



Braking for Bodies

Duffy Brown

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Evie Bloomfield puts the pedal to the metal—in the latest Cycle Path mystery from the national bestselling author of *Gearred for the Grave*.

Moving from Los Angeles to small, picturesque Mackinac Island to work in a bike shop might seem crazy, but Evie knows it's the best decision she's ever made. That's not to say she's gotten rid of all her stress; after all, the upcoming Lilac Festival has everyone in town riding in circles.

But things really go downhill when a ferry full of tourists—including Evie's friend Fiona's former boss, the editor of a sleazy rag in LA—arrives on the island. No one knows why Peephole Perry came all the way to Mackinac, but things aren't looking good for Fiona when Peep is found dead. Now Evie has to gear up and get a grip on the truth if she wants to clear her friend's name...

Braking for Bodies Details

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Author : Duffy Brown

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From Reader Review Braking for Bodies for online ebook

Laura Thomas says

Not having read any books in this series, I'm jumping in mid stream. That didn't stop me from enjoying this book. Sure, it would be better to meet the characters from the beginning. I'll fix that when I grab the first book.

Wow. This book takes off and never slows down. Evie Bloomfield rushes from one thing to the next, trying to clear her friend's name after she's accused of murdering Peep. He's the scum bag who came to Mackinac Island to blackmail Fiona. No surprise he's found dead, killed by a bottle of virgin olive oil, no less. Said bottle last seen in Fiona's hand.

From here on, things take a turn for the hilarious. The Corpse Crusaders, a group of guests at The Grand Hotel, think this is a parlor game and they are all up in the investigation, seeking clues, tampering with crime scenes, and generally making a nuisance of themselves. Evie and sexy local policeman Nate Sutter let them believe this, figuring to solve the murder with none the wiser, and they don't want something like murder to ruin the upcoming Lilac Festival, a big draw for the island.

There's a couple of scenes where Evie needs to get rid of the Corpse Crusader's so she drops hints that Nate has the answers. I can just imagine his face when they start pestering him. She's such a pistol.

I tell ya, following Evie around the island was exhausting. She's either pedaling a bike all over the place or stealing Nate's horse. And she's not the best at sleuthing. From braking into and out of jail, to destruction of property and aiding and abetting a fugitive, my head was spinning. I don't think I've ever read a book with this much mayhem. And so many laughs.

About stealing Nate's horse. I've been to Mackinac Island a few times, and cars aren't allowed there. You can walk, rent a bike, or ride a horse or in a carriage. It's such a difference from the traffic noise. And the cafes and shops are delightful.

I kind of felt for the poor girl. Evie is so busy running the bike shop, helping to pull together Nate's mothers wedding after everything falls apart, and saving her best friend from spending the rest of her life in jail, she doesn't even have time to do her laundry. She's running around the island in dirty clothes and her hair, well, you can imagine. Yet, she never flinches. Never loses her sense of humor. I'd "kill" for a friend like her.

An island community is a lot like a small town. Most people know each other, at least by sight. The islanders are taking bets on when Nate and Evie will hook up. It added one more fun plot to this book. I placed my own bet. Now to see if I'm a winner.

A laugh riot from beginning to end. This is a cozy series you won't want to miss.

I received this book for my honest review.

Angie says

An exciting entry in the Cycle Path mysteries, Braking for Bodies is a fast paced book that is difficult to step away from. Evie is enjoying her bicycle shop and her friends on Mackinac Island when a sleazy former boss of local reporter, Fiona, comes to town. After his untimely murder, a madcap race to find the killer and exonerate Fiona begins. Along with the mystery to solve, Evie is also charged with planning a wedding and finding a romance for herself with the chief of police.

A great read that will have you laughing out loud. Thanks, Duffy, for a wonderful book. I can't wait to read more from this series!

