



Out of the Frying Pan

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Poppy Markham is served another culinary mystery

Feast in the Field, a fine-dining affair put on by the Friends of Good Earth Preserves, a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) project, is the event of the season in Austin's restaurant circuit and one of Poppy Markham's favorite social engagements. This year, the spectacle shifts its focus from the gorgeous dinner to the politics surrounding the election for a new president of the Friends.

Shortly after being announced victorious, diva-restaurateur Dana White is struck down in her own kitchen. Can Poppy figure out who -- of several candidates -- decided to get rid of her?

Out of the Frying Pan Details

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From Reader Review Out of the Frying Pan for online ebook

Melinda Freeland says

Author Robin Allen does it a third time -- creates characters that you love (or love to hate) in a cozy mystery set in Austin that keeps you guessing until the end. You'll enjoy the first two novels in her Poppy Markham: Culinary Cop series as well: *If You Can't Stand the Heat* and *Stick a Fork In It*.

Ann says

Poppy is a great detective. She puts up with her family, her multiple boyfriends and the restaurant community. She's the county health inspector and the chefs and organic growers are willing to kill. Great story.

Amanda says

This was a nice change for me. I've been reading a lot of romance books so a good murder mystery with a little romance was just what I needed. I really like the characters and the mystery was interesting.

Sandybear76 says

This is the first book I have read by this author but this book is the 3rd book in the series about Poppy, a health inspector in Austin, TX. Poppy is looking forward to a great dinner with family and friends at the Feast in the Field dinner at the organic family farm Good Earth Preserves. The top chef for the evening Dana White is happily cooking the dinner and greeting friends. The announcement of the new President of the Friends of the Farm is made before dinner and a few people are not happy Dana has been named the new President. Poppy is trying to make a phone call when she hears yelling and crying and investigates, finding the new President on the floor in the kitchen with assistant cooks doing the yelling and crying.

Fairlee Corkran says

I really enjoyed it and loved the Texas setting.

Bill says

Who would have thought that a killing could happen on an all organic farm? Meet Poppy Markham, former chef and current county health inspector as she tries to solve the murder of a well known Austin organic chef, and closer to her heart, which boyfriend she'll choose between the two she cares for. If you like your

mysteries served up with a dash of romance and a couple cups of humor, then be ready to jump Out of the Frying Pan – a fun read.

Marilyn says

If she had just called the police in the first chapter the book would have ended! I just couldn't understand why she never involved the police. Was she just that full of herself, did she think she would do a better job of finding the killer than the police, I thought she was kind of stupid to put herself in this position. I wouldn't read another book by this author. I like to read a little fluff between the murder & mayhem from reading James Patterson & Michael Connelly but this book was just dumb.

Lois says

Set in the world of the Austin, Texas restaurant scene, this is the 3rd book in the Poppy Markham Culinary Cop series. The story centers around events at a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm. Poppy's position as a public health inspector allows her opportunity to investigate a suspicious death. This displaced Texan enjoyed the setting of both Austin and the restaurants, but found the plot somewhat convoluted.

andrea says

Enjoyed previous two.

This was horribly disappointing. Way too many characters/suspects. Plot clunky and un compelling

Kathy Broyles says

The book started out well. Then after the murder, it got very confusing. All the running around by the main character looking for clues and suspects. Then about half way through the book, it calmed down and got interesting. A nice little love triangle, a funny stepmom and some loveable neighbors all added up to a fun book.

Diane ~Firefly~ says

Yay, the love-triangle is ended by the end!

I really liked the setting of this one, a huge banquet at the Organic Farm with lots and lots of suspects. Poppy is starting to abuse her food inspector license a bit in this one to get answers. She still has family issues, especially with her step-mother, but she is relatable. And I'm so glad the love triangle is over.

Nancy says

In this third “culinary cop” mystery with Austin, TX health inspector Poppy Markham, Poppy is attending the fundraising dinner for Friends of the Farm, featuring head chef and newly-elected president of FOTF Dana White. Dana soon dies, however, after drinking what she thought was champagne but turned out to be food-grade hydrogen peroxide. Under the auspices of county health inspector, Poppy springs into action, investigating this as a suspected food poisoning but knowing full well this is really a murder! Poppy runs across some eye-opening stuff as she tries to determine why someone wanted Dana dead.

Like the first two “Culinary Cop” books, there is strong characterization with Poppy and with many of her friends, relatives, and her boss. She’s also in a love triangle of sorts as she is torn between Drew, manager of her father’s restaurant, and Jamie, a food-blog writer (whom Poppy still has trouble forgiving for his infidelity). Once again an enjoyable, fun, cozy!

Judy says

This was the third Poppy Montgomery book. It was just as good as the first two. I love reading about her adventures and her love life. Can't wait for the next book to see how she solves yet another mystery and how her personal decision works out.

Mary says

Poppy Markham leads an interesting life as a health inspector for Austin, TX, but also as a detective on the side when people close to her die. As Poppy is trying to deal with her crazy family and her own even crazier love life, she is also trying to figure out who murdered the newly elected CSA Friends of the Farm president.

The book combined the love of food and mysteries very well. The one major critique I would give the book that made me rate it lower was that it ended very suddenly. I didn't feel as though the suspense was built up well since Poppy just figures it out pretty quickly in the end. Because of that, I gave it 4 stars. If there were a choice of 3.5 stars, I probably would have rated it that since I base how much I enjoy a book on how well it ends, almost like how a bad dessert can almost ruin an entire meal.

Donna says

I enjoyed this first even though it is the 3rd culinary copy mystery featuring Poppy Markham. Great look inside not only the restaurant business but also inside the world of CSA's at the local farm. There is a huge fund raising event at a local farm where the announcement of the President of organization is to be announced. After the announcement there is a death of the individual who was elected. Who was the one that did the deed.

