



# Mum's the Word

*Dorothy Cannell*

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## Mum's the Word Dorothy Cannell

A cocktail of murder, mystery and humour, featuring the amateur sleuth, Ellie Haskell. When her husband is invited to compete for membership of a secret society of chefs, the blissfully pregnant Ellie is whisked off to America - only to find herself on the trail of a murderer.

## Mum's the Word Details

Date : Published March 7th 2012 by Crimeline (first published January 1st 1990)

ISBN :

Author : Dorothy Cannell

Format : Kindle Edition 272 pages

Genre : Mystery, Cozy Mystery, Fiction

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# **From Reader Review Mum's the Word for online ebook**

## **Harry Addington says**

Funny dizzying tale.

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## **Grandma Mush says**

I liked the adventure part but some of the characters still seem pushed.

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## **Pamela McLaren says**

Dorothy Cannell sure can set a silly story in motion! In this outing in her series (following the life of Ellie Haskell, a formerly fat child and adult who finds her way to thinness by falling in love with the handsome Ben), Ellie is pregnant with every preconceived notion of what that means and Ben is asked to travel to America to join a secret chef's society. To a house in the middle of nowhere and located on a small island in the middle of a river they go to find a house teaming with odd balls and misunderstood cranks and a mystery with shades of Christie's "And Then There Were None."

Odd and crazy and silly all at once, this is a story that you'll never take seriously. If Ellie wasn't endearing, she would drive you up a wall. This time around, Cannell hit the right note with this series.

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## **Katie Powell says**

I love the Ellie Haskell books - None of them are as fun as the first in the series, The Thin Woman, but they all are quick, snappy reads. Highly recommend the series.

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## **DelAnne Frazee says**

Title: Mum's the Word - Ellie Haskell Mystery Book 3

Author: Dorothy Cannell

Publisher: Crimeline

Published: 3-7-2012

Pages: 272

Genre: Mystery

Sub-Genre: Cozy, Suspense, Family life, British Detectives

ASIN: B007DKXFZ2

Reviewed For Myself

Reviewer: DelAnne

Rating: 4 Stars

Ellie and Bentley Haskell are awaiting the birth of the first child. Ellie is afraid of her weight is growing to monstrous proportions. No matter what she does it continues to rise at an alarming rate. Morning sickness and tiredness hound her when Bentley is offered a chance to compete for a chance to join an exclusive chef's society. When the Trammell sisters come with dire warning about a psychic vision their maid had in which Ellie was in danger and needed to get away from Merlin's Court. All Ellie's protestations are pushed aside and she finds herself in America with Bentley at a gothic mansion after a series of mishaps. There a group of contestants begin to disappear one by one. Then a surprise attack brings a climatic scene to startling conclusion.

This, the third in the Ellie Haskell mystery series, is a change of pace in that it takes place in America. The mystery is a bit more confused, but readers will still be looking forward to a fast paced story reminiscent of *Then There Were None*. Throw in a classic film reference which Ellie's mother had a part in. I was not as fond of this offering, but enjoyed it none the less.

My rating of "Mum's The Word - Ellie Haskell Mystery Book 3" is 4 out of 5 stars.

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Twitter Link: <https://twitter.com/DelAnne531/status...>

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### **Nancy Wilson says**

This book drove me nuts and took way too much time to read--and in the end it was the Jerry Seinfeld of books--it was about nothing. I was so furious when I got to the end I wanted to throw the damn book!! I had my reservations about the series and hesitated to read another--no more--if you want to read confusing trying to pass for clever this is the book for you--not me!

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### **George says**

Another in the Ellie Haskell mystery series. In this one, Ellie is pregnant, moody, and travels to the U.S. with her husband for a chance for him to be admitted to a secret society of chefs. Story is set in a mansion on an island in Illinois, and involves disappearing people and a possible murder which Ellie helps to unravel.

The mystery story line is good involving mysterious characters, unexplained disappearances, a possible murder, and a mother-daughter rivalry because of a Mommy Dearest Joan Crawford type best seller. The title also works on multiple levels with requirements of the chef society, Ellie the expectant mother, and mother-daughter relationships.

Though the story works well, I don't enjoy Cannell's Ellie character a lot. I don't care for Ellie's flippancy and wise cracking ways along with her constant swings back and forth between extremes regarding her husband.

Gets tiresome. I also found Ellie's frequent dream sequences confusing at times, though the information revealed helped to move the story along as well as developed the various meanings of the title.

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### **Judie says**

I enjoyed this book more than the second in the series, but not as much as the first one. Thought about giving it four stars. . .

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### **Erin says**

The first book in the series "The Thin Woman" is really good and is one of my go-to for light reading. However, in all the other books, Ellie comes across as a major flake that is whiny and ungrateful and not nice to anyone. Ugh!

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### **Nancy says**

Even though I remember liking the first book, The Thin Woman, years ago, this one in the series seemed silly and annoying. Maybe it was my mood.

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### **Kim says**

I hadn't read any of this series for awhile and now I remember why. Irritating, affected, incoherent and silly. I suppose that these are supposed to be farces, but like theatre of the absurd, I just find them stupid. The only redeeming feature of the series is that the setting is a small English village - and that isn't even the case here - this book takes place in Illinois! Bah.

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### **Katie says**

I've read the first 3 Ellie Haskell mysteries now, and frankly the plot line is getting old. Ellie and Ben are happy, in walks bombshell, Ellie thinks Ben's cheating on her (he never is), mystery, that she solves, distracts Ellie, Ellie and Ben are happy again. Seriously, get a new storyline.

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### **Margaret says**

Although it took me quite a while to dig it out of Mt. TBR, I found this book quite enjoyable. I agree it wasn't the best Dorothy Cannell book I've ever read - I thought Ellie whined a lot and definitely wasn't enjoying being pregnant at all. Still, I love the author's style of writing.

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**Leslie says**

I love Ellie and Ben and have read many of their escapades. This one was typical in its execution only this time I was onto the plot before it was revealed. Seemed too coincidental. Was a little disappointed in Ellie's detective skills in the boathouse. However it needed to wrap up like it did - so all's well that ends well?

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**Anne Hawn Smith says**

Again, this isn't as good as the first. Ellie's insecurities make you want to scream at her or put your arms around her and comfort her. The mystery part is light, but fairly well developed. I really enjoyed it. The mother is a character you love to hate which explains Ellie and adds to the story.

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