Dawn Frazier says

This is by far one of my favorite books of the year! I loved every word, and as good as the first book in the series is, this one is even better! I cannot believe one person, and I mean our heroine, Evie, can get herself into so much trouble. Between the wedding planning, her trying to ride a bike, her friend Fiona accused of murder, losing a wedding dress, falling off of bike, and add to that the very handsome sheriff Sutter, wow, she keeps us on our toes! I also can't forget to mention the "murder mystery weekend" at the Grand Hotel. I was laughing so hard all the way through this book, starting with page 2. So how do all these things tie together? You will have to read the book to find out. And trust me, you will not want to miss this book. I hope there are many more coming in this series, I absolutely will be waiting impatiently for Evie's next adventure!

LORI CASWELL says

Dollycas's Thoughts

Pack your bags we are headed for Mackinac Island for the Lilac Festival!!

There are tourists everywhere and even a few people posing as tourists. Evie's friend Fiona is shocked when her former boss, Peephole Perry, gets off the ferry. This can't be good. His trip is cut short when he is found dead outside of The Grand Hotel. This isn't good for Peep or the island. A dead body could mean cancelled reservations and a mass exodus of the guests that have already arrived. When one of the hotel's guests thinks it is a murder mystery game, Evie convinces Police Chief Sutter that this is a great cover so he (with her help) can catch the killer. Unfortunately all the evidence points at Fiona so Evie needs to catch a "brake" to prove her innocence.

I have to start by saying if you need a pick me up pick up this book! I was laughing, giggling, and almost rolling on the floor laughing throughout the entire book. I know murder is a serious thing but poor Evie, she has so many things to do and so many things go wrong, she has to find the humor or she would spend the whole book in tears. From a missing wedding dress, to a mistress, and a few near misses that may have been attempts on her life, Evie treks back and forth around the island trying to do everything asked of her and more.

Duffy Brown brings us back to this idyllic island to follow around Evie Bloomfield. Evie is a smart woman

with a very unique business, renting one of a kind bicycles that she has painted herself. You can rent the music bike, or the Sherlock bike, one of the many lilac bikes or any other of the very imaginatively themed bicycles. Evie's mother has returned to the island and has opened her law office behind bike shop. There is a fudge shop right next door and Rudy, the original owner of the bike shop, splits his time between the 2 places. His thoughts are more on keeping his bride to be happy than anything else.

I am totally in awe of the way Ms. Brown writes. I was grabbed from the first page. My attention was completely held until the last word. To be truthful I didn't want the story to end. The whole murder mystery game just had me in stitches. At least 4 teams of people were tracking down "clues" and creating theories to catch the culprit. The way the main characters dealt with them all while really trying to solve the mystery itself was truly a unique plot idea.

A great addition to this series. Murder and yes, mayhem along with wonderful characters shine in this Cycle Path Mystery. I have already been to Rudy's Rides and reserved the Nancy Drew bike for our next excursion to this wonderful place!

OpenBookSociety.com says

<http://openbooksociety.com/article/br...>

Braking for Bodies

The Cycle Path Mysteries, Book #2

By Duffy Brown

ISBN: 9780425268957

Author website: <http://duffybrown.com/>

Brought to you by OBS reviewer Kayt

Synopsis:

Evie Bloomfield puts the pedal to the metal—in the latest Cycle Path mystery from the national bestselling author of *Geared for the Grave*.

Moving from Los Angeles to small, picturesque Mackinac Island to work in a bike shop might seem crazy, but Evie knows it's the best decision she's ever made. That's not to say she's gotten rid of all her stress; after all, the upcoming Lilac Festival has everyone in town riding in circles.

But things really go downhill when a ferry full of tourists—including Evie's friend Fiona's former boss, the editor of a sleazy rag in LA—arrives on the island. No one knows why Peephole Perry came all the way to Mackinac, but things aren't looking good for Fiona when Peep is found dead. Now Evie has to gear up and get a grip on the truth if she wants to clear her friend's name..

