



Southern Peach Pie and a Dead Guy

A. Gardner

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

Southern Peach Pie and a Dead Guy

A. Gardner

Southern Peach Pie and a Dead Guy A. Gardner

From USA Today bestselling author A. Gardner comes a deliciously dangerous new series...

After an injury derails Poppy Peters' ballet career, she gathers the courage to follow in her grandmother's footsteps and attend Calle Pastry Academy in a small-town Georgia. Poppy has her work cut out for her not only fitting in with her charming (and not-so-charming) Southern classmates but also proving her worth to her teachers after her first publicly humiliating attempt a making the school's famous peach pie. But Poppy's pastry problems go from bad to worse when she's suddenly accused of stealing expensive black truffles, and her attempt to clear her name goes awry...resulting in her finding a dead body instead! If Poppy's going to survive this culinary experience, she'll need to find the missing truffles and track down a killer, all while honing her baking skills to compete in the school's dessert competition for a coveted pastry internship in Paris. Can Poppy prove she's one tough cookie? Or is her life about to crumble?

****Recipes Included****

Poppy Peters Mysteries:

Southern Peach Pie and A Dead Guy (book #1)

Chocolate Macarons and a Dead Groom (book #2)

Ice Cream Bombes and Stolen Thongs (short story in the "Killer Beach Reads" collection)

Bananas Foster and a Dead Mobster (book #3)

Strawberry Tartlets and a Dead Starlet (book #4)

"A sweet and satisfying mystery that will leave you hungry for more! A. Gardner's Poppy Peters Mysteries have earned a place on my keeper shelf!"

~ Gemma Halliday, New York Times bestselling mystery author

Southern Peach Pie and a Dead Guy Details

Date : Published March 4th 2015 by Gemma Halliday Publishing

ISBN :

Author : A. Gardner

Format : Kindle Edition 200 pages

Genre : Mystery, Cozy Mystery

 [Download Southern Peach Pie and a Dead Guy ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Southern Peach Pie and a Dead Guy ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Southern Peach Pie and a Dead Guy A. Gardner

From Reader Review Southern Peach Pie and a Dead Guy for online ebook

Moondance says

My first encounter with a southern guy isn't going so well.

Poppy Peters is a former ballerina who has come to Georgia to attend Calle Pastry Academy. She is following in the footsteps of her grandmother who attended I her youth. Poppy gets off on the wrong foot with Professor Sellers when she mangles the schools famous peach pie. The next day she burns her cupcakes. Needless to say she is not his favorite student. There is a rumor that the kitchens of the school are haunted by the ghost of a former chef. Poppy and fellow student, Cole experience a presence while in the kitchens at night. On a return trip to the kitchens they stumble over the body of Professor Sellers. The two along with Poppy's roommate, Bree start investigating.

This was a quick easy read that had a few twists and turns to keep you interested. There is illegal activity going on, missing students and murder. Poppy and Cole are instrumental in catching the killer and you think that is the end. Instead, another part of the puzzle is revealed and Poppy and her family are put in danger.

The story was a bit shorter than I expected but there is an additional 20 plus pages of recipes. Yum!

Sandee says

This book was okay. I expected a cozy mystery but this was a story about students at a pastry school with a minor subplot about smuggling and murder. The story jumped around in places disconnecting the flow and leaving the reader trying to figure out what is happening.

I think the best way I can describe it is as two stories. One about the pastry school and one about smuggling. The smuggling/murder story was very bad. The characters involved had almost no role within the overall story, there were no clues, no danger and no drama. The one about the pastry school was better. The characters were interesting, the baking contest was fun and it felt like it had potential for more and unique stories. But there wasn't enough story.

Laurie Way says

A new author for me! I enjoyed this first in the series. The mystery was quite intriguing and I easily connected with the characters. I look forward to reading more.

Debbie Oxier says

This was just an okay read for me. The main character, Poppy, has enrolled in a cooking school. Her grandmother attended the same school and was a successful baker. Poppy wants to follow in her footsteps. However, things don't go well starting off. Her attempt to make a well-known peach pie recipe falls flat, then a rival in her class sabotages her oven and causes a fire. The kicker though is when she gets accused of

stealing some valuable mushrooms. Determined to clear her name, Poppy enlists the help of a classmate, Cole. Together, they discover the dead body of one of their professors.

The plot was rather mediocre and the characters really had no spark to them. Even so, I continued reading. I got to the part where they supposedly caught the bad guys. One minute they are giving their statements to the police. The next, Poppy is at her parents for Thanksgiving when a totally unexpected player shows up and puts weed killer in their food, trying to poison them. Poppy discovers this by just happening to see him in her back yard, miraculously finds the weed killer containers in the shed and instantly figures out what was going on. The story just didn't transition well from one scene to the other and the whole poison thing came across as contrived, a way to add pages with a rather dubious conclusion. I could only give it three stars.

Lisa-Jaine says

This was a great palate cleanser after some of the heavier stuff i've been reading. A lighthearted little mystery with some great characters. I loved Bree, Poppy's roommate who bakes when she's nervous. Very enjoyable.

Britt, Book Habitue says

An okay mystery, but not an amazing one. I think I'd have found everything more believable if it had been a prestigious program for teens and the characters had all been like 10 years younger.

