

CULINARY MYSTERIES

When checking out a Culinary Mystery, you may not only find out whodunit but what to make for dinner or dessert. Many of these cozy mysteries have recipes included within the lighthearted storylines. The main characters may be bakers, chefs, caterers, or food writers who put their sleuthing skills to use to solve the mystery at hand. The popularity of this type of mystery book has increased over the last 20 years and many of the titles include a culinary play on words.

GO-TO CULINARY MYSTERY AUTHORS

JOANNE FLUKE

DIANE MOTT DAVIDSON

SUSAN WITTIG ALBERT

TAMA MYERS

Recipe from Diane Mott Davidson's book *Killer Pancake* from the *Goldy Shultz* series.

Killer Pancakes

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 egg whites
- 1 16-ounce can juice-packed fruit cocktail, drained and juice reserved
- Maple syrup or chopped fresh strawberries macerated with a little sugar

Preheat the oven to 350. Spray 2 nonstick cookie sheets with vegetable oil and set aside. Sift the dry ingredients together and set aside. Beat the egg whites until frothy. Beat in the juice. Gradually add the dry mixture, stirring until well blended. Fold in the fruit cocktail.

Using an 1/8-cup (2 tablespoon) measure, scoop dollops of pancake batter onto the sprayed pans, leaving at least 2 inches between the pancakes. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes or until puffed and golden. Serve hot with maple syrup, fresh strawberries, peaches, or other fruit.

Serves 4

Where to find these books:

These books are located in the fiction section under the appropriate genre.

Fiction=General Fiction Section
Mystery=Mystery Section
Reserve Today = the library does not own a copy of this title, but it is available at another library in our system.

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ADULTS

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Amish Candy Shop Mysteries

by *Amanda Flower*

Start with: "Assaulted Caramel"(Reserve today)
Bailey King is living the sweet life as assistant chocolatier at world-famous JP Chocolates in New York City. But just when Bailey's up for a life-changing promotion, her grandmother calls with news that her grandfather's heart condition has worsened. Bailey rushes to Ohio where her grandparents still run Swissmen Sweets, the Amish candy shop where she was first introduced to delicious fudge, truffles, and other assorted delights.

Augusta Goodnight series

by *Mignon Franklin Ballard*

Start with: "Angel at Troublesome Creek"
(Reserve today)

Augusta Goodnight stars in this series of mystery novels as a guardian angel, and is naturally bossy, she is a pretty good judge of character (usually), and cold in nature. Augusta usually does not solve the crime herself, but is able to guide the subject in the direction of who the killer is. She even cooks like a dream. The books also have recipes thrown in, as a bonus.

Coffeehouse series

by *Cleo Coyle*

Start with: "On What Grounds" (Reserve today)
In these culinary mysteries, divorced mom Clare Cosi manages a coffee house in New York City's Greenwich Village for her obnoxious ex-husband and imperious ex-mother-in-law. The plucky sleuth's engagingly eccentric friends, sexy boyfriend, and the fascinating coffee lore and recipes play a role in vividly capturing the New York experience while keeping the mystery in the background.

Cookbook Nook Mysteries

by *Daryl Wood Gerber*

Start with: "Final Sentence"(Reserve today)
Cookbook Nook Mysteries revolves around a fictional town of Crystal love, California and the lead character here is Jenna Hart. She is a culinary bookshop owner, passionate reader and a lovely foodie who comes across many challenges and mysteries in her career.

Cozy Culinary Mysteries

by *Josi S. Kilpack*

Start with: "Lemon Tart"(Reserve today)
Domestic, feisty, loyal, and kind are a few words that describe amateur sleuth Sadie Hoffmiller. However, there are some other descriptions that Sadie herself might not appreciate but are true nonetheless: busybody, stubborn, funny, and full of surprises. It's not as if it's her fault she keeps finding herself in the middle of a murder mysteries, it just seems to . . . happen, and it only makes sense to figure it out, right?

Crossword Mysteries

by *Nero Blanc*

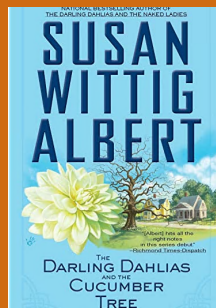
Start with: "The Crossword Murder"
(Reserve today)

These crossword mysteries have been creating a buzz. Tess Harper, the crossword editor at the New York Sentinel, continually finds herself in the midst of murder as she can see the answer to the puzzle faster than most. And while Lt. Logan O'Connor of the NYPD doesn't want Tess' help, he finds it easier to keep an eye on her if they work together.