Review:

I enjoy visiting Mackinac Island and the wonderful characters that inhabit Duffy Brown's "The Cycle Path Mystery" series. *Braking for Bodies* is the second in the series and I enjoyed it even more than the first. Evie Bloomfield is a fun and entertaining protagonist. When her friend Fiona is faced with the appearance of her over the top former boss' arrival on the island, things go from bad to worse. Evie is so busy with the

upcoming Lilac Festival, a wedding and now the death of Fiona's sleazy old boss Peephole Perry. Why he even came to their little piece of paradise Mackinac Island no one knows, but it can only mean trouble. His death could mean a lot of lost revenue for the Island and this is the worst time for that. The citizens only have so much time to make money and this is it. Luckily for everyone, one of the hotel guests thinks the dead body of Peephole is the beginning of a murder mystery weekend. Evie and Police Chief Sutter decide to go with the flow and hope for the best. Evie is swamped with so much, including losing the bride's wedding gown, but she has to help keep Fiona out of jail when she becomes the prime suspect in the horrible man's murder.

The fun and antics have just begun with the death of ole Peephole. Two women claim to be his true love, he could have been hiding from death threats, he may have wanted to blackmail Fiona and mixed in is the groups of hotel guests trying to win a non-existent prize for figuring out the fake murder mystery weekend. Author Duffy Brown fills this fabulous cozy with laughter, intrigue, humor, fabulous characters and even more laughter. This is truly a wonderful read that kept me amused throughout and all the way till the end. Evie and her bike riding is one of the highlights, take my word for it. Her shop rents one of a kind bikes for visitors to the island. She paints them in themes and they are always a big hit. Now her mother has moved to the island to open her law office across the street. Now if only Evie can help get the wedding back on track. Rudy and Irma had their wedding planned out, but nothing is going right. Everything is falling apart and the murder is still unsolved and there are crazy guests running around finding "clues". How will Evie and Chief Sutter get to the bottom of things?

This is truly a wonderfully entertaining mystery. Colorful and eclectic characters abound. The townsfolk are not only amusing but they care for each other. Evie finally is starting to feel at home in her new town. She is determined to help the business owners not lose money with the fear of another murder on their island. The humor and mayhem filling this book work to bring the reader a fabulous fun filled whodunit. I could not figure out who the real killer was until Evie and Chief Sutter did. The pace and storyline are perfect. The writing is descriptive and superb. The characters are well developed and always interesting. Author Duffy Brown writes with such panache and humor.

Braking for Bodies is a stellar second installment in one of the best cozy series out these days. Always humorous and filled with intelligent wit, this is a fabulous mystery. The characters are wonderful and their interaction is great. Even with the addition of the crazy guests and the loves of Peephole Pete, the characters' banter is always amusing. If you have not read the first in this series, you will still be able to follow and enjoy this one. Do yourself a favor though and read the first. Duffy Brown has a writing style that grabs hold and never let's go. A wonderfully well written whodunit that is full of laughter and intrigue. If only I would have had some Mackinac Fudge, it would have been a perfect night's read. Even without it though, the visit to the island was well worth it and one I cannot wait to do again very soon.

*OBS would like to thank the publisher for supplying a free copy of this title in exchange for an honest review

Carol says

Welcome to Mackinac Island. You will arrive to the Island by ferry boat.

Once here, you travel by horse-drawn taxis, bikes, horse-drawn carriages, horseback or foot. Automobiles have been banned which resulted in noise-free, clean air with a quaint village ambiance.

The stunning imagery and vivid sense of setting add dimension to the story.

Every year there is a Lilac Festival on the Island. You can smell the lilac trees due to the figurative description given by the author.

The story is so well written and contains such vivid detail that you feel like you are right there and all the drama is happening right around you.

Our main character, Evie Bloomfield, is a transport to the Island from Chicago for close to a year. She is co-owner of Rudy's Rides, a bicycle rental shop. This is also where she lives with her two cats as Rudy has moved into Irma's Fudge Shop awaiting their wedding. Evie is in her wedding and needs to get Irma's wedding dress from the incoming ferry. Whoa...what's wrong with her best friend Fiona??? Turns out Fiona's former boss nicknamed "Peephole Perry" from LA has arrived on the island with his mistress.

