

A Composition in Murder

Larissa Reinhart

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“Cherry Tucker is a strong, sassy, Southern sleuth who keeps you on the edge of your seat.” – Tonya Kappes, USA Today Bestselling Author

“Anyone who likes humorous mysteries will also enjoy local author Larissa Reinhart, who captures small town Georgia in the laugh-out-loud escapades of struggling artist Cherry Tucker.” – Fayette Woman Magazine

“The tone of this marvelously cracked book is not unlike Sophie Littlefield’s brilliant *A Bad Day for Sorry*, as author Reinhart dishes out shovelfuls of ribald humor and mayhem.” – Mystery Scene Magazine (on *Portrait of a Dead Guy*)

“The hilariously droll Larissa Reinhart cooks up a quirky and entertaining page-turner! This charming mystery is delightfully Southern, surprisingly edgy, and deliciously unpredictable.” – Hank Phillippi Ryan, Agatha Award-Winning Author of *Truth Be Told* (on *Still Life in Brunswick Stew*)

“Artist and accidental detective Cherry Tucker goes back to high school and finds plenty of trouble and skeletons...Reinhart’s charming, sweet-tea flavored series keeps getting better!” – Gretchen Archer, USA Today Bestselling Author of the Davis Way Crime Caper Series (on *Death in Perspective*)

At Halo House, Cherry Tucker finds the tea deadly sweet...

With a new art teaching gig at Halo House—Halo, Georgia’s posh independent living home—and Halo society scrutinizing her family and her love life, Cherry Tucker needs to stay out of trouble. However, her sleuthing skills are sought out by Halo House’s most famous resident: Belvia Brakeman, the ninety-year-old, blind CEO and founder of Meemaw’s Tea. Belvia confides in Cherry that the family tea empire is in jeopardy. The CEO suspects her daughter, the COO, has been murdered and she might be next. Her offer is hard to refuse, but will have Cherry treading on Forks County Sheriff toes, namely her personal Deputy Heartache, Luke Harper.

Amid her town troubles, can Cherry put her reputation, romance, and life on the line for the final request of a sweet tea tycoon? While she juggles senior citizen shenanigans, small-town politics, and corporate family scandals, Cherry finds the sweet tea business cutthroat in more ways than one.

A Composition in Murder Details

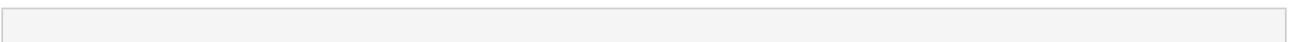
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From Reader Review A Composition in Murder for online ebook

Debbie says

I just love the Cherry Tucker series. She is such a quirky character. She is always finding herself in trouble somehow, someway. I can't believe her marriage to Todd lasted one whole day. And her never ending feud with Shawna Branson (daughter to the wealthiest man in the county) that has lasted since the fourth grade is always Hilarious.

However, the best part, by far is the fact that I won a contest to be a character in this book. Yes, I am the manager of the Halo House Retirement Home. HA!! My friends who are all younger than me are getting a great big kick out of that one. As they already call my house, which I live with a male roommate who is nine years older, Shady Pines. So, Larissa, you couldn't have picked a better character for me.

As far as this book goes, yes Cherry goes out of her way to stay out of trouble which can only mean one thing. Trouble is left, safe is right. Cherry goes left. This has one has her trying to figure out a triple murder and also why this gang banger looking grandson of a super wealthy woman from the retirement home is harassing the residents. The triple murders all include family members of Belvia Brakeman who owns Meemaw's Tea Company which is worth megabucks. So there's lots of reasons and lots of suspects to kill these poor elderly women. And Cherry with her big heart is not giving up no matter what the Sheriff says until she finds the killer. No matter how many bullets or cars she has to dodge.

The characters (throat clearing) are very well developed. Seriously, the Cherry Tucker series is easily one of the most entertaining series I've read. She's a country girl with a big ole heart, loves to embellish her wardrobe and I secretly think she only shops at Walmart. Very entertaining and an enjoyable read.

Huge thanks to Henery Press for approving my request and to Net Galley for providing me with an e-galley in exchange for an honest review. These are my words and I was not paid or coerced. I may have gone a little overboard about winning the contest, but it's not everyday you see your name as a character in a book, but I have been a Cherry Tucker fan since Book #1.

