

# Booked for Crime



compiled by Monica Williams  
July 2013

**Adams, Ellery.** *A Killer Plot (Books by the Bay Series)*

Former local resident Olivia Limoges has returned to her hometown of Oyster Bay, North Carolina. She is a wealthy author who is currently suffering from a case of writer's block. She returns with her loyal poodle Captain Haviland as her sole companion. Olivia has invested in her hometown and owns a restaurant, but she is a bit of a mystery and keeps to herself. She is invited to join the local writer's group the "Bayside Book Writers". All seems to be going well, and Olivia is coming out her shell, but then one of her new friends turns up dead. The body has a haiku poem left next to it. Will Olivia and her newfound writer friends discover the killer before their own stories come to end? Other titles in the series include: A Deadly Cliche, and The Last Word.

**Arlington, Lucy.** *Buried in a Book (A Novel Idea Mystery)*

When reporter Lila Wilkins loses her job as a reporter, she becomes an employee at Novel Ideas, a literary agency. She is responsible for handling query letters. One letter is delivered in person by a man named Marlette. After lunch Marlette's body is discovered in the lobby, and his query has mysteriously disappeared. Lila decides to investigate. When one of the agents is murdered, Lila begins to realize there is more at stake than just one man and his manuscript. Another title in the series is: Every Trick in the Book.

**Barrett, Lorna.** *Murder is Binding (Book Town Series)*

Tricia Miles moves to picturesque Stoneham, New Hampshire to escape from the busy city life. She opens a mystery bookshop on a freshly renovated main street that is populated with speciality bookstores. Tricia discovers the body of her neighbor, the owner of the cook book shop. The woman, who was known for being difficult, has been brutally stabbed, and a valuable cookbook has been stolen. The police suspect Tricia because she is new in town and she discovered the body. Will Tricia be able to find the real murderer before she is cooked? Other titles in the series include: Bookmarked for Death, Bookplate Special, Chapter and Hearse, Sentenced to Death, and Murder on the Half Shelf.

**Brandon, A.** *Double Booked for Death  
(A Black Cat Bookshop Mystery)*

Darla Pettistone moves to New York City from Texas when she inherits a bookstore in Brooklyn from her great aunt. Darla scores a literary coup and lands an author visit and signing from Valerie Baylor, who is a hugely successful teen author. Valerie's visit attracts crowds of teenaged fans and a few odd characters. All goes well until Valerie steps outside for a cigarette and is killed. Was it a hit and run or just an accident? Darla is assisted not only by a handsome police detective, but also her cat Hamlet, who is one smart feline! (For those who are not fans of talking animals Hamlet does not speak, but he does provide some clues). Another title in this series is: A Novel Way to Die.

**Carlisle, Kate.**      *Homicide in Hardcover (Bibliophile Series)*

Brooklyn Wainright is a book restorer who saves rare and precious volumes from the ravages of time. She recently opened her own business after training under her mentor Abraham Karastovsky. Brooklyn attends a museum reception where Abraham is being honored for his work. She finds Abraham dying from a gunshot wound. He gives her a priceless edition of Goethe's Faust and leaves her with a final cryptic clue, his last words, "Remember the devil". Brooklyn is tasked with completing the restoration that Abraham started and trying to clear her own name. Other titles in this series include: If Books Could Kill, The Lies that Bind, Murder Under Cover, One Book in the Grave, and Peril in Paperback.

**Carporelli, Felicia.**      *Murder in the Library*

Chicago resident Violetta Aristotle, 32 year old widow and librarian, is the heroine of the story. She works in an unnamed university library. She manages the Reference department with five librarians and many student pages. When two of her colleagues are murdered, Violetta finds herself becoming involved with the handsome police detective working the case. Violetta begins to discover that professional rivalries and jealous colleagues are all good motives for murder. Will she and the handsome detective be able to find the culprit?

