Mysteries: Culinary

Culinary Mysteries are generally light mysteries that involve sleuths who are employed in the food industry as caterers, cooks, or own a restaurant or bakery. Recipes included in some titles. To order any of these titles, contact the library by email, phone, mail, in person, or order through our [online catalog](https://www.btbl.library.ca.gov/). Most titles can be [downloaded from BARD](https://bard.loc.gov/).

# The Tale of Hawthorn House: the Cottage Tales of Beatrix Potter by Susan Wittig Albert

Read by Kristin Allison

9 hours, 11 minutes

English Lake District, 1908. After someone leaves a baby girl on the steps of Hill Top Farm during harvesting, Beatrix Potter tries to find the mother. The child is given to the justice of the peace and his sister to mind, while traveling gypsies are questioned. Includes recipes. 2007.

 [Download from BARD: The Tale of Hawthorne House the Cottage Tales…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.67016)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB067016

# Meet your Baker by Ellie Alexander

Read by Dina Pearlman

8 hours, 13 minutes

After graduating from culinary school, Juliet Capshaw returns to Ashland, Oregon, to heal a broken heart and help her mom at Torte, the family bakery. The Oregon Shakespeare Festival brings in lots of business, but when a customer turns up dead, there’s much ado about murder. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2014.

 [Download from BARD: Meet your Baker](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.94440)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB094440

# Murder Is Binding by Lorna Barrett

Read by Margaret Strom

9 hours 38 minutes

Stoneham, New Hampshire. Newcomer Tricia Miles, owner of a mystery bookstore located along a corridor of Main Street devoted to specialty bookshops, discovers the body of murdered cookbook dealer and rival merchant Doris Gleason. When Tricia herself becomes a suspect, she sets out to clear her name. Includes recipes. 2008.

[Download from BARD: Murder is Binding](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.70453)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070453

# Death al Dente by Leslie Budewitz

Read by Davis Donna

9 hours, 1 minute

The town of Jewel Bay, Montana - known as a Food Lovers’ Village - is obsessed with homegrown and homemade Montana fare. When Erin Murphy takes over her family’s century-old general store, she turns it into a boutique market filled with local delicacies. But Erin’s freshly booming business might go rotten when a former employee turns up dead. Includes recipes.

 [Download from BARD: Death al Dente](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.00744)

 Also available on digital cartridge DBC000744

# Pizza Lovers. Books 1-2 by Chris Cavender

Read by Catherine Byers

19 hour, 9 minutes

The first two mysteries, written in 2009 and 2010, featuring Eleanor Swift, who owns a pizzeria called A Slice of Delight in the small North Carolina town of Timber Ridge. Includes A Slice of Murder and Pepperoni Pizza Can Be Murder. In each, Eleanor has a corpse to explain. Includes recipes. 2010.

 [Download from BARD: Pizza Lovers. Books 1-2](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.88348)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB088348

# Cackleberry Club. Books 1-6 by Laura Childs

Read by Emily Ellet

59 hours, 34 minutes

After losing their husbands, three forty-something women open a small-town egg-themed cafe called the Cackleberry Club, but are then faced with a string of murder mysteries. Includes Eggs in Purgatory, Eggs Benedict Arnold, Bedeviled Eggs, Stake & Eggs, Eggs in a Casket, and Scorched Eggs. Includes recipes. Some strong language. 2014.

 [Download from BARD: Cackleberry Club. Books 1-6](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.85350)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB085350

# Death by Darjeeling by Laura Childs

Read by Dee Elder

7 hours, 40 minutes

Theodosia Browning is the owner of the Indigo Tea Shop in Charleston, South Carolina. When a well known (and hated) land developer is poisoned at an annual garden party, Theo battles local suspicions and many false leads to find the killer.

 [Download from BARD: Death by Darjeeling](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.12801)

 Also available on digital cartridge DBC012801

# A Quiche Before Dying: A Jane Jeffry Mystery by Jill Churchill

Read by Jill Fox

5 hours

Sleuth widow Jane Jeffry enrolls in a writing course that is also attended by Agnes Pryce, a nasty local author who insults fellow classmates and the teacher. At a potluck dinner Agnes is fatally poisoned after eating Jane's quiche. Jane investigates while she pens a book. Some strong language. 1993. [Download A Quiche before Dying: A Jane Jeffry Mystery, DB069215](https://nlsbard.loc.gov/cgi-bin/nlsbardprod/downloadbook.cgi?book=51296)

[Download from BARD: A Quiche Before Dying: A Jane Jeffry Mystery](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.69215)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069215

# To Have and to Kill by Mary Jane Behrends Clark

Read by Dawn Ursula

6 hours, 27 minutes

When out-of-work actress Piper Donovan returns to her parents' home and begins helping out at the family bakery, her mother Terri tries to hide the fact that she has macular degeneration. Meanwhile, the wedding engagement of Piper's friend is soured first by a threatening note--and then by a murder. 2011.