Terri Austin says

I was lucky enough to receive an advanced copy of A Composition in Murder. First of all, I love the Cherry Tucker series. Not only is she a nosy painter with money problems and a unique fashion sense, she's a character with humor and depth.

Cherry Tucker is in love with a Sheriff's deputy and a member of town's shiniest families, the Bransons. Cherry's family has a more checkered history, and since Cherry gets into all sorts of trouble on the daily, the Bransons aren't looking to add Cherry to their family tree. So Cherry does what she does best--delves into a mystery. This time, it's a nursing home with a whole slew of senior suspects. As Cherry hunts down clues, she must finally face the fears that plague her personal life.

Witty, clever, and full of delightful characters that kept me entertained until the last page.

Andrea Stoeckel says

[I voluntarily reviewed an Advance Reader Copy of this book]

"Everyone and everything I held dear seemed to be slipping away. "

Cherry Tucker is teaching drawing at the high end senior living community. Witnessing a new will for Belvia Brakeman who ran Meemaw's Sweet Tea from her apartment in the complex. However, Belvia wants more than Cherry's signature. She wants her to vet the rest of those who sit on the board. There are those on the expanded board who want to take the company public. However, 90 year old Belvia wants the family to hold control.

Belvia's oldest daughter was killed jogging. Question is, was it an accident? As it is, a domino effect begins and Cherry feels obligated to finish what she was hired to do on top of her usual teaching duties. It is to her credit, as well as her detriment that some of her students at the Home minor in gossip, and help her fill in the blanks, as do her usual crew of ex husband Todd and "secret boyfriend" Deputy Luke.

Leave it to Cherry to have a secondary situation with her brother and a misunderstanding that exploded into a jail sentence that might cost her home.

I love the series. However those new to them might get lost until you sort out the cast of characters. Leave it to Larissa to weave today's headlines into this mixture of sweet tea and murder that entertains and informs in a funky tribute to family. A laugh out loud series continues to evolve as we wonder what'll be her next adventure.

Pat says

I received this book from the author. I was not required to post a positive review, and the opinion stated is my own. Disclosed in accordance with FTC's 16 CFR, Part 255.

What a great series. Each book can be read as a standalone but it is so much more fun to read them all.

In this book Cherry is an art instructor at Halo House, a retirement center where the residents are more interested in gossip than painting.

Cherry is asked to witness the signing of Belvia Brakeman's will, shortly after her daughter's mysterious death. Soon, Belvia is discovered dead, and Cherry feels compelled to find the killer.

Along with the regular crew, Luke, her deputy boyfriend and Todd, her ex-husband and roommate, Cherry delves into the murders.

Well-written, witty and engaging, with a super plot, this book will keep you turning pages till the end and hoping for a new installment soon.

Nancy Baker says

Cherry Tucker, art teacher at a senior living facility, finds herself working quid pro quo to find out who ran over Della Brakeman. Della is the daughter of senior resident Belvia Brakeman who is a wealthy CEO of the family's tea business. Did Della's death have anything to do with the fact she was about to take over as CEO of Meemaw's Tea Factory or was it because there was a rival company that wanted to buy out the

shareholders? Cherry needs to figure it out quickly so that Belvia will supply financial support so her brother can clear himself from false kidnapping charges.

This well developed story is full of mystery and humor. It is the 6th book in A Cherry Tucker Mystery series but could be read as a stand alone.

Angie Parish says

Let me start by saying that I received this book through Netgalley, in exchange for an honest review. (I actually stalked Netgalley waiting for it) Ok, now that that is finished, I can say WOW!!!! I believe this is my favorite Cherry book yet!!! I really enjoyed this book, it was full of humor, action, and suspense. You don't have to have read any of the books in this series, but I highly recommend it just because they are freaking awesome!! Composition left me feeling extremely impatient for the next book. As usual, poor Cherry just cannot escape her wrong place, wrong time persona. She has this dead body magnet, that makes me wonder if she is destined to go crazy in a lock her up in a padded room way. It starts out where Cherry is at her new job teaching art at a Retirement/5 star hotel. I instantly fell in love with her new group of friends. She gets requested to join a filthy rich resident in her room to witness the signing of an updated will. This ends up with her finding the body of said resident which starts a ball rolling of murder and mayhem. All in all the book was hilarious. I have to put my two cents in about a certain ex/roommate/bestie. I am super disappointed in Todd!!!!!!!!!!!! I wanted to reach into the book, and thump him in the head!!!! Luke, is baffling to me, as I feel he has a hidden agenda, or is going to break Cherry's heart. However, the ending of this book left open some exciting possibilities for book 7. I hope there are 100 books to come in this series, I can't wait!! I did really miss Max in this book, and hope he returns, while also including Cherry's new hijinks buddies from the retirement home. I think everyone should have Cherry in their lives!!!!

