



Premeditated Peppermint

Amanda Flower

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Someone's sweet on revenge . . .

Christmas is Bailey King's favorite time of year. For her first Yuletide in Harvest, Ohio, the former big-city chocolatier is recreating a cherished holiday treat: peppermint combined with molten white chocolate. But her sugar high plummets when her former boyfriend walks into the candy shop she now runs with her Amish grandmother. New York celebrity chef Eric Sharp and his TV crew have arrived to film an authentic Amish Christmas. Bailey's not about to let her beloved town—and Swissmen Sweets—be turned into a sound bite. Unfortunately, she gets more publicity than she bargained for when Eric's executive producer is found strangled to death—and Eric's the prime suspect.

With Bailey's sheriff deputy boyfriend out to prove Eric's guilt, her bad-boy ex tries to sweet-talk her into helping him clear his name . . . and rekindle their romance to boost ratings for his show. Now, between a surplus of suspects and a victim who wasn't who she seemed, Bailey's edging dangerously close to a killer who isn't looking to bring joy to the world—or to Bailey—this deadly Noel . . .

Premeditated Peppermint Details

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From Reader Review Premeditated Peppermint for online ebook

Carla Johnson-Hicks says

Bailey King was working in New York as a chocolatier before she decided to return to Harvest, Ohio. On a visit home, her grandfather died and she decided to remain and help her Amish grandmother run their family owned candy shop, Swissmen Sweets. The fact that she had just ended a relationship also helped her with that decision. In this story, Bailey is preparing peppermint treats for their booth at the Yuletide in Harvest Festival when she gets an unexpected and unwanted visit. Eric, her ex, has brought a film crew to Harvest to produce an episode for his new reality cooking show. His plan is to include Bailey and her Amish ties and possibly rekindle their romance. As Bailey's grandmother is waiting to hear back from the Bishop about filming in the store, when the executive producer is found strangled to death. Eric becomes the prime suspect, and Bailey is sure he would not kill anyone. She jumps right in to the investigation and has to juggle her feelings with Aiden, the sheriff's deputy with her loyalty to Aiden and the possibility of a New York television show of her own.

I enjoy the characters in this series. Bailey is developing Amish friendships, thus allowing the reader to learn about the Amish customs, through the Englisher's eyes. Aiden is a deputy sheriff and he and Bailey seem to be developing a relationship. His mother, Juliet, is definitely the humorous element to the story as she divides her time and attention between her adorable pot-bellied pig Jethro and matchmaking between Aiden and Bailey. Emily is a young Amish girl with family difficulties, who works in the pretzel shop next to Swissman's. There are an assortment of other characters who fill out the story, many with the television company. The plot of the story was well developed with some story lines about life in the town and relationships. The mystery had some suspects, but motive was a stickler. Once the motive was introduced near the end, I quickly figured out the murderer, and as the clues fell into place, I was correct. The ending was well done and satisfying.

Premeditated Peppermint by Amanda Flower is the third book in the cozy Amish Candy Shop Mystery series and I have enjoyed them all. Amanda Flower is becoming one of my favourite cozy mystery authors. I am looking forward to the next book in this delightful, mystery series. The publisher, Kensington Books, generously provided me with a copy of this book to read. The rating, opinions and ideas are my own.

Amy says

Premeditated Peppermint is the third installment of the Amish Candy Shop series. Bailey King is finally settling in helping her grandmother run the family candy shop in Harvest, Ohio and it is her first Christmas in Amish country. Her ex-boyfriend from New York City, Eric, decides to literally drop into her life by bringing a production crew to tape a show featuring an authentic Amish Christmas cooking special to boost ratings for his show. When a woman from the production team is murdered in the village, Bailey and her friend Cass investigate to try to clear Eric's name.

I've read the two prior books in the series and it has become one of my favorites, though it can be read as a standalone. The plot was well-written and I didn't know the killer's identity until the very end. Bailey's relationship with Deputy Brody continues to build nicely but doesn't overshadow the mystery. The characters are really enjoyable, especially the Deputy's mother Juliet, who dotes on her pet pig Jethro and insists on bringing him almost everywhere. I also liked the details of Amish life and customs. The author includes a

delicious sounding recipe for Peppermint Bark at the end of the book.

Thanks to NetGalley and Kensington Books for a complimentary digital copy of this book. My review is voluntary.

