

RECOMMENDED FOR YOU



Cozy mysteries

TO READ THIS FALL & WINTER

A person with long blonde hair is sitting on a dark couch, reading a grey book. They are wearing a brown and white striped sweater. The background is a wall with peeling white paint. The book's spine has the text "IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE THIS WAY" and "LETSA TERKUREST".

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Of course, you can read cozy mysteries any time of the year. But there's something about the fall and winter that makes us crave cozy in everything we do, including the books we read!

A "cozy mystery" is a whodunit featuring an amateur sleuth (usually female) who often solves crimes in a small or tight-knit community. The stories typically include a lot of quirky characters but less graphic sex or violence than thrillers or other mysteries.

Here are a few of my favorite cozy mystery series. (You might notice they involve fewer cats, cupcakes, and crocheting than the typical list of cozies.)

Miss Fortune Mysteries by Jana DeLeon

An undercover CIA operative is made by a deadly arms dealer, so she hides out in a small Louisiana town, solving mysteries with her elderly friends and flirting with the local deputy.

Stephanie Plum series by Janet Evanovich

A bounty hunter in Jersey tracks criminals and solves crimes with and sometimes despite her quirky family and friends, all while juggling two love interests.

Eat, Pray, Die Mysteries by Chelsea Field

An Australian on the run from a knee-busting debt collector (thanks to a deadbeat ex) is in training to become a poison taster. She teams up with a quirky neighbor and a handsome client to solve crimes.

Addison Holmes Mysteries by Liliana Hart

A teacher turns detective after her life implodes in wacky ways, never mind her complicated family and tendency to get in trouble. FYI, this series gets a little spicier than the others.

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(continued)

White House Chef Mysteries by Julie Hyzy

An assistant chef at the White House stumbles into crime solving while also avoiding danger and facing the politics of the kitchen.

Demon-Hunting Soccer Mom by Julie Kenner

A former demon hunter and current suburban mom is forced back into the world of the supernatural. Like if Buffy grew up and moved to the suburbs.

The Geek Girl Mysteries by Julie Anne Lindsey

A self-described geek girl into coding, comics, gaming, and cosplay is at the wrong place at the wrong time and ends up solving murder mysteries, much to the chagrin of a local cop.

Lexi Carmichael Mysteries by Julie Moffett

Beautiful but socially clueless computer geek works for intelligence agency and navigates the world of relationships while also solving crimes.

Rose Gardner Mysteries by Denise Grover Swank

After her overbearing mom is murdered, a small-town DMV employee quits her beige, boring life. Mysteries, difficult family dynamics, and a love triangle make this series cozy indeed.

Pineapple Port Mysteries by Amy Vasant

A young woman raised (and still living) in a retirement community finds herself in the middle of more than one mess and fancies herself a detective. Solving crimes with her elderly friends and love interest keeps her far from retirement!

Keep reading for more series...

A photograph of a person with long blonde hair, wearing a brown and white striped sweater, sitting on a white, fluffy rug. They are holding a grey book with their right hand. The book's spine has the text "IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE THIS WAY" and "LISA TERKELREST" visible. The background is a wall with peeling white paint.

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(continued)

In addition to catching up on the latest installments in my favorite cozy mystery series, I also have several new-to-me series on my to-read list.

Here are some of those:

Mystery Bookshop Series by V.M. Burns

Two mysteries in one with crime-solving and mystery-writing bookstore owner.

Haunted Bookshop Mysteries by Cleo Coyle

Bookshop owner solves crimes with the ghost of a detective haunting her store.

Sophie Katz Murder Mysteries by Kyra Davis

Multiracial mystery writer solves crimes and antagonizes (or flirts with?) a P.I. Reportedly spicy.

Hannah Swensen Mysteries by Joanne Fluke

Small-town baker snoops and solves crimes. This is my favorite Hallmark mystery movie series!

Gethsemane Brown Mysteries by Alexia Gordon

Classical musician living in Ireland sees ghosts and solves mysteries.

Lacey Luzzi Mafia Mysteries by Gina LaManna

Imagine if Stephanie Plum worked for the other side of the law. This is that.

Inspector Gamache Series by Louise Penny

A chief inspector solves the many crimes in a cozy, Canadian village. People rave about this one.

**The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency
by Alexander McCall Smith**

Exactly what it sounds like. Takes place in Botswana.

A photograph of a person with long blonde hair, wearing a brown and white striped sweater, sitting on a dark couch and reading a grey book. The book's spine has the text "IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE THIS WAY" and "LISA TERKURST". The person is holding the book with their right hand, which has a ring on the ring finger. The background is a wall with peeling white paint. The foreground is a thick, white, fluffy blanket.

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For more cozy mysteries, browse the selection of mysteries at Hallmark Publishing ([click here](#)).

You can also search on Amazon for "paranormal women's fiction." These books aren't necessarily cozy mysteries, but they are both funny and fun, typically featuring middle-aged women entering a new stage of life and kicking some major butt in some kind of supernatural way. I recommend the series in this sub-genre by Denis Grover Swank, Elizabeth Hunter, Jana DeLeon, and Shannon Mayer.

All the books in this guide can be found in my Amazon store at marycarver.com/cozy.