What is going on?? Why is Fiona upset?

Then on the next ferry, Mrs. "Peephole Perry" arrives and the action begins.....

Riding her bike up to the Grand Hotel, Evie goes head first over the handle bars landing on a body...a dead body.

The guests at the hotel think that this is one of those Murder Weekend Plays which adds to the turmoil!!!

The book totters between the present and past. This makes the mystery explainable as the reader learns the facts.

Blending just the right combination of the ingredients: murder, mystery, mayhem, an engaging plot, unbelievable shenanigans, twists and turns plus humor and a touch of romance.

The author has creatively drawn up a wonderful cast full of great people readers will love plus plenty of suspects who they will love to dislike. You will feel as if you are part of the family. Plus you will find plenty of colorful suspects to be investigated.

This cozy is witty, clever, surprising and unpredictable!!!

It is the second book in The Cycle Path Mystery series. It can be read as a stand alone.

Enjoy!!!

Thanks to the author via Facebook's Cozy Mystery Review for the book. My opinion is my own.

Pamela says

It's been 10 months since her move to Mackinac Island became permanent & Evie has settled in nicely. No longer a "fudgie" as locals call the tourists, she's living alone at Rudy's Rides these days & is now a partner with him in the bike rental shop. Rudy has moved in with Irma at her Fudge Shop while they get ready to tie the knot.

Poor Evie can't stay out of trouble though or away from dead bodies & on the way to straighten out her latest mess, she runs right into another one. Peephole Perry, as he's known back in L.A., is the unlucky victim this time. He used to be the boss of her newly adopted bestie, Fiona, who had a public row with him as soon as he got to the island. Now Evie is doing all she can to keep suspicion away from Fiona while still providing maid of honor duties to Irma.

I love the characters in this series. Each one is unique & funny in their own way. I like that their relationships with each other have grown since the last book. Being as loyal as they are in defending each other has some very comedic moments while the veil of suspicion visits more than just Fiona. The plot was pure genius.

Duffy writes a great mystery & has a true talent for laugh out loud dialogue. More than ever, I'd love to visit Mackinac Island. My only disappointment would be if Evie & the gang weren't there to meet me at the ferry! This series is great fun & isn't to be missed.

****Disclosure:** I received an advanced copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review. All thoughts & comments included in this review are entirely my own.

Jonathan says

Oh, wow, this book went from good to bad to okay to horrible to okay. I have no idea how to even rate it. Evie was so annoying during most of the book, yet she had (a couple) redeemable moments. Overall nowhere near as good as the first one.

Tari says

Hilarious and full of surprises

Just when I thought nothing could be funnier than the first book, this one proved me wrong and I had a great time reading about Evie and her friends solving another murder. All I can say is, Duffy I hope book 3 is coming soon!

Debbie says

When I got the chance to read this book I was thrilled. Ms. Brown's books are always such an enjoyable read and this book is no different. I cannot begin to say enough about her characters, normally too many quirky characters annoy me but she makes it work so that you hope that you can jump right in with them. Evie is a strong woman, running a bike shop and helping friends and nobody is going to slow her down. When Fiona's

ex boss arrives on the island trouble begins. Fiona is prime suspect and Evie is out to clear her name. This mystery kept me guessing until the end with plenty of twists and turns that never slowed down. I look for laugh out loud moments and Ms. Brown always delivers, the word play between Sutter and Evie especially had me laughing. The drawback? I now have to wait for the next in this series.

*I received this book from the author in exchange for a fair and honest review and this is my honest opinion.

Sandie Laughner says

I loved this book!! What a madcap murder investigation!! :)

Besides taking place on gorgeous Mackinac Island, the characters and storyline, make for an entertaining read.