Peggy R says

If you follow my reviews, you will know that Ms. Flower is one of my favorite cozy mystery authors. She creates wonderful cozy mysteries that draw her readers in with her descriptive writing style and her down home characters. I am a frequent visitor to the Amish towns in Holmes County Ohio and I can easily picture myself back there whenever I pick up an Amish cozy mystery written by this author. Her mysteries are always woven throughout the entire story and the plots have a steady pace that keeps me turning the pages.

For me, this series is a gem. It hits all the highlights I look for when choosing a cozy mystery - well written characters, charming setting and good solid mysteries that keep me guessing. I will be back for subsequent books in this series and any other that this author writes.

I voluntarily read an advanced reader copy provided to me by the publisher through Netgalley.

Maureen Timerman says

We are back in Ohio with Bailey King, and just in time for the Christmas Market, and helping in the family candy store.

Of course, as in the past two books there is a murder, and somehow our Bailey is in the middle of the investigation again, along with some other familiar characters, including our loveable pig Jethro.

Will this be the end of Bailey's involvement in the family business, will she decide to go back to NYC now that Eric her former boyfriend has come back into her life?

This book is going to keep you guessing almost to the last page, and danger is ever present, will you be able to guess ahead of time as whom the culprit is? Enjoy this cozy Christmas mystery!

I received this book through Net Galley and the published Kensington, and was not required to give a positive review.

Patty says

Premeditated Peppermint by Amanda Flower is the 3rd book in the Amish Candy Shop Mystery series, and another great addition. I really love this series, and am looking forward to the next book in the series. Bailey King left her job as a New York chocolatier to return to Harvest, OH to help her Amish grandma run Swissman Sweets, an Amish candy store after her grandfather died. Bailey King is excited for the Christmas season and the chocolates she will create, when her Ex boyfriend Eric Sharp, celebrity chef from New York, comes into the shop with a film crew. When a film crew executive is murdered, Eric becomes the main

suspect. Bailey's boyfriend Sheriff Deputy Brody is set on nailing Eric for the murder, Bailey sets out to discover the truth. I love the quirky people and situations in this book. I found this book to be a quick read, with a well developed plot and characters. If you love cozy mysteries, I strongly recommend this book/series.

I received this book in exchange for a fair and honest review.

Sue Em says

Bailey King loves the Christmas season, and is especially looking forward to enjoying being with her grandmother back in Harvest, OH. Unfortunately, her NYC-ex, Eric, arrives in town with a production team for a reality baking show. Adding to her horror, the producer is murdered and enlists her help to prove his innocence. I enjoyed both of the first two books in the Amish Candy Shop series, and this one does not disappoint. Your favorite characters are back, including Cass, her BFF, helping her investigate and negotiate the Amish simple life.

Thanks to netgalley and the publisher for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

Carrie says

Premeditated Peppermint by Amanda Flower is the third book in the cozy Amish Candy Shop Mystery series. Each book in the series features it's own mystery to be solved so they can be read as a standalone if choosing to do so. However, there is character development that carries over from book to book so it's most enjoyable to read from the beginning.

The main character in this series, Bailey King, was working in New York as a chocolatier before she decided to return to Harvest, Ohio and help her Amish grandmother run their family owned candy shop, Swissmen Sweets. Just when Bailey is experimenting with a new peppermint treat for her first Yuletide in Harvest she gets an unexpected visit from her ex, Eric.

Eric has brought a whole film crew to Harvest to hopefully include Bailey and her Amish ties in his television show but when the executive producer is found strangled to death Eric instead becomes the prime suspect. With Bailey caught in the middle between her new love interest, Aiden, who is a sherriff's deputy and her ex as the suspect Bailey knows she needs to solve this murder and quickly.

I've followed the Amish Candy Shop mystery series from the beginning and have absolutely loved what Amanda Flower has done bringing in a regular American character into the Amish community. Each book in the series has been a lot of fun so far, this one included, although I will admit to a slight hesitation to bringing in a sort of love triangle to this installment leaving this one only at stars. However, the character and charm of the small town quickly won me back over after the hesitation and it's still one of my favorite cozy series.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.com/>

