaction to a paranormal experience is nonsense.

It’s cliché that characters immediately find a dog, although I treasure animals. When “owner” was incessantly employed, a word that shouldn’t describe a life; I nearly stopped there. *Jordan* feeling odd about talking with a dog was an outrage; before reacting stupidly to an irrefutable ghostly confrontation. Do ponder your sanity pertaining to something you’re unsure you saw or heard. To persist in disbelief after a two-way conversation with identifiable spirits who move objects for you, dragged down my ability to become enthralled with this novel. It was also sappy to immediately introduce a guy *Jordan* is obviously going to fall for.

What raises this to 4 stars is, even handled poorly, it involves mysticism. The logistics and appearance of **PJ’s** spirits are impressively original. The idea that there are things to do and learn in the afterlife is surprisingly astute. It approximates theories held today. Starkly contrasting the pessimistic 2009 protagonist, ‘*Hattie’s*’ language and pace are exciting. The modern half, even with a criminal case, lacks urgency. *Hattie* as the heroine is taut with suspense that ghosts should generate. There are errors too. Why hunt for their diaries when *Hattie & Charlotte* easily described their contents? Also, based on the old police chief’s death date, he couldn’t have had heirs. However this novel has a fascinating background. I might enjoy “*Ghost Ship*” even better.

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## Edel says

A wonderful book for those who enjoy a cosy mystery. You will not be disappointed in this gem. *Haunting Jordan* is the first book in this series and what a great start. I cannot wait to read the next books.

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## Barbara says

This sounded better than it turned out to be. Two murder mysteries, one in the past, one in the present. The heroine, *Jordan*, suspected in her estranged husband's death become involved in trying to solve the murder of the woman who once lived in the house she has just purchased. She can see this woman's ghost and talk to her, but for reasons I really don't understand, the ghost does not have any idea of who killed her.

I really didn't care for the story hopping from the present to the past and back again. *Jordan* is supposedly reading diaries to unravel the mystery, but when she is "reading" you actually jump into the past and are reliving the past again. I can't believe there is that much detail in a journal.

While the actual murderer in the present is fairly easy to figure out, the one in the past was less obvious, at

least to me. I still liked the book.

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### **Vickie says**

HAUNTING JORDAN could be a paranormal amateur sleuth, but there is a grit to it that moves it to paranormal suspense. Jordan has been accused of the murder of her soon-to-be ex and there's a cop on her who won't believe she's innocent. All she wants is peace and quiet and thinks that life will be different and, hopefully, better, in Port Chatham.

That's not about to happen with ghosts in the house, the chief of police who already knows too much about her, a handyman/pub owner too charming for Jordan's own good, and a dog who has invited himself to be hers.

It took me a bit to get used to the way the story was told in long flashbacks, but getting the backstory of the two ghosts 'living' with Jordan made the enjoyment of the book that much better. I hope to see development of the demeanor of the two sisters in future books in the series. They seemed completely different when they were alive than they do as spirits.

I am definitely looking forward to the rest of the series. Glad I have GHOST SHIP on standby.

Five spirits from the past sparkly diamonds.....

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### **Janice says**

I enjoyed this first in a series, about a therapist who moves to the Pacific Northwest, following the death of her husband. Realizing that the detective who is investigating her husband's murder is focused only on her as a suspect, Jordan realizes that she is going to have to find her husband's killer herself. At the same time, Jordan is asked by two of the ghosts who inhabit her new home to help solve the century old murder of one of them, a woman who lived in this same house when it was first built. I liked the characters, and the story. It was a fast, easy read.

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