



A Brew to a Kill

Cleo Coyle

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"Coyle's Coffeehouse books are superb" (*Library Journal*), and now the national bestselling author of *Murder by Mocha* serves up a hot new Coffeehouse Mystery with *A Brew to a Kill*.

Coffee. It can get a girl killed.

A shocking hit-and-run in front of her Village Blend coffeehouse spurs Clare Cosi into action. A divorced, single mom in her forties, Clare is also a dedicated sleuth, and she's determined to track down this ruthless driver who ran down an innocent friend and customer. In the meantime, her ex-husband Matt, the shop's globetrotting coffee buyer, sources some amazing new beans from Brazil. But he soon discovers that he's importing more than coffee, and Clare may have been the real target of that deadly driver. Can ex-husband and wife work together to solve this mystery? Or will their newest brew lead to murder? *Includes recipes.*

A Brew to a Kill Details

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Author : Cleo Coyle

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From Reader Review A Brew to a Kill for online ebook

Judy Alter says

Claire Cosi is as intriguing as ever in this Coffeehouse Mystery. This time she, her lover Mike, and her ex-husband Matteo team up in an unlikely trio in a risky scheme to trap big-time drug dealers smuggling dope in with coffee beans. Claire also has to deal with the hit-run near fatality of her new partner, Lily--a hit-and-run that is eerily similar to other incidents. This will keep you reading--and smelling the coffee as Claire describes the various flavors in the new bean Matt brought home from South America. The barista world is a fascinating background for a mysery, and Coyl writes about it with authority. Recipes--including her adaptation of colcannon, which I really want to try.

Caitlyn says

There were fewer than average passages that made me completely furious. By this 11th book the frustration of watching Clare chase the obviously wrong suspect has faded to background stupidity, and Matt doesn't make a gross pass at her, so I remained mostly calm while reading this book. Overt sexism was also somewhat lower than average, maybe because there were a higher than average number of female characters to balance out the walking stereotypes. I am still grossed out that Nancy has "an on-going crush" on Dante (who she tried to literally date rape in the last book) but it gets mercifully little page time.

The mystery was actually mysterious. Some good red herrings, well-connected sub-plots, and people who are not Clare do actual police work fairly well. This book did not kill my soul dead.

Susan says

OK, I did not finish this one. By page 20 I read: i) a racist remark that long hair + beard (+ I am guessing darker, in this case Mediterranean, but still visibly darker complexion) = terrorist; ii) an admiring remark about, ugh, I cannot and will not write his name in my review but think orange-complexioned ^\$%; iii) a scene where Matteo throws a temper tantrum and is verbally abusive to Claire while Claire and her ex-mother-in-law (Matteo's mother) have an agreement that 'Matteo will be Matteo' (and I suppose boys will be boys).

UGH! If I wanted to read this type of right-wing propaganda garbage, I could find it all too easily on the internet. I have no interest in inviting it into my home, my mind, and my spirit through a book I picked up for entertainment purposes. Double UGH, and triple UGH!

I am done with this book, glad to give it back to the library, and really with this series. Life is too short, and good books too many for me to waste a smidgen of my time or energy on garbage.

Sue Ross says

I laughed. I cried. I got angry. When I first started reading Brew To a Kill, it felt like I was home again. My senses were awake with the sounds and smells of New York, and I've never been there. Cleo Coyle has a

way with words that makes you a part of the book. Her characters become family....a family that is loving and yet isn't afraid to fight. I can't wait for the next one to come out.

CJ - It's only a Paper Moon says

This one took me a bit to figure out but once I heard the keyword, I figured it out right before Clare.

Also, Clare is getting into some steamy situations with Mike and I love it. Can we please have more of that instead of the last book's judgy/shamey Clare?

Matt is really getting to be a big lug. I mean, what the what?!

Poor Lilly Beth but I definitely saw that one coming with Max. I do hope they both stick around.

Nancy? Um...didn't she try to rape Dante? Or at least sexually assault him? I mean, she slipped him the Mocha Magic in the last book and they both sort of od'd.

Anyway, glad I finally got around to reading this.

