



Macaron Murder

Harper Lin

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Includes 5 Special Macaron Recipes!

French native Clémence Damour returns to Paris after traveling around the world for two years. She's dog-sitting for her parents in the posh 16th arrondissement and overseeing the family patisserie, a famous franchise known for their delectable gourmet pastries and sweets in Paris and around the world.

To get off on the right foot with *la gardienne*, the caretaker of the apartment building, Clémence gives her a box of their luxury macarons. The next morning however, the half-eaten box of macarons is found near la gardienne's dead body. An incompetent inspector accuses Clémence of being the killer, which prompts her to clear her name and solve the case herself.

Join Clémence and her friends as they solve murder cases, bake macarons and other treats, and fall in love in The City of Lights.

If you like Joanne Fluke's Hannah Swensen mysteries or Leighann Dobb's Lexy Baker series, you'll also enjoy The Patisserie Mysteries. *Macaron Murder* is the first book in this new cozy series with an international twist, featuring delicious recipes of French pastries and desserts.

Macaron Murder Details

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Author : Harper Lin

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From Reader Review Macaron Murder for online ebook

Melissa says

This was a really short book, basically a short story. I'm not really into short stories, I prefer more character development and detailed mysteries. I'm reading this as part of a boxed set of four short stories, so I will keep going. Maybe more character development will happen over the series, although I'm not sure how detailed the mysteries can be at this length.

I did like the main character, as little as we know about her, and the setting in France. Other reviewers thought more could have been done with the atmosphere of the setting and I think that is another limitation of the short story genre. It's cute and fun enough for me to at least finish the box set, it remains to be seen if I will buy any more beyond that.

Miranda says

A quick, cute read with fun characters who, if the story were longer, would have unfolded nicely and still might in future short novels in this 6+ story series. Not rocket science, but a beautiful backdrop and delicious sounding desserts with several recipes included. Looking forward to more, I think.

Lisa says

Set in France, this cozy mystery was short and quick. Good for maybe when you're waiting for a dentist appointment or something. I was surprised at how abruptly the story ended, but I'll keep my eye out for more, as the characters have potential. Were this a longer story, the characters could have been flushed out a bit more, but the plot may have suffered. Just right.

*A few typos/grammatical errors throughout, but nothing so distracting that you couldn't finish.

Rage says

this was a very simple book, a quick read. it was also a free download! I didn't find the mystery particularly mysterious or compelling, and the main character's decision to get involved and investigate seemed somewhat contrived. the resolution was laughable - an abrupt confession, a climax with almost no tension.

if I had been reading this as a mystery, it would be a huge disappointment. however, I was having more fun trying to figure out who the main character was supposed to be set up with - her neighbor, the foreign writer? (view spoiler) or her snotty other neighbor, Arthur, who's actually quite handsome and not such a cad? (which we learn in a short summary of a satisfying conversation Clémence has with him rather than the actual dialogue.) or Sébastien, the reserved but secretly caring and handsome baker? I didn't even like the characters that much (they have very little substance, it's difficult to form a strong opinion either way), I guess I was just in the right kind of mood for some fluff.

Debra Brown says

Marcaron murder

Pretty good for a short story. If you have read other Harper Lin books you will like this on too.

Anne says

I was disappointed with this book, too many introductions of characters. Not sure I liked the main character much either. And the self revelation wasn't what I was expecting nor the abrupt ending. I much prefer the first series. Won't carry on with this one.

Heather Pearson says

A fun, quick story set in Paris. This murder mystery of a neighbour leaves relative newcomer, Clemence, determined to solve the crime and clear her name.

Clemence is perturbed at the seemingly inept police inspector, but she doesn't offer to share the additional information she has gathered. Along the way, she gets to know her new neighbours in ways she hadn't expected.

I enjoyed following Clemence as she visited with, and questioned her neighbours, particularly Arthur Dubois. It shows one of the flaws in her character, that of jumping too quickly to conclusions. Not a good trait in an investigator.

I would read more mysteries by Canadian author Harper Lin. Not sure that I will try any of the recipes for the macarons at the end of the book, but they do sound tasty.

#IndigoEmployee

Marie F says

Written a bit better than the Emma Wild/Killer Christmas story, but the same formula and simple unpractical plot. If I weren't so quirky compelled to finish out stories, I would have given up on this one early... It was very bland and way too reminiscent of the other one I read by this author. The bonus recipes don't sound all that thrilling either, but perhaps if one of those turns out interestingly it will slightly redeeming. Rather grateful it was free, but even at the cost of only the time it took to read it I wish I had passed.

Not sure I could recommend it to anyone unless they mentioned liking the Emma Wild's (in which case they could easily find it themselves)... I suppose Harper's style must be someone's cup of tea, but I am not sure I know anyone beyond the recommender who insisted this was better than the Killer Christmas one. It is a

strange format and genre to me, but I imagine she could develop a cult following... If you like her style, she certainly seems to repeat it and that could be like slipping into a favorite cozy pair of slippers.

Carolyn Injoy says

I received a free kindle copy of Macaron Murder (A Patisserie Mystery with Recipes Book 1) by Harper Lin from Amazon for fair review. I gave it three stars.

Clémence Damour had gone to school in America then travelled. She returned to Paris to dog sit while her parent who run a bakery travel to Japan to further spread their business. Soon after she arrived, the caretaker was murdered. A cynical inspector actually accuses Clemence of being the murderer. He is described as the man "with the buggy green eyes & parentheses smirk".

