



# The Curse of the Holy Pail

*Sue Ann Jaffarian*

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## **The Curse of the Holy Pail** Sue Ann Jaffarian

Is the "Holy Pail" cursed? Every owner of the vintage Chappy Wheeler lunchbox—a prototype based on the 1940s TV western—has died. And now Sterling Price, business tycoon and a client of Odelia Grey's law firm, has been fatally poisoned. Is it a coincidence that Price's one-of-a-kind lunch pail—worth over thirty grand—has disappeared at the same time?

Treading cautiously since a recent run-in with a bullet, Odelia takes small bites of this juicy, calorie-free mystery—and is soon ravenous for more! Her research reveals a sixty-year-old unsolved murder and Price's gold-digging ex-fiancée with two married men wrapped around her breasts . . . uh, finger. Mix in a surprise marriage proposal that sends an uncertain Odelia into chocolate sedation, and you've got an unruly recipe for delicious disaster.

Click here to download Book Club Questions for *The Curse of the Holy Pail*, prepared by author Sue Ann Jaffarian!

## **The Curse of the Holy Pail Details**

Date : Published (first published March 31st 2003)

ISBN :

Author : Sue Ann Jaffarian

Format : Kindle Edition 384 pages

Genre : Mystery, Cozy Mystery, Fiction

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# From Reader Review The Curse of the Holy Pail for online ebook

## Lori Cimino says

You know an author has done her job when she makes you feel.

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## Julie P says

Sometimes when you get a free Kindle book, you may find an undiscovered gem of a book. Not always, but The Curse of the Holy Pail is one of those books where you understand and then buy into Amazon's marketing scheme. In other word, have they tempted me to buy more Odelia Grey mysteries? Could be. The writing was very good, the plot was well thought out, the action was well-paced, and the heroine is actually quite likable without being too kitschy cute.

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## Ellen says

Odelia does it again!, November 25, 2011

By Ellen Rappaport

This review is from: The Curse of the Holy Pail (The Odelia Grey Mysteries) (Paperback)

I don't know where Sue Ann Jaffarian gets her ideas but they are great and she is #1 author. In this mystery a lunch pail is the center of the story...go figure! Off the wall crazy but Jaffarian or should I say Odelia pulls it off.

The characters from the first book in this series continue and relationships evolve. Odelia grows in more ways than just her size. Her pain in the butt boss, Steele, has a complete turn around in his personality towards the last few chapters, which I definitely wasn't expecting.

There isn't a moment when some new twist appears and characters reveal their true selves. The ending was non-stop chaos with Steele and Odelia working together as well as adding two unsavory characters who join in with the good guys. Totally unexpected...that's what I love about Odelia and appreciate about Jaffarian's writing.

Lastly, the cliff hanger of an ending. Yes, I do mean Greg re-enters the picture. But does he re-enter Odelia's life? And so I await Jaffarian's next move in the Odelia series.

A definite thumbs up.

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## liirogue says

I didn't realize this was #2 in a series until after I'd started, but it works fine as a stand-alone novel. Well-written and fast paced. I really enjoyed the quirky main character and her escapades. But I don't know how much I would like the series. Part of what appealed to me was the "ordinariness" of the main character. Solving multiple murders if you aren't on the police force is hardly ordinary!

I also got a weird feeling about the relationship with the boyfriend - I foresee him getting dumped for the

recently-widowed cop in a future installment.

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## **Diane says**

Odelia Grey is a plus-sized, 40-something year old, corporate paralegal. Her specialty at the law firm is research, and although she is no PI, she has been known to get herself involved in some sticky situations. Odelia just can't resist the opportunity to solve a mystery. Her younger boyfriend Greg has just proposed to her, and she's feeling like she needs time to think it over. When she is nervous or stressed she overeats.

In this cozy mystery, the second in a series, Odelia is sent over to the offices of Sterling Homes to notarize some documents for the company CEO, Sterling Price. While she is there Mr. Price shows her his lunch pail collection, which includes the rare and most valuable pail, the "holy pail" is the first one made, the Chappy Wheeler. Chappy Wheeler was a television cowboy from the late 1940s who was murdered. Every owner of this lunch pail has ended up dead, and so the pail is said to be "cursed".

Although Odelia is impressed by the "holy pail" and intrigued by its legend, she only has eyes for the Zorro lunch pail which is part of the collection. Later that day a package arrives at the office --the Zorro lunch pail, a gift to Odelia from Sterling Price. Unfortunately, shortly after, Mr. Price turns up dead. He was poisoned, and the valuable Chappy Wheeler lunch pail is missing.

"A gigantic Oreo cookie hung on the front entrance of the Sterling Homes corporate headquarters. I shook my head, removed my sunglasses, and did a double take. This time, I saw a huge black funeral wreath. I made a mental note to call for an eye appointment. Soon."

