

# New Book

## “Charleston Green” set in Old Village

### around old village

By Callista Milligan

The Old Village neighborhood holds all the ingredients needed to spark imaginations: rich, preserved history, a lively community and beautiful, diverse scenery. This inspired Charleston author Stephanie Alexander to delve into the neighborhood in her new Amazon Bestseller, *Charleston Green*. Set in a haunted mansion on Bennett Street, the novel combines women’s fiction, mystery, history and the paranormal in an intriguing and inspiring story. *Charleston Green* could capture the attention of readers of any genre.

The story follows Topsy Collins, who just experienced a damaging divorce and moved into a beautiful mansion with her children; a solid story could just be made from her personal life filled with trials and triumphs in her career, dating and parenting. But Topsy’s life becomes all the more interesting when she realizes her mansion is haunted by a couple trying to sort out their own relationship issues. To make matters worse, Topsy has spent her whole life trying to ignore her ability to communicate with the dead, but with her new specter roommates, that is impossible.

Alexander was inspired to set her story in Old Village because she loves the “old, historical feel to it,” but unlike downtown, it’s off the beaten path from where tourists would typically go in Charleston. The Old Village neighborhood is still a hidden gem, allowing it to remain mysterious.

Alexander also wanted to “introduce readers to an area they might not be familiar with,” and allow Topsy to be a typical Charlestonian, living outside of the downtown area. Alexander started writing in fantasy and paranormal genres because she was having trouble finding the kind of books she wanted to read; books that she truly felt gave her a sense of escapism. She loves to place characters in out of the ordinary circumstances—for example, a haunted mansion—but still have the plot be character driven, with characters working through issues that any everyday person could be dealing with.

For anyone wanting to delve into Topsy’s world, you can purchase the e-book from Amazon or Barnes & Noble, or pick up a signed copy at the local Village Bookseller. You can also attend a book signing happy hour at the Village Bookseller on July 16th from



6:00 to 8:00pm, featuring Stephanie Alexander and artist Gallavantor, Caroline Staley, whose art is featured on the cover of *Charleston Green*.

Due to the possibility of event cancellations because of Coronavirus, please check with Village Bookseller to confirm that this event is still taking place as the time gets closer.



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