



Powdered Peril

Jessica Beck

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Powdered Peril **Jessica Beck** It's hard to keep a secret in April Springs—especially when it involves a no-good cheater like Peter Morgan. Donut shop owner Suzanne Hart has tried to be civil with the guy, since he's dating her best friend Grace. But when Grace shows up at her doorstep—sobbing—Suzanne's the first to admit she's glad the relationship is over. She's also the first to spot the footprints leading to Peter's dead body... Instead of the usual morning donuts, the police are busy rounding up suspects and sifting through clues: Why did Peter splash yellow paint on Suzanne's shop window before he was murdered? How angry was Grace when she learned that her boyfriend was two-timing (or three- or four-timing)? Suzanne is willing to bet dollars to donuts that her friend is innocent. Now she has to prove it—before the real killer takes a powder...

Powdered Peril Details

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From Reader Review Powdered Peril for online ebook

Michelle says

This is the 8th book in the Donut Shop mystery series. Suzanne's friend Grace comes to her after she breaks up with her boyfriend, Peter, upon finding out he has been cheating on her. In the early hours of the morning, she finds that her shop has been vandalized and the paint footprints lead to Peter's dead body. In hopes of proving that Grace was not responsible, Suzanne begins to investigate to help determine who else might have a motive. She is also working through dealing with a new assistant in her shop and juggling her relationship as well. The book contains many doughnut recipes that look delicious.

Glen says

Fairly typical cozy. When the sleuth's best friend breaks up with her boyfriend for cheating, the boyfriend winds up dead. The friend is the prime suspect. The sleuth tries to clear her name, and finds the boyfriend had a lot of secrets and enemies.

Some of the recipes look good.

Tobinsfavorite says

When I see free cozies, I will often grab them, read them, and give them to my mother, who particularly enjoys the Cozy genre. Some of them are good. Some of them are not so good; as with any genre, there is a lot of filler. I'm not even going to say that's a bad thing, as there are things I enjoy so much that I'm happy with examples that aren't my favorites. Cozy Mysteries just aren't enough of a favorite thing with me.

I found far too much assurance, first from the narrator to the reader, and then between characters, that they love each other. Like sisters. Like family. Like best friends. Really real love. It felt like the romance novel version of friendship. (Tell, don't show.)

The mystery was alright, neither taxing (cozies shouldn't tax) nor immediately obvious (cozies shouldn't be entirely mechanical reading).

This one hits all the genre markers, and it was OK.

(I put a note on it: "For emergency use only, this is not a good book", and hid it in Mom's car.)

Dayjavoo says

I never really write reviews but this time I just need to. It's the first time I've ever given a book a 1 star, and I stress and stress that I'm the kind of person who will easily fall in love with any book I read

BUT NOT THIS TIME

I had high hopes on the book when I first spotted it, since the synopsis sounded pretty interesting and the fact that "Recipes are included" is just a bonus.

But oh the disappointment.

(Ridiculous point no.1) The main character is NOT likeable. AT ALL.

OK, I get it Suzanne, you are trying to help your BF out and seek justice for her dude. But seriously?! It's none of your business when there are actually great cops around in town. I just couldn't bring myself to love this book when I couldn't even stand the starting point of the plot.

And talk about your *attitude*, Suzanne. Hello? You are NOT an investigator/ FBI agent, you have no authority whatsoever when questioning people around, so at least show some respect for your so-called suspects every time you go and "investigate" matters yeah? She had the nerves to ask people "Hey, so tell me your alibi" AND "you know what, you are on my suspects list, so tell me where you are at the night of the murder". Puh-lease. *rolls eyes*

(view spoiler)

(Ridiculous point no. 2) Most of the conversations between characters are pointless and do not contribute to the plot AT ALL.

So the two best friends share a tender moment together, the two confirm that they love each other, big deal. So Momma prepares a great meal for the Suzanne and her friends, Momma is such a great mom, they confirm they appreciate and love each other, big deal.

(Ridiculous point no.3) The plot is just really annoying in general.

Every chapter I read about how Grace is so strong-hearted to live through the investigation. Every chapter I read about how Suzanne and Grace are such great friends to each other. Every chapter I read about how much more of a jerk Peter is. OK, I get it really, please just talk about something else.

I had to resist the urge to flip directly to the end of the book almost every page I turned because it's just getting more and more boring. The only worthwhile pages are the last 20 pages (view spoiler), so yeah, you should seriously consider skipping it to that and you wouldn't miss anything.

(Ridiculous point no. 4) There are just too many unanswered questions, and you call this a complete book @@

Yeah, I get that its a series, but seriously, I thought some were pretty essential and important.

(view spoiler) Just. UGH.

To sum up? I almost lost faith in all mystery books after reading Powdered Peril. If you're still interested in giving a go? Be my guest.

Mary Ann says

Suzanne's friend, Grace, has just found out that her boyfriend has been cheating on her. She tells him it is over and he tries to get back together and when he is thwarted he blames Suzanne covering her shop with paint. Grace is suspected and convinces Suzanne to help her find his true killer.

