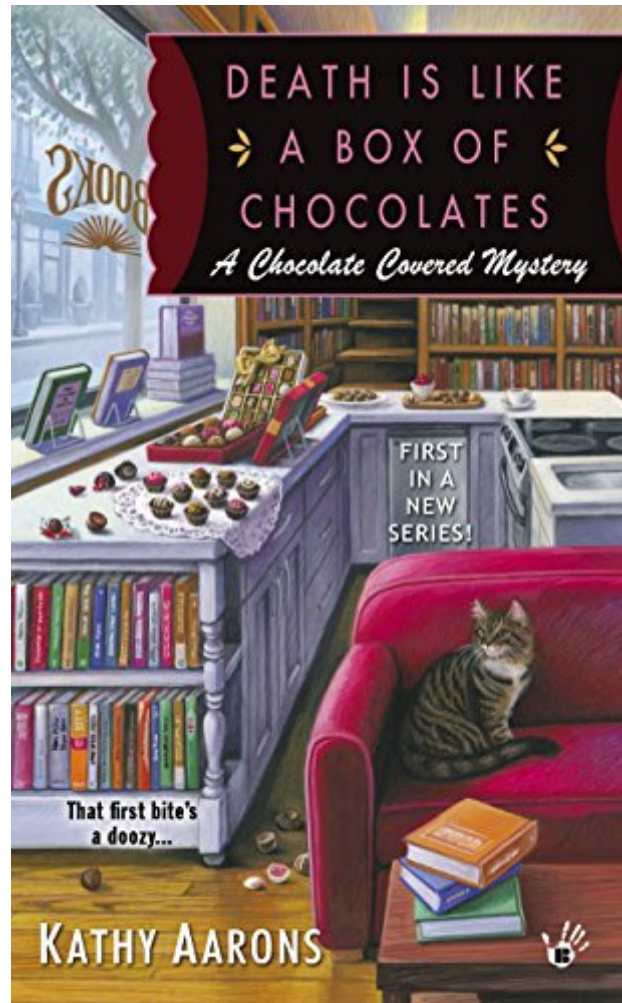


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Death Is Like A Box Of Chocolates (A Chocolate Covered Mystery Book 1)



Synopsis

Whether it's to satisfy a craving for chocolate or pick up the hottest new bestseller, the locals in charming West Riverdale, Maryland, are heading to Chocolates and Chapters, where everything sold is to die for. Best friends Michelle Serrano and Erica Russell are celebrating the sweet rewards of their combined bookstore and chocolate shop by hosting the Great Fudge Cook-off during the town's Memorial Day weekend Arts & Festival. But success turns bittersweet when Main Street's portrait photographer is found dead in their store, poisoned by Michelle's signature truffles. As suspicion mounts against Michelle, her sales begin to crumble and her career seems whipped. With Erica by her side, Michelle must pick through an assortment of suspects before the future of their dream store melts away. **FIRST IN A NEW SERIES** Includes Scrumptious Chocolate-Making Recipes!

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Customer Reviews

Death Is Like A Box Of Chocolates is the first in the A Chocolate Covered Mystery series and a delicious series, too. Michelle and Erica own the Chocolates and Chapters bookstore/chocolates

shop in West Riverdale, MD. Next door to their shop is Denise Coburns' photography studio. They and the whole community are looking forward to the Great Fudge Cook-off will be held during the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. Michelle is both excited and nervous as Hillary Punkin is rumored to be one of the judges. Punkin is a pastry chef on Grand Chef Network and has been known to make or break a chef. Denise is also excited, as some of her work has been selected for display in an art gallery in Washington, D.C.. But before she can meet with the gallery owner, Michelle finds her dead in her shop. She had died from poisoning. The poison was found in a small box of Michelle's chocolates that were sitting near Denise's body. With the fudge Cook-off quickly approaching Michelle gets help from Erica and Erica's brother Bean to try and learn the identity of the killer. It appears that Denise had taken some pictures that someone wants to keep secret. This is an interesting series and having lived in Maryland it was particularly fun for me to try figure out what community West Riverdale is model after. The book has many interesting characters and hope to read more about most of them. On the romance side, Erica just might be able to convince Bobby, a policeman, to show more interest in her. And Michelle, who has had an interest in Bean in the past, would like for him to show a little more interest in her. Recipes are included with the book. Looking forward to the next book in the series.

I enjoyed this tantalizing sweet whodunit that whetted my appetite for chocolate and murder. With a scattered list of suspects, it was easy to succumb to the early clues but once the story moved forward, the killer's identity inch closer as suspect after suspect were alibied. The author did a good job in presenting a well-fermented drama that was easy to follow with the perfect backdrop of a bookstore and chocolates. There's a backstory between Erica and Bobby that I can't wait to read more about and the possibility of a romance blooms for our heroine. Boasting a lovable cast of characters and engaging dialogue, this delectable treat is a welcomed addition to the cozy genre. Bonus chocolaty recipes are included.

I know it was me when it came to this book. I had the hardest time keeping all the characters straight. Who was married to whom? Who was whose sibling? Was she the Mayor or the woman that worked in the hardware store? Was he the war veteran or the book author? I now know that I should have taken notes. Michelle Serrano and Erica Russell own a combined bookstore and chocolate shop. Their small town is gearing up for a Fudge Festival with the renowned Hillary Punkin coming to judge their small competition. One yay from her and Michelle knows that her shop will get the recognition that it needs to bring in to the next level. All that comes crashing down when

Denise, the local photographer, is found dead in the chocolate shop while eating a box of Michelle's confections. What ensues is a tangled tale of who wants whom dead, who is blackmailing whom, and the reason behind Denise's murder. I got lost somewhere in the middle and if it was not for the recap in the last chapter I would still be wondering whom everyone was and how everything was solved. Since this is the first book in a planned series, I am going to assume that Kathy Aarons was just setting the stage of West Riverdale, Maryland and that once her readers are invested in the characters, the future books will have a more laid back feel without packing too much in and the rush to the end of the book.

I read a lot of books and really enjoyed "Death is Like a Box of Chocolates"! I started it and couldn't put it down! I loved how the characters were all connected and enjoyed the story line, especially since I raised my kids in a small community like West Riverdale. And let me tell you, everyone knows everyone else's business. The story definitely kept my interest piqued and it's got a nice twist for an ending. I'm looking forward to reading Kathy Aarons' next books in the series.

This book had a lot of problems, but, I will only mention what bothered me. There were too many characters and I didn't get a chance to know any of them. Some of the plot lines that I thought were important and interesting were lost in the story because there was simply too much going on. When I finally got to the end I was disappointed to find out the who and the why.

Very good first in a new series. I thoroughly liked the storyline with the twists and turns. The characters were easy to remember and their roles were nicely cast I had trouble connecting with them, I don't know why, I just didn't and for me I like to connect with the characters. But everyone deserves a second chance and that's what they will get.

Michelle Serrano is chocolatier who, together with her best friend Erica, runs a combination chocolate shop and bookstore. When another friend and fellow local business owner is found dead in their shop after eating poisoned chocolate, the two decide the best way to clear their personal and business reputations is to identify the killer themselves. I enjoyed this book a lot. The characters were fresh and different than the usual stereotypes, and the cast of characters was large enough to be complex without being too confusing. There was one small incident in the book that I thought was a little unbelievable and not well-thought out, but for the most part it was a very good read, which left me eager for the next book in the series.

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