"A blond, petite, and very chic woman sat on the sofa next to where Jackson Blake stood. She was very pretty, with the sort of fashion magazine looks that money and a good surgeon could maintain for years."

Odelia cannot resist delving into Price's death by asking innocent questions and doing a little snooping on the side. She puts herself in several unsafe situations in the process. There are no shortage of suspects: Stella, Prices fiancée, his unscrupulous adult children, his son-in-law, and even someone from the old Chappy W show.

I loved this cozy mystery. The writing is laugh-out-loud funny, and even when Odelia is in the midst of a dangerous situation there are humorous elements that catch you off guard. The story is centered around everyday life: Odelia's boyfriend, pets, family, and job, with a mystery thrown in making this just a delightful, laughable treat. I highly recommend this light and fun book. I just ordered the first book in the series: Too Big to Miss. There are 5 books in the Odelia Grey mystery series.

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## **Alison (Lady Coffin) S says**

Cute series, I look forward to reading book 3

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## **Laura says**

Great fun ! You will love Odealia in this next in series as she makes you laugh out loud and gasp with her fearless investigative abilities . Every reader can relate to her as she conveys so perfectly her endless escapes with humor and bravado. This is a perfect cozy read with all the right elements. Odelia is a smart, funny, brave protagonist. This is one of the best mysteries I have ever read. The sleuth was a perfect mix of suspects, danger and was enjoyable to the last page.

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## **Cathy says**

Very engaging murder mystery with a plus-sized, middle-aged heroine. Odelia Grey is a paralegal with a major firm and struggling to decide if she wants to accept a recent marriage proposal.

That's enough to keep a woman occupied but her client is murdered just hours after she saw him. Missing from the man's office is the "Holy Pail," a 50 year-old lunch box from a long-defunct TV Western. Her client had sent Odelia a lunch box after their meeting but convincing the myriad list of collectors it wasn't the Holy Pail isn't easy. When someone trashes her office looking for it Odelia must figure out the real motive and the real murderer as self-preservation.

This is the second Odelia book. I missed the first but I'll be sure to go back and read it. Lots of twists, turns and humor.

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## **Torimac says**

I liked this one much better than book one. I also liked the ambiguity in the ending... it gives me something to look forward to reading next

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## **Deb says**

I loved this book and this series. This book has so many possible ways and people that could be the killer that you just don't want to put it down Loved it

Odelia Grey is a plus size, smart, sassy, paralegal who seems to have a knack for getting into the middle of murder mysteries. Trouble just seems to find her even when she isn't looking for it. In The Curse of the Holy Pail a client for the firm she works for collects lunch boxes and when she goes to do some notary work for him he shows her his collection of lunch boxes, including his most precious one The Holy Pail. Later that day he is found dead at his office and the pail missing and everyone assumes Odelia has the pail since he had sent her one from his collection earlier that day after their meeting. So again Odelia is thrown into danger while trying to solve this mystery that just happened to fall in her lap.

This book has a number of possible suspects and it keeps you guessing to the end who the murderer is.

Odelia also goes through a range of emotions from fear, to anger, to sorrow and of course her love for her boyfriend Greg. It has everything mystery, mixed with a little romance and intrigue as well as giving us a look into the world of lunch boxes. I think with this book we see even more into who Odelia Grey is and her character.

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**Susan Banner says**

Odelia continues to amuse!

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**Mark Baker says**

Paralegal Odelia Grey is stunned when one of her firm's clients dies hours after Odelia visits him on business. She quickly learns that the crown jewel of his antique lunch box collection is missing. Was that the motive for the murder or is something else happening? I loved the book. The characters were real and the plot kept me guessing from one page to the next. The ending was also emotionally satisfying.

Read my full review at Carstairs Considers.

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**Millie Dearden says**

This a fun hard to put down series!

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**Carol says**

I enjoy the way Odelia can think outside the box and take random facts and fit them together to solve the mysteries. She sure gets herself into some scary situations and takes some really hard knocks. The story revolves around a collectible lunch box and what people will do to get it but at the same time it's really about greed and selfishness - big time!!

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**Erika M says**

The first book in this series, Too Big To Miss, was good; this one was better! I think Ms. Jaffarian really hit her stride with this installment of the Odelia Grey mysteries. While Odelia's boyfriend is missing (and missed) from the action, other supporting characters are developed and given a chance to shine.

Who would ever think that an old lunch box could ever cause such mayhem? Though humorous, this mystery is not to be taken lightly. There are some rather dark moments involving some hardened criminals. Ms. Jaffarian does a good job of balancing the humor with the serious events surrounding a murder. I was impressed (and pleasantly surprised) with the ending of this book. I was glad to see that she did not just skim over the ramifications of the characters' actions. I can't wait to read more of this series!!

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