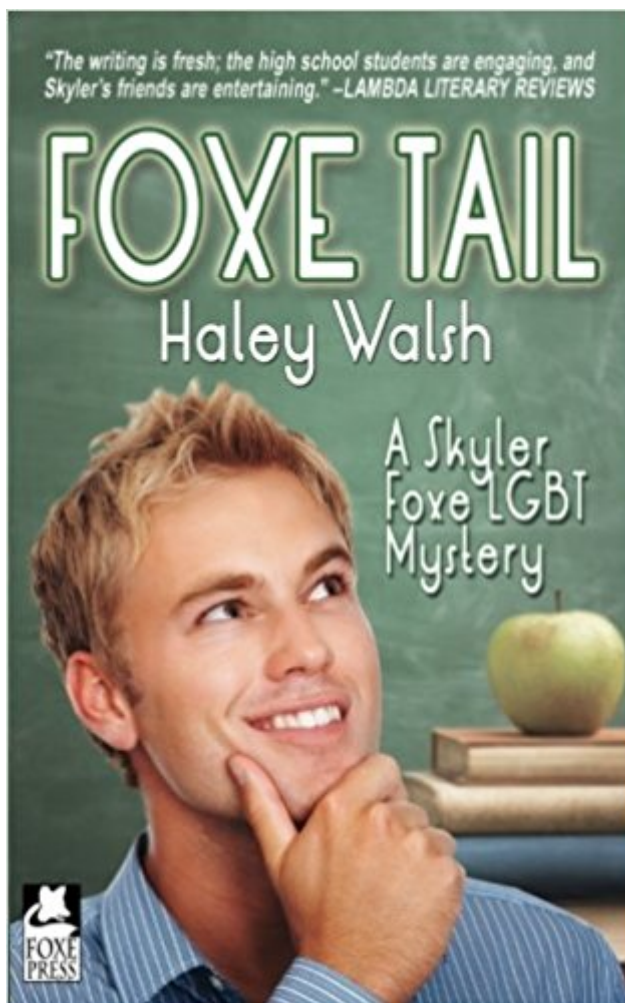


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Foxe Tail (A Skyler Foxe Mystery) (Volume 1)



Synopsis

Gay teacher Skyler Foxe thought teaching English was murder. Wait till he falls into the real thing. Skyler Foxe is a brand new English teacher in his hometown of Redlands, CA. He loves literature, loves his students, loves his friends, especially his best friend Detective Sidney Feldman. But he doesn't love keeping his orientation a secret, afraid of the backlash in this conservative county. But will murder thrust him into unwanted limelight? Who killed the principal's son outside a gay dance club? And what's the connection to James Polk High? Is the macho football coach or his mysterious and gorgeous new assistant coach involved? Can Skyler trust anyone at the high school when there seems to be conspiracies around every corner?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's difficult to find a mystery with gay characters in which the mystery isn't completely buried beneath the romance/sex scenes or the gay aspect isn't nearly non-existent. The former can be fun, but generally leave me wanting more plot. The latter are often good mysteries, but the detective is only vaguely gay -- he claims to be and has a boyfriend we never see, or is only in the story briefly. Foxe Tail, by Haley Walsh, is a nice middle ground. There is no doubt that Foxe and his friends are gay. They go out clubbing, and he met most of them by having sex with them first. Now they form a "club" of guys who slept with Foxe but are now just friends. As Foxe himself starts to realize, he's just a bit on the slutty side. Personally, I loathe clubbing, so those scenes didn't appeal

to me much, but they weren't excessive, and always advanced the plot. Fortunately, Foxe also has a day job as a high school teacher. The scenes with the most heart in the novel involve his attempts to help a student bully get his act together. The end result isn't terribly surprising, but very sweet. There is also another teacher Foxe is strongly attracted to, but has conflicts with. Again, the resolution of the conflict isn't really a surprise, but it's nice. There isn't much romance in the book, though there is some on a back burner, and only one sex scene (which is explicit). But there is no doubt that our detective is gay. And the mystery is good. I didn't figure it out ahead of time, which I liked. Especially since the pieces fell into place well and it made sense in retrospect. Overall, I'd say the story is very successful on a number of levels. The writing is also excellent. So I'd definitely recommend the novel to MM readers who enjoy mysteries!

Love the diversity of this author. She is also known for the Crispin Guest series (under a different pen name), which is a must read series for all of those who have not had the pleasure of reading that series. She also has a handful of stand-alone historical novels that are a must read as well. I love the characters in this first debut book of the series; they grow on the reader as the story evolves. There is just the right amount of predictability along with the "oh my gosh, did that just really happen?!" I am looking forward to adding more of the Foxe Tail series to my reading line-up this winter.

REVIEW CONTAINS SOME SPOILERS WHICH DO NOT HINT AT RESOLUTION OF THE MYSTERY AT ALL. I loved this book and I hope the other two parts of the trilogy would be just as good. Skyler Foxe the twenty five year old gay english literature teacher finds a body when he goes out for a night of fun with his best friend Sidney who just happens to be a detective. The body just happens to be the relative of somebody who Skyler works with and of course he gets more and more personally involved with investigating the murder. I have to say that while I read and liked a lot of mysteries where civilians became investigators for different reasons, often I rolled my eyes at them and was thinking now, why why would you not tell the police that you discovered something so important? Are you really so crazy and value your life so little? Not so in this book, while Skyler just can't let this murder go for many different reasons and does not let his friend know every little or not so little step he makes right away, when he realizes that his life and his friends' lives could be in danger he *tells her*. Of course he does not drop the investigation, we would have no story otherwise, but he does not attempt to become a police, which was lovely. I thought Skyler was adorable, I thought author conveyed his passion for literature and his caring for kids perfectly. I

thought his lesson on Shakespeare attempting to engage the class was hilarious. I have not attended the American high school, but I thought that school life was portrayed with great care and attention to detail even if I do not know how realistic it is. It seemed realistic enough to me :) And I loved secondary characters, all Skyler's friends were hilarious and his kids especially Alex and Rick were wonderful (scene with these two was definitely the most romantic scene in this book hehe). There is no sex in this book for those who are looking for it, but there is a possible beginning of the romance between Skyler and another teacher. Highly recommended.

I love this series. I am starting to read each book over again in anticipation of reading the newest installment (Book 7). I hope Haley Walsh continues this story line indefinitely. A great group of main characters that Ms. Haley fleshes out continually. I love all of them.

Memorable and enjoyable characters, and intriguing subplots, but the main plotline was hard to accept. The main character is intelligent and erudite, so why would he jump with both feet into all kinds of stupid to take up amateur sleuthing on a murder investigation? Still it was interesting enough that I will probably check out the second book, just to see what happens.

A fast-paced, easy read, this is the perfect book for those times when you want something light. Not so dark or intense. Not to say that it's fluff; it's not. It's a good story, nicely plotted, and the main characters are likable and engaging. But there's not much in the way of emotional depth or suspense. Still, I liked it. It was fun. I'll read the rest in the series.

I put off reading this book for quite a while. I wasn't interested in reading a series and only purchased it on Kindle because, frankly, I was out of things to read. I am SO sorry I took so long to just give in and read it! Skyler is wonderfully funny and I was surprised he didn't realize how he wasn't really hiding his homosexuality from anyone! The book is layered with mysteries...which I enjoyed! I kept thinking that, in the end, they would all tie in together. But...they really didn't. There wasn't one part of the book that wasn't boring. I wanted to slap Keith a few times...the SFC cracked me up....and Alex just broke my heart. This is one book I'll be reading AGAIN..and happy to do so! Now...onto book #2!

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