Micky Cox says

This installment of the coffeehouse mystery series takes a bit of a dark turn as the mayhem once again comes very close to the coffeehouse as one of their own is injured, drug lords are after them and the DEA thinks they are on the wrong side of the law! Claire and her band of baristas are going to have to work fast to figure this out or the whole coffeehouse will be sunk! A great plot supported by superb character development makes this cozy mystery one to put on your must read list!

Glenn Harris says

The "Coffeehouse Mysteries" are among the best of the cozies and this is a worthy addition to the series.

Michelle says

I had stopped reading this series for a while and I thought I had read this one. I picked it up to read it for book club this month and discovered I had not read it. That was a pleasant surprise. It's a well crafted mystery even though there is a lot going on and more than one mystery.

Rachel Kramer Bussel says

I'm a relatively new reader of Cleo Coyle's coffeeshop series, but it has everything I like about cozy mysteries: family, romance, small business, food and smart investigation. It also has plenty of coffee trivia

and New York City ambience and in this case, food trucks, along with a dose of city politics and rivalry! The Village Blend decides to branch out with a coffee and dessert truck, which causes internal strife before Clare and her ex-husband Matteo, as well as external strife when her rival sees her as stiff competition. When her friend gets run over outside the Village Blend, it gets personal and Clare takes on a new mission to hunt down the hit and run driver, which includes posing as a wedding cake buyer. Once again, this series stays extremely current while also giving us insight into the Village Blend's and New York City's past, and ups the intrigue and personal drama between Clare, Matteo and Clare's partner Mike Quinn, when the three have to share living space. This is a fast-paced mystery with an amateur sleuth who proves she's tough but also has quite a heart, one that foodies especially will enjoy.

Lorraine says

Time for a little reading fun! Just finished this book in three days. It's a fast read and, as I said, a lot of fun. I love this series: coffee, food, New York and more. Clare Cosi manages her ex mother's-in-law coffee place in Greenwich Village AND lives above the store. She has now mended her bad relationship with her ex, Matt, who is remarried. However, they both have affection for one another and are united, in part, by their daughter, Joy, and the fact that Matt's mother is one of her closest friends in addition to being her employer. Clare also is in love with Mike Quinn, a detective in the NYPD, but she's afraid of commitment. In this latest book, Clare is having a problem with a vendor who insists on parking her food truck directly in front of their store. While Clare is trying to serve more lower fat, lower sugar treats with their coffee, the cupcake lady is flaunting that whole trend with incredibly decadent over the top confections. Meanwhile, Clare has started a food truck of her own to serve their new treats and their, of course, incredibly good coffee. (Made me wish they were real!) Clare has formed a partnership with Lilly, a former nurse who is working with the mayor's office to curtail the rise of obesity and diabetes in the city. She is the daughter of a Filipino immigrant who has a small restaurant in the Filipino section of Queens. Then someone runs Lilly down right on the street in front of the coffee shop. A brusque detective who specializes in hit and run investigations enters the picture and tells her somethings about the love of her life that she didn't know before. Then Matt tells her that when he was in Brazil looking for new coffee, he was forced into a meeting with a drug lord..... This book was a lot of fun with lots of red herrings and deadly serious parts as well. In addition, Ms. Coyle has a terrific website with lots of great recipes, and all of her books also have a lot of great recipes in the back. Just what I needed! More recipes! ;)

Amy Lignor says

This is the eleventh book in the Coffeehouse Mystery series, and not only does it follow in the others' footsteps by offering a fun and entertaining mystery, but it provides more 'killer' recipes that every chef and pastry lover in the world wants to own.

Clare Cosi, manager of The Village Blend located in New York City, is busy watching her new idea get off the ground. She and her employees have been working on launching their coffee truck, which will extend their business by letting them drive their amazing coffee and treats across the cityscape. The new truck is called Muffin Muse, and is all the rage.

One night however, a fatal hit-and-run accident occurs that very badly injures a coworker of Clare's, just as she was trying to send a coffee truck that was owned by a rival business away from an affair that she was catering. Clare, whose 'significant other' is a police detective, gets to know the policemen that come to investigate the accident and finds out that there's a 'new group' in the NYPD that has already figured out the

scene of the crime down to the minute of impact.