Gloria says

Amanda Flower is one of my favorite authors for Amish suspense. She creates great, likable and real characters in a small town setting that come together for a place and people that I can envision and imagine visiting. In *Premeditated Peppermint*, we are back in Harvest, Ohio where chocolatier Bailey King has moved to from New York City to help her grandmother run her candy shop, *Swissmen Sweets*. She promised her grandfather before his death that she would stay in Harvest to help and plans to keep her promise. It is almost Christmas and vendors are setting up around the town square to sell their wares. Bailey, her grandmother and cousin Charlotte are working hard to make peppermint the main ingredient in their selection to sell for the event. An old boyfriend and celebrity chef, Eric Sharp, steps in the shop with a camera crew wanting to film his Christmas special in Amish country and in particular, with Bailey and her grandmother's shop. Their split was not on great terms and Bailey wants nothing to do with Eric but logic overrules her emotions. This might help her new internet campaign to expand the business. Sheriff Deputy Aiden Brody is not happy to see Eric. He and Bailey are trying to explore a relationship beyond friendship and Eric's appearance isn't good. Things turn deadly when Rocky Rivers, executive producer, is found dead in the town square gazebo the next morning. Is the killer Amish? Englisch? Does someone on the production crew have it in for Rocky? She seems to have a connection to Harvest but what and how? Bailey's BFF Cass flies in from NYC to help Bailey deal with Eric's appearance and the two join forces to find the killer. Aiden's mother, Juliet and her potbelly pig, Jethro, are front and center in the filming and action. An added bonus in the live Nativity scene and parade around the square. I enjoy this series a lot and look forward to the next one.

Thanks to Kensington Books through NetGalley for the complimentary ARC. The thoughts and opinions stated are mine only.

Juli says

Premeditated Peppermint is the 3rd book in the Amish Candy Shop cozy series. Bailey King left New York City to return to her roots in Harvest, OH. She helps her grandmother run the family candy business, *Swissmen Sweets*. It's nearly the holiday season in this newest book and the shop is gearing up for the annual Harvest Christmas Market. Peppermint is the theme for the candy shop's table this year, so the shop is filled with all things chocolatey and minty. mmmmm :) Just as she is feeling her holiday spirit returning, Bailey is horrified when her ex-boyfriend, Eric Sharp shows up with a television crew in tow. While this would help boost business for *Swissmen Sweets* and all the businesses in Harvest, Bailey knows Eric and his entourage will cause a disturbance in the village. Unfortunately, it's a bit more than just a disturbance... The executive producer for the holiday special is found strangled to death with Christmas lights in the village square. Decking the halls with a dead producer is not a great way to start off the holiday season. Bailey finds herself investigating to find the killer before the holiday season is ruined.

I really enjoy just about anything Amanda Flower writes. I enjoy the characters in this series and the candy shop theme is just yummy (not to mention the great peppermint bark recipe included in the back of this newest book!). The mystery moves along at a nice pace. Strangling someone with Christmas lights was a nice sinister touch. The plot was entertaining and engaging. All in all, a nice addition to this series.

The next book, *Toxic Toffee*, will be coming soon! Yay!

****I voluntarily read an advanced readers copy of this book from Kensington via NetGalley. All opinions expressed are entirely my own.****

Susan says

Review to follow!

Kristina says

Premeditated Peppermint by Amanda Flower is the third tale in An Amish Candy Shop Mystery series. Bailey King is looking forward to a peaceful Christmas in Harvest, Ohio with her grandmother, Clara and cousin, Charlotte. They have been busy preparing a variety of peppermint candies for their Swissmen Sweets table at the Harvest Christmas Market. Then a grinch arrives in the form of Bailey's ex-boyfriend and baker, Eric Sharp along with a camera crew. He wants to film the Christmas special of his show in Harvest with Bailey. Bailey agrees to meet the producer, Rocky Rivers the next morning to discuss the proposal. On her way to the meeting, Bailey notices a set of lights out on the gazebo. When she enters the gazebo, Bailey finds Rocky dead with the lights wrapped around her neck and Eric standing over her body. Deputy Aiden Brody quickly arrives on the scene and targets Eric as his prime suspect. Eric asks Bailey to prove his innocence before he ends up as head baker at the local prison. Linc Baggins (not a hobbit) arrives to take over production of the show and he has a surprising business proposition for Bailey. Then Juliet Brody approaches Bailey with a special request for her almost daughter-in-law (Aiden and Bailey have yet to have a first date). Juliet feels that Jethro has the face for television, and she wants Bailey's help jumpstarting the pig's career. Then Margot needs Bailey's help with the live nativity. Bailey's Christmas is quickly spiraling out of control.