Jeanie Jackson says

I absolutely love the characters in A Composition in Murder. Cherry is so awesome in the way she faces adversity and stands up for others. Part of her tendency to get involved in situation that cause her problems is from curiosity, but for the most part she is trying to help someone else or to stand for her personal sense of justice. Life has never been fair to her and she doesn't expect that to change but she sees no reason to just accept that bad things happen. She will probably be battling someone to her last breath. Luke is afraid that if she doesn't learn to think with her head more than with her heart that her last day may come much sooner that he is prepared for.

Since her life long nemesis has force her to close her art studio in her home, Cherry is teaching art lessons at an upscale independent and assisted living facility. One of the big names in town asks for her help and offers the one thing that Cherry can not refuse shortly before dying. Even though the older woman can no longer fulfill her part of the deal, the artist takes the woman's request to heart and determines to find the person who may have already murdered twice.

The residence of the facility are so fun and Cherry falls for many of them. That caring leads her into another mystery that may or may not connect to the murders. It is a good thing her teaching schedule is light!

I requested an advanced reader's copy of this book from NetGalley. I reviewed this book voluntarily as I do all books that I love.

Martha Countryman says

I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review. A Composition in Murder is another hit for Larissa Reinhart! Her Cherry Tucker character makes friends this time with residents at Halo House, an upscale senior living facility where she is teaching art classes. Her involvement with Belvia Brakeman, the CEO of Meemaw's Tea, gets her involved with one murder after another along with conflicts in her love life and taking on drug dealers on the side. Plenty of hijinks to keep your attention! Couldn't put it down-finished in a little over a day! I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Judy says

I received an ARC of this book, but my opinions are my own. I love Cherry Tucker more with each book. I can so picture the happenings in this book. She can certainly get herself in some situations, sometimes without even trying. In this book she is in the company of the older generation. Oh my gosh, they are a hoot at times! Art or Yoga, what a way to make a decision as to which class to attend! I love how her reputation precedes her with people she has never met before. Hmmm, is this good or bad? These stories have mystery, romance and comic relief in them. I think you will enjoy the good and bad people of Halo, Georgia. I hope you give them a read!

Jeanne says

Cherry is a fun, interesting character with developed characters throughout. The plot is interesting and made sense at the end. Best of all the author's voice is fabulous. Every character individual and Cherry's southern sensibilities (including speech pattern) authentic. Looking forward to her next adventure

Brooke Banks says

Maybe it's just me, but as a series progresses, especially cozies, I start to worry. Often the characters fall into a rut based on what worked before and what was once loved becomes stagnate. Do I really need 18+ books with a 30 something woman playing hot potato with two men? Noooooooooope.

The great news is Cherry doesn't follow in other more famous footsteps that jumped off a cliff over a shark and wound up in La-La Land. **There's resolution! Progress!** Holy shit, I can't wait for the next one!

Mainly, it's in regards to the romance. Todd starts dating someone, Cherry struggles but deals with it so it's not drawn out stupidity. Her and Luke actually talk about their problems head on and come to an understanding. It's not all wrapped up in a bow and there's more to smooth out but **I am fucking ecstatic right now, ya'll have no idea.** I was getting worried and frustrated around 50% - 75% of the way through, but if you can make it, the payoff is worth it.

Mysteries are great, but characters are the bedrock. I'll put up with a disappointing mystery for the

characters, not (usually) the other way around.

The good news is this mystery is a lot of fun with many players and pieces to put together. I did think at times it was stretched and Cherry was over the top. How did she not immediately get identified and in trouble of breaking that window? And she was surprised that it hurt?!?

