

Secrets of the Castleton Manor Library

A Novel Murder

Faith Newberry's dream job may be morphing into a nightmare. Newly hired as the librarian at the upscale and pet-friendly Castleton Manor literary retreat, Faith sees her move from Boston to the quaint Cape Code village of Lighthouse Bay, Massachusetts, as a boon.

But things turn ugly when she discovers that the first edition book by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle proudly displayed in the library - also his first in the Sherlock Holmes series - is a counterfeit, and not a very good one at that. Who could have absconded with the real volume? Could it have been the former librarian when she mysteriously disappeared, leaving only a cryptic note of resignation? Or has someone else duped the handsome heir to the Castleton Manor estate, Wolfe Jaxon?

Whichever is the case, it soon becomes clear that someone will stop at *nothing* to keep her from learning the truth.

Just as Sherlock Holmes had his Watson to help solve mysteries, so does Faith. Only hers is a lovable stub-tailed cat bearing the same name. Faith rescued Watson as a kitten from behind a dumpster on a freezing New England night, and he - like the fictional doctor - has become her loyal sidekick. He is Faith's friend, confidant, and sometimes her rescuer in times of peril. Together they set out to uncover the truth.

The members of the Candle House Book Club, a lively group of women headed by her aunt Eileen Piper, also join Faith in her quest for answers. Will they be able to find the missing librarian and the missing Sherlock Holmes volume before this chapter of Faith's life comes to a fatal close?

Bitter Words

Faith Newberry is settling in nicely at her job as librarian at the upscale and pet-friendly Castleton Manor literary retreat. Even her cat, Watson, has taken to his new life in Lighthouse Bay on Cape Cod. With a cozy cottage on the grounds of the Massachusetts estate in which to live, and surrounded by books by day and friends by night, Faith thinks life couldn't get much sweeter.

When celebrity pastry chef Sugar Worthington takes up residence at the manor, trailing a television camera crew and an entourage of adoring fans, Faith rises to the challenge of organizing a book signing for the baking diva. But things turn sour when attempts are made on Sugar's life, and Faith soon finds herself in a sticky situation.

It seems Sugar has a dark side, and she's managed to make some enemies over the years, along with her drop-dead delicious desserts. Just how far will someone go for sweet revenge?

Faith doesn't know what she'd do without her tailless, tuxedoed sidekick, but she does know there's no one she trusts more than Watson to help her solve the mystery. She will also get a little help from her beloved Aunt Eileen, and the other intrepid members of the Candle House Book Club, veterinarian Midge and sous chef Brooke. It will take their combined talents to turn up the heat on a would-be killer.

Can they figure out who's got it in for Sugar without getting mixed up in a recipe for death?

The Grim Reader

It's Simmering Suspense Week at the Castleton Manor literary retreat in Lighthouse Bay, Massachusetts. Librarian Faith Newberry has her hands full with a week of author talks and signings planned. But when the bejeweled guest of honor, reigning queen of romantic suspense Gloria Bauer, clears out her luxurious suite and disappears without a trace, Faith must scramble to keep the manor's other guests - and her cranky boss, Marlene Russell - satisfied with one less author.

Charlotte Jaxon, Castleton's owner, thinks Gloria's absence is all a stunt. Didn't Agatha Christie do the same thing decades ago? But when both a ransom note and Gloria's dog, Sir Arfer Conan Doyle, turn up, Faith quickly realizes the danger could be real. In exchange for Gloria's safe return, the kidnapper wants not only the stunning diamond necklace the author stowed away in the manor's safe, he also demands a priceless, one-of-a-kind handmade book from the library's collection. Is it all a public spectacle, or has something royally dreadful happened to the author?

Despite Charlotte's wishes, Faith begins to investigate. She can't help but wonder if Charlotte knows more about the kidnapping than she is letting on. After all, publicity for Gloria is also publicity for Castleton Manor. Meanwhile, the remaining authors don't seem all that concerned about Gloria being gone. Without her around, their stars will shine brighter than Gloria's diamonds. And what about the disgruntled fan who seems more than a little obsessed with her favorite author? Any one of them, or the other castle guests, could be behind the plot.

To restore Gloria to safety, Faith will need all the help she can get from her best friends, tuxedo cat Watson and the trusty members of the Candle House Book Club. But can they find the interloping perpetrator before Gloria's deposed, permanently?