**Christie, Agatha.**      *The Body in the Library*

In the early hours of the morning the Bantry family discovers a body of a young woman dressed in an evening gown in their library. Mrs. Bantry calls for Miss Marple to help solve the case. While none of the locals recognize the body, the victim is eventually identified as Ruby Keene, an eighteen year old girl who worked in a nearby resort performing dance demonstrations. A second murder is discovered when the charred remains of a young woman are found in car. It takes a sleuth like Miss Marple to find the connection between the two murders and to find the killer!

**Harris, Charlene.**      *Real Murders (Aurora Teagarden Series)*

Aurora "Roe" Teagarden is a librarian living in Lawrenceville, GA. She is a member of the Real Murders Society. The Society meets monthly to study unsolved crimes. Their latest meeting starts with a murder of one of their own. One by one other members of the society are murdered, and the MO matches that of a well known historical killer. Will Aurora be able to find the killer before she becomes a victim? Other titles in the series include: A Bone to Pick, Three Bedrooms, One Corpse, The Julius House, Dead Over Heels, A Fool and His Honey, Last Scene Alive, and Poppy Done to Death.

**James, Miranda.**      *Murder Past Due (Cat in the Stacks Series)*

Recently widowed librarian Charlie Harris returns to his hometown of Athena, Mississippi with his Maine Coon cat, Diesel. Charlie works in the Archive Department of the local college library and lives in what was his aunt's home. Charlie, like his aunt, rents rooms to the college students. Former resident and famous author Godfrey Priest returns to Athena for a book signing. Godfrey's personality is less than appealing, and when he is found dead there are

plenty of suspects who would have wished him ill. Charlie and Diesel decide to try to find who is the culprit.

**Kirwin, Mary Lou.**      *Killer Librarian*

Librarian Karen Nash has been planning her dream London vacation. Her boyfriend Dave cancels at the last minute, but Karen decides to go anyway. She ends up on the same plane with Dave and his new girlfriend. Karen proceeds with her vacation. She goes out for a drink and ends up telling a stranger (Guy) how she is so angry with Dave, she could just kill him. Back in her bed and breakfast she gets up in the middle of the night and finds the body of another guest. It is ruled as an accidental death, but Karen isn't quite so sure Too much death in word and deed in to short a time.

**McKinlay, Jenn.**      *Books Can Be Deceiving (Library Lovers Mystery Series)*

Lindsay Norris is the director of a small town library in Connecticut. She is assisted by Children's Librarian Beth, who is an old and dear friend of Lindsay's. Beth is in a relationship with a Caldecott winning illustrator, Rick. Beth has dreams of being a children's book writer and has a very messy and public break up when her boyfriend scoffs at her aspirations. Beth meets with a book editor and learns the shocking lesson that her ex-boyfriend has been stealing her work and passing it off as his own. Beth and Lindsay go to Rick's home, on a private island, and find that Rick has been murdered. Beth is the number one suspect, and it is up to Lindsay to prove her friend's innocence.

**Sansom, Ian.**      *The Case of the Missing Books (Mobile Library Series)*

Israel Armstrong takes a job working as a librarian in Northern Ireland. He arrives to find that the library he was supposed to work in has been closed and that he has been reassigned to the Mobile Library division (book mobile). He discovers that 15,000 volumes are missing from the central collection. It is key that he find those books because his new boss will not let him resign and return to London until he does. He finds the volumes, but that is only the beginning of his troubles. Israel's fish out of water situation combined with a mystery makes a great read! Other titles in this series include: Mr. Dixon Disappears, The Book Stops Here, and The Bad Book Affair.

**Truman, Margaret.**      *Murder at the Library of Congress*

Gallery owner Annabel Reed-Smith finds herself embroiled in another mystery. The book opens with the theft of a painting by nineteenth century artist Fernando Reyes. The book's action takes place in Washington, D.C. where Annabel was looking forward to spending two months in the Library of Congress researching Christopher Columbus for an article. Rumors have existed that there is another diary of the Columbus voyage written by Bartolomeo de las Casas. Annabel finds more than documents as part of her research. She finds the body of Michele Paul, Library of Congress employee and Las Casas expert. There may be a connection between the art theft and the murder, and it is up to Annabel to investigate. There are other books in the series that feature various famous locations in Washington DC.