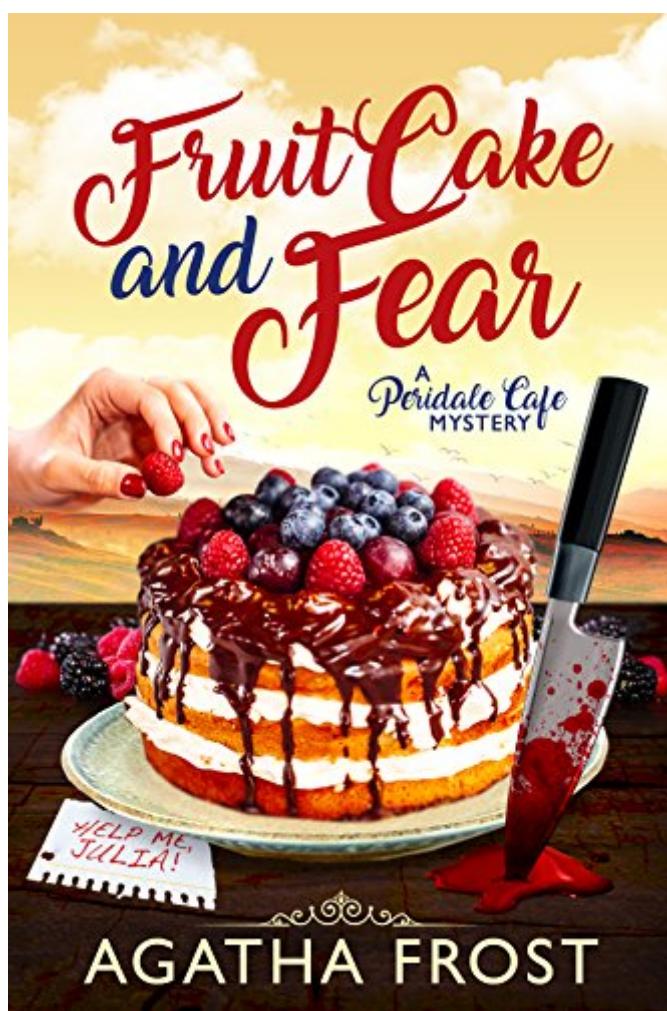


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Fruit Cake And Fear (Peridale Cafe Cozy Mystery Book 8)



Synopsis

The 8th book in the **BESTSELLING** Peridale Cafe Cozy Mystery series! A storm hits Peridale with disastrous effects. Barker's cottage is destroyed, forcing him to move in with Julia, but she has more to worry about than him leaving his socks around and not putting the toilet seat up. Julia is shocked when the storm also uncovers a secret basement underneath her cafe and even more shocked when she finds the body of a teenage girl who has been missing for twenty years. The cold case team rushes in, pushing Julia out of her cafe and leaving her to unravel the truth of the past one thread at a time. When she realises the girl, Astrid, was the daughter of Evelyn, the eccentric B&B owner, Julia vows to piece together the events that led to Astrid being trapped in a basement for decades. How did the girl die, and more importantly who killed her? Julia hunts for clues to a case the village had almost forgotten about so she can bring Evelyn the peace she deserves, but will she be able to do it in time before somebody she loves suffers a similar fate? Book 8 in the Peridale Cafe Cozy Mystery series! Can be read as a standalone but will be enjoyed more as part of the series. A light, cozy mystery read with a cat loving and cafe-owning amateur female sleuth, in a small village setting with quirky characters. Written in British English. No cliffhanger, swearing, gore or graphic scenes!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Julia's birthday could be a nice thing; baking for her beloved ones, celebrating and have a great time. The fact that her birthday is overshadowed by a literally storm which creates a mess she discovers a hidden basement under her cafe. Curious but also wondering she explores the depths, and the revealings aren't pleasant. Julia and Jesse don't have easy times in the latest Peridale Cafe Cozy Mystery book, not only is the discovery of the female body in the basement a shocking news, the fact that Barker has to move in to the two women is not an overly joy. The crime case around the young girl, Astrid, was really great told and again the reader got a solid investigation. The twist in the case, the revealings and the hidden secrets of character you knew from other books give the thrill, they also show the dark sides of the character. Although it's a pretty disturbing and tragic case the book is filled with the well-known humor, the wit and the banter. The fact that Barker has to move to Julia's house isn't a start of a honeymoon season. Jesse isn't happy with the new arrangements though she likes Barker and even Julia has hard times endure her lover and boyfriend. I really liked the bonds which were strengthen, the interactions were charming. At the end there was a shocking twist in the book but the crime case could be solved and the danger could be prevented. Again a great, solid read. Julia, Jessie and Barker grow more and more into a family and the end of the book was kinda surprising but also pretty sweet. :35 out of 5 stars for this.