Evie Bloomfield is the maid of honor for the upcoming wedding of her rent-a-bicycle shop co-owner, Rudy, and fudge shop owner, Irma. Evie should've known that things weren't going to go smoothly for her when she discovers that the wedding dress Isn't the one that Irma ordered. Bicycling up to the Grand Hotel to retrieve the right dress, Evie accidentally wrecks her bike--over a dead body!! That's when the real madcap fun begins.

Evie must find the real killer and prove her friend, Fiona, innocent, make sure that the almost called off wedding happens, and keep herself alive. Really fun cozy mystery!! Well, not very fun for the dead Peephole Perry. :)

This is the second book in the Cycle Path Mystery series by Duffy Brown, and I can't wait to read more in this series.

Ellen says

Braking for Bodies by Duffy Brown.

Evie has relocated from the stress of L.A. to the beautiful get away from it all Mackinac Island. That is until Peephole Perry and his long time mistress, Zo, get off the ferry. Peep is about the last person on earth Evie wanted to see. The editor of a sleaze rag of a newspaper that her bff Fiona used to work for.

It seems that Peep has something trashy he's been holding over the heads of quite a few people and making money in the process. Then lo and behold Evie goes sailing through the air while bike riding after bumping into the body of Peep. Who did it and ran is the question of the day as the list of suspects keeps getting bigger.

This was so much fun to read. I loved it and it was the perfect change of pace to the many murder mysteries I am used to. I only hope this talented writer can keep up the great work. Treat yourself to a really fun adventure with Evie at Mackinac Island.

Vera Spurlock says

Vacation farther north than Cleveland?? NEVER says my husband--so I savored the newest book "Braking for Bodies" a Cycle Path mystery by Duffy Brown set on Mackinac Island MI. Face paced plot, colorful memorable...did I say COLORFUL...characters and clever dialogue...everything you'd want in a "Take me away" cozy mystery. Thanks Duffy...you did it again! And trust me, her books are even better reread...whenever you need an Island fix!

Yvonne Taylor says

I wish I could give this book more than 5 stars!! I received this book for an honest review, and loved it from the first page to the last. This book had me giggling out loud. That Evie Bloomfield is a hoot. Along with her friend Fiona they have a way of finding trouble. When Fiona's old boss, Peephole Perry comes to Mackinac Island with his mistress he is out to blackmail her to go back to L.A. to work for his paper again. His wife Madonna shows up on the island, then Evie stumbles across Peeps dead body with all the clues leading to Fiona. Seems there should be tons of suspects since it seems Peep was out to blackmail everyone. His mistress Zo is fighting with his wife Madonna, all the people staying at the hotel have split into groups, The Crusaders, the Body Baggers, and The Murder Marauders thinking this whole murder is just part of the murder weekend, the winning group gets their weekend stay for free. Rudy and Irma are trying to get married, and everything that could go wrong went wrong. Putting their heads together can Sutter and Evie make things right so this happy couple can say I DO? There is so much going on in this book, and it was the most fun to read!! I am already excited for the next book....

Lisa Ks Book Reviews says

I cycled through this fabulous mystery at record speed. What a fun ride it was!

Cozy mystery readers were given a marvelous gift when author Duffy Brown came on the scene. All you have to do is read BRAKING FOR BODIES to see just how blessed we are.

Set on real life Mackinac Island (Have you ever seen Somewhere In Time?), the Cycle Path mystery series will pull you in with Ms. Brown's descriptions of this beautiful setting. It's clear she has a real love for, and vast knowledge of Mackinac. The Grand Hotel is featured in this story, and it has strengthened my resolve to get there one day.

With a fantastic plot that had me from page one, BRAKING FOR BODIES as a fast, funny mystery that had me on the edge of my seat with anticipation as well as laughing practically through the entire book! Duffy Brown knows just the right combination of mystery, intrigue, and humor to make up the perfect cozy mystery.

If you're thinking of getting BRAKING FOR BODIES, stop back peddling. Throw yourself in gear, and race to get your copy!

