



Little Shop of Homicide

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Dev Sinclair is the happy new owner of the old-fashioned shop in her small Missouri town. But if she doesn't focus on finding the killer of her ex's fiancée, this five-and-dime owner may find herself serving twenty-five to life...

Little Shop of Homicide Details

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From Reader Review Little Shop of Homicide for online ebook

LORI CASWELL says

Welcome to Devereaux's Dime Store and Gift Baskets complete with a 3 stool soda fountain and a glass candy case. The best thing Dev ever did was quit the rat race, move home and buy this store.

Today she is rethinking her big decision as Kansas City Detective Woods arrives before the store is even open to accuse her of murdering her ex-boyfriend's fiancée Joelle Ayers. Just because some items from a gift basket she created were used as murder weapons didn't mean she had anything to do with the woman's death and he surely doesn't have enough evidence to arrest her. He makes a few threats and leaves.

Panicked Dev gets her friends Poppy and Boone to help her investigate. Then, hunky Jake Del Vecchio, a U.S. Deputy Marshall in town recovering from an injury, enters the picture. Seems his uncle and Dev's grandmother are old friends and he has been encouraged to help her clear her name. Only one problem, this guy Jake is hot, and Dev is finding it difficult to concentrate on finding the real killer. If she is not careful to keep her mind on the tasks at hand she may find herself doing time behind bars instead of behind the counter of her five-and-dime.

Dollycas's Thoughts

I keep breaking my own rules. I used to say I couldn't give the first book in a new series 5 stars because it takes time for the characters to develop. However, I started this book and couldn't put it down. The characters, while new, grabbed my heart immediately. The romantic tension was fabulous, a new twist to the typical cozy and I think it is wonderful. Plus the small town setting and the dime store evoke memories of a store from my childhood, a place I adored and drank quite a few cherry cokes.

Denise Swanson has created a marvelous debut for this new series. The mystery is top-notch, with several twists of its own. She has taken a small risk adding a bit of spice to the romance and this reader absolutely loved it. These are characters I am invested in and I can't wait to tag along on their journeys. Bravo Denise!!

Oswego Public Library District says

Set in a small town in Missouri, Devereaux Sinclair has opened up a five-and-dime store that sells custom gift baskets for any occasion. Dev left her six figure job to move back to her hometown and take care of her aging grandmother; however her life turns upside down when the local detective storms into her store and accusing her of murdering her ex-boyfriend's fiancé, Joelle. The murder weapon? Special items from one of Dev's fancy gift baskets. As Dev turns to her friends and family for help, she meets Jake, a handsome and courageous U.S. Marshall. This novel is character driven and fast paced. *Little Shop of Homicide* is an amusing, light-read that is perfect for a day at the beach or an afternoon in a comfy chair. This is the first book of the cozy *Devereaux's Dime Store* mystery series.

Click [here](#) to place a hold on *Little Shop of Homicide*.

Elizabeth says

A Little Shop Of Homicide is the first in a new series of A Devereaux's Dime Store Mystery.

I loved this little cozy mystery with a little romance mixed in with it. Denise has started a good new series with this book .

Devereaux Sinclair left her city job and bought an old Five and Dime store out in her hometown in Shadow Bend, Missouri, Devereaux Dime store and Gift Baskets. She makes up some special baskets upon request. She also has the old fashion soda fountain and candy case. She is happy to be away from the city race. Well that is until one evening a Detective Woods comes into her shop and accuses her of murdering Joelle Ayers, fiancé of Dev's ex boyfriend, Dr. Noah Underwood. Dev had went with Noah back in high school. It turns out one of dev's baskets was found at the scene of Joelle Ayers , and some of the items in Joelle's basket was the cause of her death. Poppy and Boone two of Dev's old time friends gets a call from Dev. She needs help. Her grandmother calls an old friend and he sends his nephew Jake Del Vecchio over to try and help Dev out. The nephew is handsome and sexy and new in town. Jake Del Vecchio is a deputy U.S. Marshal who has an injury and trying to heal before going back to his job. Well if dev don't get some help and find out who the killer is she will find herself in a new home. Do you like romance with your mystery? We have some romance that try to go on between Dev and the handsome Jake. There is a lot of people who did not like Joelle . You will find a lot of twist and turns in this cozy mystery that will keep you guessing who killed Joelle. I enjoyed this mystery along with some romance of Denise Swanson, and I will be reading Nickeled-and - Dimed To Death. I gave this book a 5 star because I loved it and I think Mrs. Swanson did a very good job writing this book.

Ingrid says

I enjoyed it.

Debbie says

I enjoyed this story and the characters and I will read on in the series as I come across the books. I wish there was more of the story based in the dime store setting...maybe the next book.

Barbara ★ says

When Devereaux Sinclair quits her high paying job in the city and returns to her hometown, she opens an old-fashioned dime store. She supplements this with a gift basket business that seems to be her main source of income. Unfortunately it's one of her gift baskets that get her embroiled in a murder mystery since her fingerprints were at the crime scene. A Kansas City cop who got burned in a ponzi scheme involving Devereaux's previous boss, has her in his sights and is brutally harassing her as his only suspect. Devereaux turns to her besties Boone and Poppy and her neighbors grandnephew for assistance in clearing her name. Her neighbor Jake Del Vecchio is a U.S. Marshal and a hottie to boot.