I did call out **the culprit about 75%** through and Cherry's stubborn denial at first did bother me, though she has reasons for doing so. We just weren't on the same page as I already knew who, just not the why's. I loved finding out that information in the showdown and wrap up.

Anyways, besides brief moments of her panicking into foolish territory and wondering how she functions as an adult, it was a great ride. **Cherry kicking it with the seniors was a hoot.** I love how she found her elderly counterpart in Ada – hilariously sassy, stubborn, loyal, and too much trouble.

Cindy Burnett says

3.5 stars

A Composition in Murder is a cute, light read. I picked up the story in the middle of the series which put me at a disadvantage because I didn't have the backstory on the characters. This matters more in some series than in others; it did seem to matter here - I had a harder time figuring out the relationships, etc.

I enjoyed the main character Cherry Tucker, and the scrapes she puts and finds herself in. I don't think I am the target audience for this type of mystery, but it was entertaining to read. Thanks to Henery Press and NetGalley for the chance to read this ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Kathleen says

A Composition In Murder is the sixth book in the entertaining Cherry Tucker Mystery Series. Written in the first person narrative, the reader is transported back to Halo, Georgia, for the latest investigative adventure of struggling artist Cherry Tucker.

Cherry Tucker sure has a knack for getting into trouble, and in this latest installment of her quirky adventures, Cherry is teaching art classes at Halo House, an upscale independent living center, when ninety-year-old resident Belvia Brakeman, CEO and founder of Meemaw's Tea, requests that Cherry investigate the murder of her daughter Della. Cherry delves into the investigation, which leads to a series of murders, small town politics, family scandals, and danger lurking around every corner! And if that isn't enough, Cherry's love life is a mess because her amateur sleuthing is stepping on her boyfriend, Forks County Sheriffs Deputy Luke Harper's toes! Can Cherry and her motley crew solve the sweet tea murders?

This was such a fun whodunit to read, it had a great mixture of mystery, romance and humor. I easily found myself entertained by Cherry's craziness and her madcap investigative adventures. From Cherry's dysfunctional family, to her ongoing romantic issues, to her amateur sleuthing skills, this sassy southern lady's antics kept me entertained and laughing as I followed her quest to solve the latest murder case.

With a zany cast of characters (many who return from the previous books in the series) who keep the reader in stitches with their witty dialogue and hilarious interactions; a storyline filled with enough drama, suspense and twist and turns that keeps the reader guessing; and a richly detailed setting that transports the reader to a quirky Southern small town; *A Composition In Murder* is an entertaining cozy mystery interwoven with Southern charm and humor that leaves you wanting to go on more crazy adventures with sassy Cherry Tucker!

Disclaimer: I received a copy of the book from the author / publisher via NetGalley in exchange for my honest review and participation in a virtual book tour event hosted by Great Escapes Virtual Book Tours.

<http://jerseygirlbookreviews.blogspot...>

Laura Reading says

Just because you are white trash doesn't mean you have no value. Being suspicious and nosy can often be admirable qualities. I would prefer to have Cherry Tucker on my side rather than against me.

Fast paced and full of outrageous southern expressionism this is one mystery that will take you in many directions. Talk about dysfunctional families, add in a few distant relations and some good for nothing spouses... and then there is the greed factor.

This senior living facility sees more action and cover-ups than most college dorms.

This is one series I suggest you pay full attention to while watching your back as you read.

This book is full fledged adventure and mystery as a stand alone.

I did accept this book in exchange for an unbiased review.

Betty says

This amusing cozy is an outstanding read. This fast moving story will keep you enthralled. Cherry Tucker life is still in chaos and it hard to believe her life can get any worse. To please her Uncle Will, Cherry has taken a job as an art instructor in Halo House, a retirement home. At the home, she is a witness to Belvia Brakeman's new will. Belvia asked Cherry to find out her murder her daughter and promised she would help with Cody's problems. Belvia is a ninety-year-old COE of a family-owned Sweet Tea Company. In exploring this mystery Cherry will find politics, greed, toy husbands, jealousy, and drugs. The twists and turns will have Cherry running for her life. Will Cherry solved the difficulty before the drug gang takes her life. I highly recommend this book.

Disclosure: I received a free copy from HENERY PRESS through NetGalley for an honest review. I would like to thank them for this opportunity to read and review the book. The opinions expressed are my own.