 [Download from BARD: To Have and to Kill](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.77651)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB077651

# Candy-Coated Mysteries. Books 1-6 by Nancy Coco

Read by Mare Trevathan, Gabriella Cavallero, and Kristin Allison

45 hours, 16 minutes

Six mysteries, written between 2013 and 2018, feature amateur sleuth Allie McMurphy and her historic McMurphy Hotel and Fudge Shoppe on Mackinac Island. Includes All Fudged Up, To Fudge or Not to Fudge, Oh Say Can You Fudge, All You Need Is Fudge, Oh, Fudge!, and Forever Fudge. Includes recipes. 2018.

 [Download from BARD: Candy-Coated Mysteries. Books 1-6](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.96269)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB096269

# Steamed: A Gourmet Girl Mystery by Jessica Conant-Park

Read by Collen Delany

8 hours, 7minutes

Chloe Carter (known online as GourmetGirl) ends her foray into Internet matchmaking when her date, Eric Rafferty, is stabbed to death in a restaurant lavatory. Chloe subsequently falls for the restaurant's chef Josh Driscoll--who is the prime murder suspect. Chloe must exonerate Josh to save their romance. Includes recipes. 2006.

 [Download from BARD: Steamed: A Gourmet Girl Mystery](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.70116)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB070116

# A Second Helping of Murder and Recipes: a Hot Dish Heaven Mystery by Jeanne Cooney

Read by Janelle Mattson

8 hours, 8 minutes

Reporter Emerald Malloy is in the Red River valley working on a feature of cooking. Margy Johnson, the owner of Hot Dish Heaven, surprises her with unusual recipes. With her focus divide by a romantic interest in the deputy, Randy Riden, she is not interested in the murder of a local farmhand. That changes when someone close to Margy is arrested for the murder. For high school and adult readers. Unrated.

 [Download from BARD: A Second Helping of Murder and Recipes: a Hot…](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.02674)

 Also available on digital cartridge DBC002674

# Vineyard Chill a Martha's Vineyard Mystery by Philip R. Craig

Read by Michael Russotto

7 hours, 56 minutes

Clay Stockton, a charming adventurer who once worked for a marijuana grower, visits his friend J.W. Jackson. When two unsavory characters come looking for Clay in connection to some missing drug money, J.W. tries to help. Meanwhile, the body of a young woman surfaces among island ruins. Includes recipes. 2008.

 [Download from BARD: Vineyard Chill a Martha’s Vineyard Mystery](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.67193)

Also available on digital cartridge DB067193

# Catering to Nobody by Diane Mott Davidson

Read by Martha Harmon Pardee

9 hours 6 minutes

Colorado. Goldy caters the wake for her son Arch's fifth-grade teacher, who apparently committed suicide. During the event, Goldy's ex-father-in-law is poisoned. Afraid of losing her business and ruining her reputation, Goldy investigates the incidents and discovers that Arch may be involved. Includes recipes. Some strong language. 1992.

[Download from BARD: Catering to Nobody](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.68789)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068789

# Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder: a Hannah Swensen Mystery by Joanne Fluke

Read by Kristin Allison

7 hours, 34 minutes

Bakery owner Hannah Swensen of Lake Eden, Minnesota, discovers the body of the local dairy delivery man in her alley. Although her brother-in-law, Bill Todd, is a deputy sheriff, Hannah does some sleuthing of her own. Then another murder occurs. Includes cookie recipes. 2000.

 [Download from BARD: Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder: a Hannah…](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.54603)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB054603

# Corinna Chapman. Books 1-3 by Kerry Greenwood

Read by Mare Trevathan

25 hours, 37 minutes

The first three mysteries, written between 1992 and 2006, in the series featuring Melbourne accountant-turned-baker and amateur sleuth Corinna Chapman. Includes Earthly Delights, which is the name of her bakery. Also includes Heavenly Pleasures, and Devil’s Food, as well as recipes. Strong language and some explicit descriptions of sex. 2006.