While Clare is trying to help the police find the person who ran down her friend, her ex-husband and partner, who is the coffee buyer for Village Blend, looks more and more like he is involved in the drug trade because drugs are found in his coffee warehouse. He is immediately accused of smuggling by the FBI. In order to clear this problem up, Clare gets involved with the Bureau and a drug lord, while trying to keep her employees safe and out of even more trouble that seems to be coming from an unknown suspect.

As always with this series, this newest cozy is a definite fun, one-day read. First class writing and characters, with recipes for scrumptious coffee cake and muffin treats that will make readers' mouths water, equals a definite 'must-read'!

Until Next Time, Everybody,
Amy

Jonathan says

This series has been my favorite cozy series for awhile now and with each book it just keeps getting better. This book exhibited all of the humor, action, and mystery the books before it had and it still retains a "cozy" feeling even though it's set in New York City.

In this book I felt that we saw growth in the MC, Clare. She grew in her relationships with Mike and Matt and in herself, in my opinion. I want to give an example of how she grew, but they all have spoilers, so I'm not going to. I also thought you saw growth in Mike and Matt towards each other. Some things they go through in this book make them stop seeing each other as enemies.

I loved the new characters; Lilly, Max, and Jeremy and I really hope we see more of them soon. I also loved that Ester, Nancy and Dante took bigger parts in this book, I've always loved all of the baristas and it was good to see them get a spotlight.

The mystery was superb, and I didn't guess the killer until Clare did. There were a lot of branches going off of the murder to give you a lot of suspects that all had viable motives.

Overall a phenomenal book and, quite possibly, the best in this series yet. Can't wait to pick up the next one!

Shirley says

Clare decides to add another dimension to Village Blend. At a cost of \$100,000 she has researched and decided to add a food truck.

Competition is fierce in the food business. Lily, a dietitian who is converting the high calorie treats to lower calorie treats for the Village Blend has numerous ideas that will combat the competition.

We start the mystery when Lily is run over and the sleuthing begins....

Clare decides to use the internet to see if there are any pictures of the accident.

Will the camera phone lead Clare to the killer?

As it turns out the pictures taken aren't going to be forwarded to the police. The site posts the pictures but doesn't agree with the methods police use for accidents like this.

You will experience a drug lord using coffee to smuggle cocaine and the DEA trying to catch them in the act. Matt unwittingly went to the wrong country for coffee purchases and both he and Clare wind up in the middle of an almost deadly exchange.

There are even a few red herrings and side stories for our enjoyment.

Knock off merchandise. Esther the artist and a grant turndown. Health cover up by a insurance writer and a doctor.

Clare even uses a map as a prop while on the trail.

Too many story lines can distract from the main mystery and can annoy the reader. Several annoyed me but you might enjoy them.

As usual this is a great cozy and keeps the series going.

I love audible but sometimes the narration can be a problem. I think this narrator should do female voices but just read male voices. Trying to do male voices can be distracting if they don't work and in my opinion that is a problem with this narration

Toni (T.C.) LoTempio says

This was a really good one. I love the intricate plots of this series. I wish I could do my own series as well as this one. I learn something new every time I pick up one of these books. the characters always feel real, I feel like I know clare and Matt and Quinn. OMG what will i do when i finally finish this series. Cleo, you are going to have to write faster.

Ronna says

Truly the best cozy series around! I especially love the audio versions of these books as the narrator adds so much to an already terrific story. In this book, 40 something NY Village Blend Coffee shop manager, Clare Cozy has invested in a the newest big fad --a food truck. Fortunately, or maybe not, Matt, her ex and co-manager of the Village Blend, has just returned from Brazil where he purchased a new exotic, and very expensive, coffee bean. While they are discussing each other's new enterprises with a friend of theirs, a van runs down and seriously injures the friend. But who was the real intended victim?

Food truck competition, artistic expression, imported contraband, Chinatown, and the continuing love lives of the characters of the Village Blend continue to regale my mind with mystery, foodie fun, interesting facts, and a terrific story. I love the idea of destiny that happens in this book too. Two more books before I catch up with the authors. Please write faster!!