Abby Vandiver says

Murder at a pastry school doesn't stop its students from turning out the tastiest morsels in Georgia.

Poppy Peters had to give up her dream (rather her mother's dream) of being a ballerina after a back injury. But her Grandmother Liz, a Calle Pastry Academy alumni and baker extraordinaire, has given her an idea for another occupation - pastry chef. Poppy, against her family's liking, decides to enroll in the same pastry school her grandmother attended. There she seems to find happiness - new friends and even a love interest. But things quickly go awry.

Not the typical murder mystery - the reader is well into the book before a dead body shows up and there is a mystery to solve, there's no list of suspects and the clues are lacking - still Southern Peach Pie and a Dead Guy fits into the cozy genre easily. The characters are typical, but fun. It's set in a small community and amateur sleuthing and good baking abound. (Check out the recipes in the back of the book, they look yummy.)

WARNING: VAGUE SPOILER ALERT!

However, for this reader there was a lot of things amiss and thus the reason for the three star rating: Peach pie doesn't actually have much to do with the murder. Poppy, who acts a lot younger than thirty, has a love of coffee that people seem to know about - even before she has one cup of it (I believe she only drinks one cup in the entire book). There's an illegal ring of thieves that seem to have no purpose and there's blackmailing of students it seems, without anything bad to hold against them. Then there's the lack of research by the author which made the book less believable. Gardner writes about a pastry school where the instructors are called "Mr." and "Professor" instead of "Chef." Students are allowed to cook in shorts and high heels (what

happened to chef jackets?), and valuable items are stored for some reason in classroom kitchens. But the most egregious miss was how the story surrounded the French founder of the school who immigrated to Georgia "nearly" a hundred years ago. It appears that he soon became disillusioned with the school in the early 1900s and went back to France to bake for the Queen. The last queen of France, Marie Antoinette, died in 1792 (a lot longer than a hundred years ago.) Seeing that France's very last queen was pretty popular (with the saying "let them eat cake," erroneously attributed to her, and having her head chopped off), the author should have gotten the history (timeline) right. Then when you think the mystery is solved and life has gone back to normal for Poppy, without nary a clue from the author to the reader, the case picks right back up, assumingly, as a twist to the story. The only surprise was why the author did that because it's kind of unbelievable. Wouldn't people actually taste (if not smell) weed killer and not eat the food? And why did the killer spray it on the food in the backyard then throw the containers away in the trash cans there? There would be fingerprints everywhere. And where were the people that actually delivered the food?? Did they just hang out while the killer sprayed the poison and then packaged it back up and dropped it off at the door? Even though the book is fictional, it still should be believable.

Not the best cozy mystery book, but a light quick read nonetheless. Three stars.

Carol says

Poppy Peter's life is changing drastically!!! An injury
Has ended her career as a ballerina.
Poppy has enrolled in Calle Pastry Academy (CPA) in
Georgia.
This is where her grandmother learned to bake. Poppy
has very few...ok.. almost no cooking skills so she is in
for a challenge. Her first attempt at a "Southern Peach
Pie" is very discouraging. But she hangs in there
finding challenges at every turn.
Especially when she finds a dead body!!!
Simple, quick read with delicious recipes for "Southern
Peach Pie, Italian candy, cake, cupcakes plus at the
End.

Chris Blackton says

This book was conflicted! The narrative kept switching between the first person and the third person, extremely confusing! The conclusion came two chapters before the end of the book and what followed after was anticlimactic and really served no purpose. I have definitely read better books!

Gwen says

Yum

It is a good recipe mystery, but the story seemed more about recipes and the characters and less of a mystery

to solve

Julie says

A fun read with a mix of light- and dark-hearted moments; plus, it has recipes!

Betty says

All those scrumptious sounding desserts Poppy and her friends worked so hard to master made me very hungry. And I'm on a (perpetual) diet, am diabetic, and have to take counting carbs seriously. Nevertheless I loved this book -- such a fun read. I loved Poppy and her roommate Bree. Who wouldn't love a roomie who bakes when under stress? And things at the Calle Pastry Academy are indeed stressful -- from Poppy's embarrassing failure at baking the school's signature peach pie to a classmate who lives to sabotage Poppy at every turn, including causing a fire in the Academy's kitchen, to Poppy being accused of theft of expensive truffles, finding a professor dead in the kitchen, and Poppy thwarting the poisoning of her family's holiday meal. But, of course, Poppy and friends come through beautifully. I'm looking forward to Poppy and friends next adventure in baking.

Caryn says

Okay

I am an avid cook as well as a fan of cozy mysteries. I have an escapist fondness for the woman-plus-food genre. I thought the setting of a pastry school was a good choice, and the heroine's initial insecurity with her choice of profession and its effect on her confidence was believable and provided an opportunity for some humor. Beyond that, however, I thought almost every other scene was too unbelievable and the reactions of the characters obnoxiously stupid. The final disappointment came with the recipes, which were supposed to be believable as the delectable confections described in the book as made by star pastry pupils. Instead they were unexceptional, standard fare recipes. Okay, but I certainly have better recipes if I were baking to impress.

Lisa Young says

Great book! The story had an interesting twist toward the end. There were also some great recipes to try.

Cortney Golden says

Wonderful Read

I enjoyed the story. Twist at the end I never would have guessed. Poppy is a fun character. Can't wait to read the next book