This is a typical cozy with a generous dash of romance since I like both genres, I really liked this series

starter. It honestly had me laughing out loud so I will definitely be reaching for Nicked-and-Dimed to Death: A Devereaux's Dime Store Mystery to continue the fun and excitement.

Jeanie says

I very much enjoyed this first-in-series!

It is hard to imagine someone bringing back the 5 and dime shop of the 60's (or earlier). Yet if anyone can, Dev is the one, who returns to her hometown only to find there is more to running it than she thought...especially when she finds herself as a murder suspect.

The characters are developed as much as necessary for their roles, and I enjoy Dev, especially when she begins to investigate to keep herself out of jail. She is funny, and brighter than many blonds will take credit for.

This author is excellent at designing characters and plots that combine humor, intrigue, suspense, and hard-to-solve mysteries. I am enjoying this series and highly recommend it!

The plot

Yvonne says

Devereaux Sinclair makes a few life-changing decisions. She quits her city job, after a huge scandal rocks her company, moves back to her small hometown in Missouri, Shadow Bend, and buys an old fashioned five-and-dime store. Dev is quite happy until her ex-boyfriend's fiancé, Joelle, turns up dead. The murder weapon just happens to be items Dev used in a gift basket that Joelle purchased, making Dev the number one suspect.

With her father already serving time in prison, Dev has no desire to join him there. She's just begun a new life in Shadow Bend and everything was going along so well. She, also, is the only one who can take care of her grandmother. Determined to clear her name, Dev seeks the help of her best friends Poppy and Boone to find out who the real killer is. Not to mention the handsome U.S. Marshall, Jake Del Vecchio, who just arrived in town willing to assist in the search.

There is, also, a secondary mystery which looks to be drawn through this series. Dev's father is in prison for a crime he insists he didn't do and intends to prove his innocence. It will be interesting to see what direction this goes.

One of my favorite things about this series is that it's set in an old-fashioned five-and-dime store which made me feel very nostalgic.

Sometimes it takes awhile to get used to characters in a brand new series, but I didn't find that with this book. By the end of the book, I felt as if I knew the main characters very well. The mystery had me going in

several directions – choosing the wrong culprit every time. LOL

This is a fast-paced mystery with quite a bit of romance thrown into the mix. Toss in Dev's matchmaking grandmother and readers have a great adventure in store for them.

Disclosure: A review copy was provided by the publisher in exchange for my honest review. All opinions are my own.

Lisa says

Devereaux, who is the new owner of a small-town gift basket/dime store and whose family and business histories have had brushes with the law, tries (along with the help of her two best friends and a possible love interest) to clear her name in the murder of her ex-boyfriend's fiancée. This is the first in a new series. The mystery itself was okay, and it was certainly a very quick and easy read. I'll be honest, though: I didn't like any of the characters (especially the best friends) nearly as much as I wanted to. But, anyone who knows me knows that it takes a while for me to warm up to characters, which is why I often don't start a series by reading its first book. I'll continue to read the next few books in the series, hoping to warm to the characters. I just hope to goodness there are not any love triangles! (Btw, page 245 has a typo: Boone becomes Booth.)

Melissa says

First in a new cozy mystery series. It was okay...I little too heavy on the sexual innuendo for my liking. Most cozy mysteries I have read are not so risqué. If I wanted sensual I would have opted for a Harlequin romance. I may read others in the series...not certain though.

Jim says

I like her Scumble River Mystery series. I give most books three, some four, and rarely five stars. That series has been getting three and four stars. Given that, I tried this new series. Let me make this simple: way too much "romance." Scumble series has some, but not too much (usually), this one was romance centric with some mystery. Thus, I did not like it.

She took an interesting approach to the mystery thread (at least in concept). Rather than emphasis finding the murderer, she emphasized proving the main character did not commit the murder. I give her credit for using a less used approach.

So, if you like, or at least don't mind, a predominantly romance book, you may like it. This is a series I will not be reading more of.

Linda says

This was a great start to the series! I enjoyed the characters and the mystery - kept me guessing! The setting

was good too. Looking forward to reading more.

Ian says

A few years ago on a lazy Sunday afternoon I was watching some strange sport which involved horses and what appeared to be a dead animal...and I think at some stage all the players started shooting at each other. As I was sitting there I had what I thought at the time was a Eureka moment. I really love sushi and I really love sandwiches, so that being the case why not combine them?

Wandering into the kitchen I discovered I had all the ingredients I needed...one cucumber, half an avocado, rice, a few packs of wasabi from the local Sushi Train, 2 slices of slightly stale bread (but the microwave fixed that up) and some shredded dried seaweed. I pulled out my really dusty rice cooker which was a gift from a girlfriend who had long since left the scene. I don't quite know what she was telling me with that gift and if anyone can enlighten me I will be forever grateful.

As I waited for the rice cooker to work its magic I consumed 6 beers. Finally rice being ready I assembled the sandwich which I had named the "green sandwich" in honor of the 6 beers I had drunk.

Taking a bite I realized something...too much of a good thing isn't necessarily all that good. It was bloody horrible to be precise.

So "Little Shop of Homicide". I should love this book, it has so many things in it that I would normally love, but for some reason it just doesn't quite live up to the promise. It's good without ever quite managing to be great.

Shannon says

I loved this book! It had me laughing and I had no idea who dunnit till the very end! Can't wait for more in the series!!

Elaine says

I love this series. I've been reading the authors scumble river series since the first book and love it. I was almost afraid to start this new series in case I didn't like it. I should not have been worried. Fantastic book b a fantastic author.