:)Review originally posted on my blog with added content on Mikku-chan / A world full of words

Love this series and all the characters!! It's Julia's birthday and a storms brewing. By the time the storm is over, Barker's cottage is smashed by a tree, Julia's car is wrecked and a skeletal body is found underneath the cafe. Could this be a young girl who went missing 20 years ago. Evelyn, the eccentric owner of the B&B, had lost her daughter Astrid 20 years ago, she went missing and they never found her. Always holding out hope she'd be found. Now the mystery of how she died, who done it and why begins. Evelyn has ask Julia to figure it out and Julia does everything she can to help. While all this is going on, the cafe has been closed while investigators search under the cafe for clues, Barker and Jessie are at each other's throats trying to live together. Barker has nowhere else to go until his cottage is fixed and during one of their arguments, Jessie runs out. Will there be another murder to solve or will Julia figure it out before more heartache comes to Peridale? What a great book!! I loved it, the mystery, it's more personal this time I think, and there is closure finally for Evelyn. A must read in this series!

Another great cozy mystery by Agatha Frost. I really enjoyed this story! This one involves Julia's friend and our favorite B&B owner Evelyn. Julia discovers a skeleton in the basement of her cafe. The remains are identified as that of Astrid, Evelyn's daughter, who went missing some 20 years ago. As much as she tries to stay out of the case, when Evelyn asks her to look into it, Julia can't refuse. Unfortunately, when Julia begins asking the wrong people too many questions and gets too close to the truth, Jessie gets put in harm's way. I loved the mystery of this one. And this one does have some surprises. But I loved how the author weaved the story line into the family dynamic that is Julia, Jessie and Barker. I am so invested into these characters lives. We meet some more residents of Peridale in this one. I love this quaint little town and the people who live there. This is a fabulous cozy mystery series with great character growth by an author with amazing writing skills. Looking forward to the next adventure. Highly recommend! 5 stars* I received an ARC for an honest and unbiased review

I've read and enjoyed all the books in the Peridale Cafe series, but this is without doubt my favourite to date!! What exactly it is that makes this story that bit more special I honestly cannot say. In common with the whole series it is a well written cozy mystery with the usual cast of delightful characters, all set within a picturesque Cotswold village. However, in this our eighth visit to the village, the murder requiring our protagonist Julia's attention occurred many years in the past and as comes to light, has deeply affected the lives of more than one of the village's inhabitants. With her usual flair Julia sets out to solve this cold case and in doing so hopes to provide closure to Evelyn, the kooky B&B owner whose daughter has literally been unearthed. What Julia doesn't realise though is just how much this case from the past is going to affect her own life in the present and the danger it poses to someone very close to her....!! No spoilers here though, you are going to have to read it for yourself to discover what happens. But rest assured you will not be disappointed!!! Disclosure: An advanced copy of this book was sent to me by the author. However my review has been written voluntarily and all of the above opinions are my own.

Some secrets are best left buried, or are they? After a violent storm rips through Peridale, Julia discovers a hidden basement in her cafe, which leads to a gruesome discovery. Astrid Wood went missing the night of her prom, 10 years ago, and her mother Evelyn always held out hope of her one day walking through the door. When the past comes crashing into the present, Julia finds herself in the middle of a very emotion filled mystery. This was truly a very special Peridale mystery, and one

of my all time favorites [A Good Girl's Guide to Murder](#).

I find that this series keeps getting better & better. This time around a chilling 20 year old secret is discovered & Julia has to decide if she wants to investigate or leave it this time for the police to solve. There are many threads to this plot that keep interweaving throughout coming to a very intense & chilling conclusion. The ending had me almost in tears -of joy! I can't wait for the next installment to see how all the changes progress!

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