 [Download from BARD: Corinna Chapman. Books 1-3](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.93163)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB093163

# White House Chef Mystery Books 1-3 by Julie Hyzy

Read by Theresa Conkin

29 hours, 14 minutes

The first three mysteries, written between 2008 and 2010, to feature White House chef Olivia (Ollie) Paras. Includes State of the Onion, Hail to the Chef, and Eggsecutive Orders, in which NSA bigshot Carl Minkus dies after eating a White House meal. Includes recipes for complete presidential menus. Anthony Award. 2010.

 [Download from BARD: White House Chef Mystery Books 1-3](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.88112)

 Also available on digital cartridge DB088112

# Sprinkle with Murder by Jenn McKinlay

Read by Linda Munsil

7 hours, 50 minutes

Melanie Cooper and Angie DeLaura have just opened their own shop, Fairy Tale Cupcakes, in Old Town Scottsdale. However, all is not happily ever after when Mel discovers her friend Tate’s high maintenance fiancé dead with a cupcake in her hand. Includes recipes.

 [Download from BARD: Sprinkle with Murder](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.05021)

 Also available on digital cartridge DBC005021

As the World Churns: A Pennsylvania Dutch Mystery with Recipes by Tamar Myers

Read by Kristin Allison

6 hours 48 minutes

On their honeymoon, Mennonite mayor Magdalena Yoder and Jewish doctor Gabe Rosen get a call from the prison warden informing them that Magdalena's brother-in-law murderer Melvin Stoltzfus has escaped. Mysteries mount when someone attacks elderly veterinarian Doc Shafor just before a Holstein competition in Hernia, Pennsylvania. 2008.

[Download from BARD: As the World Churns: A Pennsylvania Dutch…](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.70227)

Also available on digital cartridge DB070227

# Batter off Dead: A Pennsylvania Dutch Mystery with Recipes by Tamar Myers

Read by Kristin Allison

6 hours 54 minutes

A very pregnant Magdalena Yoder is volunteering at the Beechy Grove Mennonite Church Brotherhood all-you-can-eat fund-raising pancake breakfast when local glutton Minerva J. Jay drops dead. But before Magdalena can assist Hernia's sole police officer with the murder case, she goes into labor. Includes recipes. 2009.

 [Download from BARD: Batter off Dead: A Pennsylvania Dutch Mystery](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.69673)

Also available on digital cartridge DB069673

# The Body in the Belfry by Katherine Hall Page

Read by John Stratton

6 hours 44 minutes

Gourmet caterer Faith Fairchild's life is turned topsy-turvy by her marriage to the minister of a quaint New England village church. While she adores her husband and new baby, Faith finds the change from her busy life in New York to the quiet of the country hard to tolerate. But her discovery of a dead body and the ensuing investigation--and danger--make her yearn for the quiet life to return.

[Download from BARD: The Body in the Belfry](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.31471)

Also available on digital cartridge DB031471

# The Baked Bean Supper Murders by Virginia Rich

Read by Mitzi Friedlander

11 hours 6 minutes

Widow Eugenia Potter's neighbors are being killed in the Maine fishing village where she lives part-time, and she suspects she might be next. Between community suppers and lobster cook-offs, she investigates. 1983.

[Download from BARD: The Baked Bean Supper Murders](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/db.53861)

Also available on digital cartridge DB053861

# To Brew or Not to Brew: a Brewing Trouble Mystery by Joyce Tremel

Read by Melissa Dodge

7 hours, 15 minutes

An all-new mystery series set in a Pittsburgh craft brew pub, featuring a brewmaster with a head for sleuthing.

 [Download from BARD: To Brew or Not to Brew: a Brewing Trouble…](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.12108)

 Also available on digital cartridge DBC012108

# A Peach of a Murder: a Fresh-Baked Mystery by Livia J. Washburn

Read by Melanie Makitra

6 hours, 15 minutes

Phyllis Newsom is a murder suspect when her entry in the Peach Festival cobbler contest kills a judge. Some strong language and some violence. [Download from BARD: A Peach of a Murder: a Fresh-Baked Mystery](https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.nls/dbc.14385)

 Also available on digital cartridge DBC014385