Cupcake Bakery Mysteries

by *Jenn McKinlay*

Start with: "Sprinkle with Murder" (Reserve today)
Melanie and Angie, bakers, best friends, and owners of the Fairy Tale Cupcakes Bakery, whip up delectable desserts and hunt down crafty killers in this New York Times bestselling culinary cozy series.



Darling Dahlias series

by *Susan Wittig Albert*

Start with: "The Darling Dahlias and the Cucumber Tree"
(Mystery)

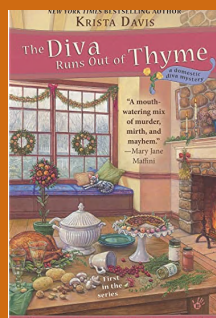
Named for the ladies of the garden club of Depression-era Darling, Alabama, this engaging, fast-paced series of cozy mysteries is rich in historical detail. Follow the ladies of the club as they investigate

suspicious town newcomers, stolen money, and even murder amidst the flurry of small-town gossip surrounding each case.

Dewberry Farm Cozy Mysteries

by *Karen MacLnerney*

Start with: "Killer Jam" (Reserve today)
This series features Houston reporter Lucy Resnick who cashes in her retirement to buy her grandmother's farm in Buttercup, Texas. She's looking forward to a simple life as a homesteader but instead she finds herself solving murders.



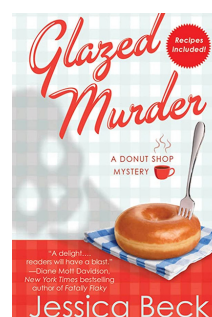
Domestic Diva series

by *Krista Davis*

Start with: "The Diva Runs Out of Thyme"
(Reserve today)

This book series features event planner Sophie Winston. She constantly encounters her rival, lifestyle columnist, TV celebrity Natasha Smith who have been rivals since childhood. And now Natasha is living with Sophie's

ex and coveting Sophie's house, which belonged to her ex's deceased aunt. This series includes delicious recipes and great tips on entertaining!



Donut Shop Mysteries

by *Jessica Beck*

Start with: "Glazed Murder"
(Reserve today)
Suzanne Hart is an amateur sleuth and proprietor of a small-town donut shop, with an ex-husband, wacky friend, and hunky cop, in April Springs, North Carolina, in the Donut Shop mysteries.

Gourmet Girl series

by *Jessica Conant-Park & Susan Conant*

Start with: "Steamed"
(Reserve today)

The culinary series of mystery books features the chief protagonist in the role of a boy-crazy girl named Chloe Carter, who is aged twenty-something. She lives in Brighton, Massachusetts, and longs for a serious relationship filled with a lot of love. Author Susan has set all the books of the series in Brighton, Massachusetts. The mother and daughter pair of novelists began writing this series in the year 2006.

Hannah Swensen Mysteries

by *Joanne Fluke*

Start with: "Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder"
(Reserve today)

The Hannah Swensen Mysteries are a fun food-themed cozy mystery series. Set in Minnesota, Hannah is a baker and amateur sleuth who runs a local shop called The Cookie Jar in Lake Eden, a heroine who has a penchant for solving crimes.

Key West Food Critic Mystery

by *Lucy Burdette*

Start with: "Topped Chef" (Reserve today)
The series begins with protagonist Hayley Snow looking for a job as a magazine food critic, but murder complicates matters for the would-be writer.

Mystery with Recipes series

by *Isis Crawford*

Start with: "A Catered Wedding" (Reserve today)
The series is about a catering/bake shop operation in New York run by sisters Bernie and Libby Simmons. The shop is called A Little Taste of Heaven. Of course, the shop's name becomes all too literal when guests begin to drop dead and the two sisters have to find out "whodunnit."

Pennsylvania Dutch Mysteries

by *Tamar Myers*

Start with: "Parsley, Sage, Rosemary and Crime"
(Reserve today)

The Pennsylvania Dutch Mysteries is a series of cozy mysteries by American author Tamar Myers. The series follows Magdalena Yoder, who runs the PennDutch Inn. And when murder occurs in the inn, Magdalena is forced to investigate them.