Premeditated Peppermint is an entertaining cozy mystery as you can tell from my summary. You will be hooked from the very first page. While Premeditated Peppermint can be read alone, I suggest reading the series in order. It will provide you a better understanding of Bailey and how she came to live in Harvest. I thought Premeditated Peppermint was well-written with a good pace. It is just the right length at 306 pages. I had been reading a different book that was dragging along (I fell asleep), so I switched to Premeditated Peppermint and quickly devoured it. Harvest is a quaint small town that has a mixture of Amish and English citizens. There are charming shops and events that attract tourists such as the Harvest Christmas Market. Bailey is a smart and talented main character. I was happy to see Bailey's best friend, Cass pop up in Harvest to help Bailey. Juliet Brody is quite a character. She goes around town with her pig, Jethro on a leash. I can see Jethro acting as the ring bearer if Aiden and Bailey ever marry (picture Jethro wearing a cute little tux). There are many laugh out loud moments in Premeditated Peppermint courtesy of Juliet, Jethro, Eric, Margot Rawlings, and the camel, Melchior. I enjoyed the descriptions of the delectable candies being prepared at Swissmen Sweets. The mystery was interesting with a handful of suspects and misdirection. The method of murder fit in with the book and the author provided good clues to aid the reader in solving the crime. There are recipes at the end of book and a preview of Toxic Toffee. My rating for Premeditated Peppermint is 4 out of 5 stars.

LORI CASWELL says

Dollycas's Thoughts

Everything is not Merry this Christmas season in Harvest, Ohio. Eric Sharp, Bailey King's ex has shown up with a camera crew to catch on film an authentic Amish Christmas for his new television show just in time for annual Harvest Christmas Market. Seems his producers need the celebrity chef to be more human/friendly and they think this episode will do the trick. The problem is that he wants to showcase Swissmen Sweets and just expects Bailey to go along with his plan, never thinking about her grandmother, an Amish woman that has no desire to be seen on camera. The Amish community itself shuns any type of photographic participation.

Early the next morning as Bailey is on her way to tell the producer that it is unlikely that her grandmother will approve any filming in the sweet shop, she notices something that draws her to the gazebo in the park. As she arrives she finds the producer dead and Eric Sharp standing over the body. Of course, he is the prime suspect but Bailey can't wrap her head around Eric as a killer. She quickly finds herself involved in several Christmas Market events and she plans to use that as a way to try to clear Eric from the suspect list. She is no longer sweet on him, but she hopes to keep him out of jail for the holidays.

Peppermint, peppermint, and more peppermint. I was craving it throughout this whole book and it is darn hard to find peppermint bark or fudge or canes this time of year. I had to settle for the hard candy and that didn't really curb my cravings. ? Can't wait for Christmas candy to hit the stores, probably any day now.

The characters in this series are so much fun. Amish and Englishers do their best to coexist in Harvest. Bailey and her grandmother have hired Charlotte to work with them at Swissmen Sweets. This way Bailey has time to get caught up in her investigations. Her relationship with Deputy Aiden Brody gets just a little bit closer. His mother already has them engaged and headed down the aisle. She and her pet pig, Jethro are involved again in the whole story and that leads to some very humorous moments. She thinks Jethro needs to make his television debut and someday have a show of his own.

The mystery was pretty complex. Who would want Rocky Rivers dead? Are they Amish or Englisch? and what was she hiding? I loved that Bailey's BFF hopped on a plane and flew to Harvest to be at Bailey's side when she heard Eric had come to town. Cass thinks on her feet and not only helped with the investigation but played a big part in getting Bailey an offer that may be just too hard to refuse. They work well together and find some huge clues the police had missed.

Well written and plotted, Amanda Flower has given her readers one sweet treat to devour this holiday season. Christmas in Harvest sounds delightful, sans the murder, of course. A perfect escape for when the temps get lower and the snow starts to fly.

Daniele says

4.5 stars

PREMEDITATED PEPPERMINT, the delightful third book in Amanda Flower's charming Amish Candy Shop Mystery series, finds former New York City chocolatier Bailey King up to her elbows in peppermint confections. It is her first Christmas in Harvest, Ohio, and the town's celebrations are underway. Bailey is

speechless when her bad boy ex-boyfriend, pastry chef Eric, walks into her grandparents' candy shop with a television crew in tow. In town to film a holiday special for Gourmet TV, he hopes to spin his and Bailey's headline making split into TV reconciliation gold. When Bailey finds the executive producer Rocky dead in the town square, Eric is quickly named the prime suspect. Despite her dislike for Eric, she knows he is innocent and sets about finding the real killer's identity. Throw in a live nativity with a rogue camel, a jealous love interest, a pig with dreams of stardom, and an offer that Bailey does not know if she can refuse, and readers have a wonderfully entertaining read full of Christmas spirit.

