

## Simple Lies

The quaint Indiana town of Pleasant Creek is bustling with activity as Christmas draws near. Boston native and innkeeper, Liz Eckardt, is learning to embrace her new home's holiday traditions and welcomes the slower-paced life at the heart of Amish country. The little town is brimming with yuletide cheer, and the brisk air is filled with the smell of freshly baked Christmas cookies and the merry sounds of carolers. Liz is certain her godson Steve, coming home for the holidays from his military post overseas, will appreciate the comfort and joy that only a nice, simple country Christmas can bring.

Unfortunately for Liz, 'tis the season for unexpected mysteries and unwelcome surprises. Instead of her beloved godson arriving on the Olde Mansion Inn's doorstep, who should appear but Liz's troublesome ex-fiancé Matt, demanding a room and much of her time and patience. Meanwhile, frightening packages from a sinister "Santa" have been appearing on the doorsteps of several local businesses, each filled with a variety of unsavory items and a card bearing a single chilling word: "Heartless."

Are these cards accusations or confessions? Who could be leaving the ghastly "gifts" all around town? And is it merely a heinous holiday prank, or is Santa planning to bring something more ominous to the people of Pleasant Creek? With each new delivery, the contents of the packages become more and more disturbing, and Liz is determined to find out why the culprit is dead set on ruining Christmas for everyone. Wrapped up in the mystery, she calls on her dear friends in both the English and the Amish communities for help. Join Liz, the lovable ladies of the Material Girls quilting group, and the town's handsome mayor, Jackson Cross, as they try to find a way to bring the grisly gift giver to light, all while keeping the Christmas spirit alive.

## The Mistletoe Murder

It's Christmastime on beautiful Orcas Island, Washington, and the entire town is brimming with holiday cheer. Kaylee Bleu, the new owner of The Flower Patch flower shop, is excited to deck the halls of Turtle Cove Mansion along with a group of interior designers. Their elegant seasonal displays will be auctioned off to benefit a worthy cause. But Kaylee's enthusiasm wanes when she realizes that not everyone is filled with goodwill. Her fellow designers have big personalities with egos to match and make the charity event feel like a competition.

The festive occasion takes a much darker turn when one of the designers is murdered.

For Kaylee and her friends in the Petal Pushers garden club, 'tis the season to track down a killer. They - along with Kaylee's inquisitive dachshund, Bear - investigate the death of prominent designer Kris Carroll, uncovering family secrets, bitter rivalries, and startling revelations. But more questions arise, and even Kaylee's work as a forensic botanist consultant doesn't help her separate the truth from the humbug. As Kaylee tries to decipher who is naughty and who is nice, she receives threatening notes, warning her to mind her own business . . .

Will the murderer be brought to justice before the Yule log can be tossed on the fire? Or will there be no good tidings in Turtle Cove this holiday season?

## The Christmas Riddle

It's Christmastime in Somerset Harbor, Maine, and the little town is aglow with the warmth of the holiday season. Maggie Watson -- together with her friends in the historical society -- is combing the Carriage House Antique Shop and the town for the perfect decorations to adorn the local Hayward Mansion in festive splendor. What begins as a typical trip to an estate sale quickly turns into a complex tale of intrigue when Maggie makes a shocking discovery amid the piles of unwanted junk: a beautiful mercury glass vase with a dark secret.

Nestled inside the vase is a heavy, jewel-encrusted key and an anonymous note pleading for help. It appears someone in Somerset Harbor has something other than peace and goodwill on their minds this season. But who has threatened the writer of the note? And when? Is the message as old as the vase, or does Maggie still have time to save the person who wrote it?

As Maggie strives to unlock the truth, she learns that Adele Kessler, the late owner of the vase, had become a recluse in recent years, surprising everyone after her many years of hosting renowned social events, including fabulous Christmas parties. Her estranged son hasn't been heard from since his days as a troubled teenager, and the only other person who might be able to provide answers -- a reporter -- has gone missing. There are secrets and lies at every turn, but each serves to strengthen Maggie's resolve to find out who wrote the note she found, and to save the mystery woman from whatever horrible fate awaits her.

This Christmas, Maggie once again finds herself in possession of the key to one of Somerset Harbor's captivating mysteries, and she must rely on her faith and friendships to guide her through the many twists and turns of her most riveting riddle yet. But when she finds what the ancient key unlocks, will she be prepared for what she finds inside?