Good read. The story shows the closeness and friendship of the women and the support they show each other.

Lauren Dottin-Radel says

I really had no idea who the killer was until the very end. I was sad for Grace but she seems to have taken the death in good spirits.

What I liked in this book was the fact that Suzanne's boyfriend, Jake didn't interfere with the murder at all. I don't like the fact that now that George is mayor, he is taking a back seat and not helping with the "cases." Things may change in the near future but I really so miss him.

I'm also happy that Emma is back but sad at the same time that she didn't give college a little bit more of a effort. Sometimes it's good to get away from where you grown up. she just let the homesickness get the best of her, but Nan was not a good fit for the donut shop. I do want to know how she knows the chief so well. I also wonder if she will be in the next book. Let me get started on that book ?

Nora-adrienne says

Jessica Beck's Donut Shop series has reached a new plateau. Between the number of suspects, the amount of work Suzanne and Grace have to put in to solve this mystery, and the totally surprise ending, you will not put this book down for even a second, until you've reached the last page.

A total winner!

Debbie says

I normally love this series but this book annoyed me. I got a little tired of reading in every chapter what a wonderful, strong friend Grace is. Alright, I got it...move on. This story was almost more Grace worship than a story. I'll stick with the series because I have enjoyed the rest and hope that the next is better.

Molli Powers says

This is the last book I read of this series. I liked them much better earlier on. It drives me insane how there are no clues to who the killer is- I will give credit the killer is always an introduced character. I like a fluff book now and then, and these aren't even good enough for that anymore.

Wendy says

Powdered Peril stands up just fine as a stand alone mystery, but one of the many things I love about cozy mysteries is the sense of being part of a family that you get from reading each book in a series. When we first met donut shop owner Suzanne Hart she was recovering from a broken marriage and just learning to stand on her own. In the books since then we have come to know and enjoy the growth in Suzanne's personal and

business life. Suzanne's mother has grown as well, moving on to a new chapter. I enjoyed the fact that this newest entry focuses on Suzanne's friend, Grace, who has her own challenges to face. Even minor characters and friends evolve in Beck's series and I am always glad to see what's new in their lives as well. If you like a small town cozy with a strong amateur sleuth and lots of good food try the Donut Shop series (I personally advise starting at the beginning with Glazed Murder because it's too good a treat not to eat your way through all the books).

Hemavathy DM Suppiah says

As a previous reviewer said, a rather typical plot. Peter is murdered, though he had it coming to him, and Grace and Suzanne are in pursuit of the murderer.

I didn't like Suzanne at all in this book. She was rather rude to the people she considered suspects, and had no one to blame but herself when they refused to talk to her. And the way she treated Nan was horrible. Even if she was trying to help her friend she shouldn't have treating the woman who'd been working with her in the shop that way. Suzanne didn't give Nan a fair chance. It's not nice to not trust your assistant and be constantly reprimanding them from the start. The entire storyline with Nan was so unnecessary and was such a waste of time as she wasn't even connected to the murder, or the murderer. And she never apologised or made it up to Nan even though Grace had pointed out her appalling behaviour.

There's some minor slut shaming too, which was really out of place in the book. Holier than thou judgment has no place in cozies.

The ending was ok, as was the final dinner the women had together. I hope Leah figures in more stories from now on. It would be nice to have Suzanne Grace, Trish, Leah and Emma teaming up to fight crime. But we never found out what that list was for!

Amanda McGill says

I'm taking a break from this series. I can't believe there are 34 books in the series!

In the 8th novel, Grace breaks up with her boyfriend and he is found dead the next morning. Grace is the number one suspect and Suzanne needs to find the real killer.

These books are getting to be a bit stale and they aren't realistic at all. I'm not a big fan of Suzanne or any of the main characters.

Lauren says

the whole town comes together to solve this murder mystery when Grace's boyfriend is murdered. of course Suzanne is taking the lead. I wish the accident had been further explained especially if it was truly an accident or not.

Jenny says

Registered on Bookcrossing - <http://www.bookcrossing.com/journal/1...>

Another fun ride in the life of a humble donut maker in April Springs, North Carolina. Suzanne Hart is a down to earth, kind and loyal person. When her best friend Grace breaks up with her boyfriend and then he's murdered later that night, she is determined to find out who did it and why. Suzanne is more than willing to help her best friend find the truth.

Cheryl says

I read another book in this series and had an enjoyable time with it. The characters were quirky and entertaining. The type of people you would find in a cozy mystery. The recipes are a bonus as well as add to the story.

This book did not grab my attention like the other book. Instead of really getting to visit with other characters in town, it was mainly focused on Suzanne and Grace. Which the bond these two have as friends is great. Yet they really could not hold the whole story by themselves. Part of this also had to do with the fact that the murder victim was a douche and so I did not care who and why they killed him. However because I liked the other book, I will probably not give up on this series and start at the beginning of this series.