Arthur is a resident of the boarding house her parents own. He lives upstairs. She had seen him before "coming out the side of the building with a different girl each time: good looking girls in tight clothes & heels, doing the walk of shame."

Clemence's English was nearly without accent unless she was fatigued. When that happened her French accent became prevalent. That caught my attention because I don't sound Southern unless I'm fatigued, or angry.

Berenice & Sébastien both work for Damour's. Clemence & Berenice were talking about the rude Inspector Cyril. "Oh please, he's all talk. He was probably acting superior because he has no clue how to proceed. You know how Frenchmen are. They're like insecure little boys who need to act arrogant to mask their insecurities."

Céline, another worker at Damours has a bit of a crush on Sébastien & wants to Clemence to find out if he has a girlfriend. This led Clemence to ask: "What exactly is your taste?

'She has to be soft, light & sweet.'

'So your next girlfriend is going to be a meringue?' Clemence laughed."

Clemence is still looking for clues & sees Arthur walking the dog. She rushes to join him. "Something about him repelled her. It was the same way Cyril repelled her--the arrogance, the entitlement, the haughty attitude."

Clemence searches for clues everywhere. She doesn't slow down until she actually is struck upon the head & lost consciousness. Will she find the killer before the killer finds her?

This is a light weight & fun mystery.

Link to purchase: <http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00I...>

Tere Fredericks says

Fun in French!

Not too much, just enough to give you a flavor taste. Did you know that "air kissing" actually has a name? I learned a lot reading this book, including what a macaron is and that I want one now.

Did I mention that the murder was solved by the "funnest" sleuth ever? She cooks, she travels, she explains Parisian homes (now I have to see one!) and has wonderful friends? And one of those friends is a mystery as well. I think I know what it is, so I eagerly anticipate each new part of the story arc.

Sara says

Because this was a free book on the kindle store, I thought I would give it a shot. It was just ok. The main character was a bit unbelievable and a little snotty. You can tell that we were supposed to like her, but I didn't. I'm not sure why either. Maybe because she was so wealthy and had traveled the world, that I just couldn't relate to her when she would compare things she was seeing to her past travels. I just didn't work for me.

The actual mystery was very elementary and simple. Even though I didn't know who had committed the crime, I had worked out an even better ending than the one written. That's pretty sad because I'm not a genius- I'm pretty dumb.

I don't know, it just all felt a bit simple. Like a book to read in elementary school, but with adult themes. There is an entire series from this author, and I'm not sure I would read any more of these. I'm a huge fan of the Hannah Swenson series and keep reading these books for find something that rivals it. Haven't found one yet.

For a free book, it's ok. If I had to pay for this, I would have been very disappointed. Definitely not a series I would ever pay for, so if I do grab another, it would be from the library.

I've made macarons before and the recipes look good. I'm not sure about all of the flavor mixtures, but could be good. Here is what is included in this book:

Lychee Macarons with Raspberry Buttercream

Classic Chocolate Macarons with Chocolate Ganache

Matcha Green Tea Macarons with Matcha Buttercream

Black Sesame Macarons with Red Bean Filling

Lori Henrich says

Clemence has just returned to Paris to take care of the bakery business that her parents started. Her parents are out of the country working on expanding the business. When the la gardienne is found dead in her apartment, Clemence is at the top of the list of suspects. Realizing that if she is going to be taken off the suspect list, she will need to take on the investigating on her own.

I didn't care for the foreign language usage, but otherwise this was pretty good. I didn't pick up on the killer right away. I will probably read one more before I make a final decision. The recipes look tasty but not much of a baker, so kind of useless for me.

Linda says

This was a fun easy read. I enjoyed the Paris setting and the macrons sounded good and there were recipes included at the end if you wanted to try making your own. The mystery was good and the characters likeable.

Meg says

A decent, quick read, with a Paris setting. 3.5* from me. I didn't find it as bad as some reviewers have, and will be reading the next to see where the story goes.

Kjirstin says

Cute little story! A quick read, where a young woman returning from an extended round of world travel comes back to her home in Paris and becomes embroiled in a murder investigation that happens in her apartment building. The characters are fun and relatable, and the mystery itself has the light touch that is needed -- although I did find I was rather surprised by the killer's sudden self-revelation; it didn't quite feel like it flowed organically from the rest of what was happening.

I really enjoyed some of the little details about life in Paris, such as the thin walls and the construction of the Haussmann buildings, with little rooms in the attic that used to be servants' quarters. All very interesting and appropriate to the setting. However, I was a little thrown out of the story by some of the very un-French attitudes and backstory of the protagonist. For instance, there's a section about how much she loves "la tour Eiffel" and the view of it from her neighborhood that screams "Displaced American!" rather than native Parisian. And I found the notion of a wildly-successful patisserie becoming that way by incorporating American twists into traditional French desserts so unlikely as to pull me out of the story. Yes, that kind of thing would work in the US, but in France? I am very skeptical. Am I overthinking things? Absolutely, which is why I'm not dinging the story for this. But it did throw me out of the narrative more than once.

I greatly enjoyed the little band of characters that the protagonist had gathered around herself by the end of the book, and foresee more fun and hijinks from them as the series continues. Definitely recommend it as a light, enjoyable read. I will very likely be picking up additional books from the series.
