



Swept Away
A Middle Grade Novel by Natalie Hyde

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A frog-shaped garden sprinkler, a mismatched pair of ladies' gloves, and an ugly flower picture made of human hair do not add up to murder. Or do they?

Unlike the rest of the people in her small town, Ruth Mornay does not believe that the death of her sixty-four-year-old neighbour Beatrice was an accident. Word has it that Bea was swept away by the flooded Teeswater River, but Bea was the head of the Teeswater River Embankment Rehabilitation Society, so Ruth knows her friend would never be so careless.

Bea's godson Saul adds to Ruth's suspicions when he claims that Bea had premonitions about her murder and has left Ruth a box of clues to figure out what really happened. But what could a frog-shaped sprinkler, a mismatched pair of ladies' gloves, and an ugly flower picture made of human hair possibly have to do with Bea's death? That's the case Saul, Ruth, and Ruth's wayward pet chicken Dorcas, have to crack.

The Author

Natalie Hyde is the author of both fiction and non-fiction for middle grade and young adult readers. Her works include *Saving Armpit*, *I Owe You One*, and *Cryptic Canada*, and her books have received award nominations in both Canada and the US.

Praise for previous work:

I Owe You One

"It is seldom that a text ... makes me both giggle and tear up. Natalie Hyde has created characters with humorous traits, realistic flaws, and yet a sense of integrity and community that restore one's faith in people. There is sufficient suspense and juvenile pranks to grip young readers' imaginations." -*Resource Links*

Saving Armpit

"This book would be a terrific read-aloud for students to learn about citizenship, community service, and collaboration. Sportsmanship and hard work, respect for coaches are also valuable lessons within the story." - *School Library Journal* starred review



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