



Something's Cooking

Joanne Pence

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The heat is on

Life's a banquet for Angelina Amalfi—a gourmet chef and food writer with enough sass and spunk for two. But things start to go really bad really fast when the man who's been contributing unusual recipes to her column is discovered dead and Angie suddenly finds herself being stalked by a killer whose appetite was merely whetted by the first deadly course. On the plus side, Paavo Smith, the homicide cop assigned to the case, is one delectable dish. But when more people start to fall all around her like ruined soufflés, ever-resourceful Angie realizes she'll have to cook up a survival scheme quick before her personal goose gets cooked. This case may be too hot to handle and the stakes are high, for she's about to take on deadly arms smugglers and lethal food fanatics. But if anyone can keep her cool, Angie can.

Something's Cooking Details

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Author : Joanne Pence

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From Reader Review Something's Cooking for online ebook

Jan Berg says

Beware for the drama queens

I'm not sure I've ever read a book with a main character who's such a drama queen and stupid to boot. Lots of ups and downs in this book and intrigue so I finished it and would so despite previous comments it was well written and okay.

Sandy says

Angelina writes a food column. This food column includes recipes from her fans as well as her own additions. Sammy, her favorite fan write some very bizarre ones but people seem to like them.

She goes to meet him at a park to get the next batch, but he never shows up but a small brown package that ticks does. She put this package in the dishwasher and turns on the water to find that the package explodes.

Working her case is a policeman named Paavo. He and Angie come from different sides of the tracks but when Angie keeps getting attacked, they continue to be thrown together. Paavo and Angie have to find the killer before the killer gets Angie.

I like this story as it was very fast paced and interesting. Angie was a bit too damsel in distress some of the time and it annoyed me but I guess that is how she is painted - as a bit of a socialite.

I thought the premise was good but the rest of the characters - mostly not there. This could have used a few more characters to make it a better flushed out story.

Mary says

Rarely do I not finish a book. Sometimes it just takes me longer to get through it. Sometimes I will put it down and forget about it, then pick it up several months later and start it all over again & find that I simply was not in the mood for that genre at that time. This book was a big disappointment. I like mysteries. I like good food. I like the combination of those two things. I have read a few of Diane Mott Davidson's Goldy Culinary Mysteries and while they aren't works of great literature, they are, at least, mildly amusing and have more than a little to do with culinary delights. "Something's Cooking" barely qualifies as either a mystery or a culinary book. I read the first part of the book word for word. Near the middle, I found myself skimming over the pages with a touch of disgust and annoyance that this author is actually published and that this particular book is the first in what appears to be a series. God help us! Ms. Pence seems to think that you cannot have a mystery without a "romance". I have nothing against a good story about the development of a loving relationship but if I wanted to read a romance novel, I would have picked one. I could even overlook the romance if it even came close to being well told. Unfortunately, it did not. I have to say, I nearly finished the book. I gave it every chance but I finally could not bear it a moment longer.

Thank God that I buy most books at second-hand shops or library sales because if I had paid full price for this one, it probably would have put a halt to my ever purchasing another book at any price.

If possible, I would have given this book a rating of 1/16 of a star. If I like a book, I hang on to it for a while in case I want to re-read it. I have a few books that I dearly love & probably will never part with. And sometimes after a while, I will donate the books that I merely liked to make room for new purchases. This one is going in the recycling bin (ripped apart so no one else will waste their time.)

Vicki Gooding says

This author writes an excellent story. I personally skip over pages with male/female head games and lust as it takes something away from a good mystery. Characters are enjoyable, and it was a strong storyline.

Linda says

Angelina is a good cook, who has a column in the local shopper. When she gets a package that ticks and is marked occupant, she gingerly places it in her dishwasher (Maytag, advertised as indestructible) locked the door and started the water flowing. This is the start of the hunt for who wants to hurt her and why.

Faye says

OK, so when I give mystery paperbacks 4 or 5 stars, that's not in comparison to Tolstoy or Austen or something. I'm comparing them to one another. Plus, if you read the descriptions of what the stars mean, they are, "I really liked it," and "It was OK." So just because I really liked something doesn't make it great literature. But I really liked the first book in this series and am anxious to read more. This book in particular was more romance than mystery, though.

Susan B says

angie amalfi gourmet cook, and planning her wedding to Paavo Smith - what could go wrong. while looking for a house with one of her sisters she determines the house is haunted, but she really loves it and wants to buy it. Angie sets about trying to rid it of the spirits thinking she had no psychic abilities - skipped her but she soon finds out that she can see the ghosts and starts investigating the murders.

Amber J Skiles says

I 10/10 highly recommend this book. I find it amazing. I could never put it down. If you're into a thriller and suspenseful read, this is the one. I don't read anything tied into some romance, but this book has some of it. Though, it works well with the story. It gets very suspenseful and makes you want to read more... that is one thing I love about reading. I love this book! I think it's more so tailored for young adult-teen girls! Although, anyone can read it! Amber

Laura says

Too much like a romance and too fake. This could've been taken in a better direction.

Kristen says

In Joanne Pence's *Something's Cooking*, the first installment in the Angie Amalfi culinary cozy mystery series, this cozy would whip you a great storyline with all the right ingredients for this series. For Angelina Amalfi, she's a young woman who writes a food column for a weekly newspaper. When someone sent her a mysterious package, it exploded into her kitchen. That's when she's introduced to Inspector Paavo Smith and his partner Matt Kowalski, when they went to a crime scene and later learned about the bomb. In an instant, there was some kind of chemistry between Angie and Paavo, when someone had sent her threats and a mysterious character named Edward Crane claimed he's her biggest "Fan" and had sent her the recipes for her column. Immediately, Angie hired two bodyguards and later went to Paavo's home under her protection. She had come to know Paavo better and understood his mysterious background. When Matt's killed, Paavo went to Angie for some compassion as he had kept a close distance from her, since he cares so much about her. As Angie decided to search for Crane himself incognito, it had put her into a precarious situation with Paavo. And when she finally figured out who the real culprit was, somebody she knows and trusted, she took matters into her own hands as Paavo saved her life... when something's really cooking between the two of them in the end.

Daisyday says

Angelina should be fired because she can't see that the recipes are ridiculously BAD right from the first. Paavo is also unprofessional in his JOB as a homicide detective, allowing an obvious target go unprotected. Terrible book.

Teresa says

I enjoyed this mystery fairly well. It's a little off my beaten path, but I was trying a book out on my new Kindle (thanks Landa staff!) Anyway, it was nice to read a mystery. I am a little curious how the main character continues on with the detective she fell in love with so I may have to read a 2nd one sometime. Otherwise it's a fairly light mystery.

Barbara says

New series I thought I'd try. Turned out to be a very good read. Two likable, lead strong characters and an interesting mystery. I really liked the romance developing between the homicide detective and the heroine, a food columnist in shopper paper. I don't normally want romance mingled in with mysteries, unless the

mystery is solid and the romance done slowly and believably. This may not have been slow, but believable enough for me.

Already have the next one set up in my library's electronic database to read. Look forward to getting to it soon, I hope.

April Wilson says

Liked the story but felt like the budding romance between the two characters was a bit much and took away from the overall plot. Also got irritated with how Angie acts like she is an independent adult but in reality is simply another spoiled princess wearing designer clothing, living in a fully furnished place that her parents provide and only seems interested in the finer things in life. By the end of the book, I found myself not interested in reading any more in this series. A shame as the plot was rather clever.

Sandy says

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Would have give it 3.5 if it had that. But for a first in series it wasn't bad.