Flowers is one of my favorite authors, and I was not disappointed with PREMEDITATED PEPPERMINT. The lovely tourist town setting with its mix of Amish and English residents is the perfect backdrop for Bailey and her candy shop. I like Bailey. She is smart and empathetic and makes a good amateur sleuth. I appreciate that she is not perfect. She struggles with feeling left out of her grandmother and cousin's blossoming relationship, and I think this influences her decisions in the book. Of course, her love interest, sheriff's deputy Aiden, makes a good foil for her investigating efforts, and he is a really decent guy. Eric is indeed rather self-centered and not easy to feel sorry for, and the victim has some skeletons in her closet. A highlight of this series is Aiden's over-the-top mother Juliet and her pet pig Jethro. They provide some of the books laugh out loud moments.

The mystery surrounding Rocky's death is complex enough to be compelling. There are plenty of clues along the way, with just the right amount of misdirection, to keep readers guessing. The conversational writing style keeps the pace of the book steady, and I felt like I was right there in the middle of the action.

PREMEDITATED PEPPERMINT is sure to please any cozy mystery reader, and I cannot wait for the next book in the series to be published. I hope there are many more adventures with Bailey. Highly recommended.

I received an ARC of this title from the author and publisher and voluntarily shared my thoughts here.

Laura says

Bailey King loves Christmas. For her first holiday season in Harvest, Ohio, Bailey is getting ready, along with her Amish grandmother, and her cousin, for the annual Harvest Christmas Market when the front door to Swissmen Sweets opens in and in walks New York celebrity chef Eric Sharp, and a TV crew.

Eric plans to shoot scenes for his cooking show, and part of the charm, he says, is his rekindling his romance with Bailey. Bailey is not sure about either part. Shooting in Amish country is not that easy. You need permission from the deacon, and she definitely does not want to rekindle her romance with Eric. But things take a dangerous turn when Eric's executive producer is found strangled to death—and Eric's the prime suspect.

Bailey's sheriff deputy boyfriend, Aiden, is sure that Eric is guilty, but Bailey is not. She agrees to help Eric and find the real killer. And there are plenty of suspects, both Amish and English. But will her sleuthing lead to death for her, or someone close to her?

How is it that this is only the third installment in the Amish Candy Shop series? I feel like I've known these characters far longer than that, and spending Christmas with them was very entertaining.

There is a wonderful blend in this series of the English and Amish lifestyles. Ms. Flower perfectly blends them together to create intrigue and draw her readers into a very intriguing story. The characters grow in this series, and watching as relationships changed and grew was an integral part of this tale.

Jethro the pig has a large part in this book, and Ms. Flower has managed to introduce a camel, something I don't think I've seen in a cozy mystery.

Characters and settings is what draws me to Amanda Flower's books, and Premeditated Peppermint is one of the finest in the bunch. It is definitely my favorite of the series, and the ending of it had me turning pages as quickly as possible, and left me wishing for a return visit to Harvest.

I received a digital copy of this book from the publisher through NetGalley.

Noreen Trotsky says

Amanda Flower has become my favorite mystery writer. Her books do what books are supposed to do and that is to get you lost in another world and enjoy it. She definitely does not disappoint with Premeditated Peppermint. The story continues as Bailey is still in Harvest, OH and Christmas is upon her. Out of the blue, Bailey's ex-boyfriend, Eric, shows up with a production crew in tow. Eric's production manager, Rocky, is planning to film Christmas in the Amish country with Eric reuniting with Bailey. Of course, this is all news to Bailey and things take off from there. Rocky is found murdered the next morning and there are plenty of viable suspects throughout the story.

The romantic twist is there with Aidan, the deputy sheriff, and Bailey still trying to figure out their relationship and where they want to take it.

The plot is fast-paced and well written. To me, a good mystery is when you cannot solve it and you keep guessing who is the most likely suspect and that is Premeditated Peppermint. Pick it up and get lost in a great mystery.

I received this ARC via Netgalley & Kensington in return for an honest review.
