



## The Diva Serves High Tea

*Krista Davis*

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**The Diva Serves High Tea** Krista Davis

**The New York Times** bestselling author of *The Diva Steals a Chocolate Kiss* serves up a new mystery steeped in murder...

When The Parlour opens up in town, domestic diva Sophie Winston finally has a place to satisfy her cravings for all things tea and crumpet related. And the shop serves as the perfect place for the ladies of the town to gather and gossip, especially since it's conveniently located right across the street from the new antique store run by the handsome and charming Warren Smith.

But speculation around Warren really boils over when he's found dead—a victim of poisoning after attending a literacy fundraiser at The Parlour the night before. What Sophie learns about the man leaves a bitter taste in her mouth, and she'll have to strain out a killer from a strange brew of suspects...

Includes delicious recipes and entertaining tips!

## **The Diva Serves High Tea Details**

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Author : Krista Davis

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## From Reader Review The Diva Serves High Tea for online ebook

### Kathy says

Krista Davis serves up high tea for her fans in this latest book in the Domestic Diva series and it is a treat! Excitement is in the air when The Parlour, a tea shop in town is opened. But when newcomer, Warren Smith, proprietor of the newest antique store in Old Town, is found dead, all eyes turn to the new tea shop where the literacy fundraiser was held the evening before. But Warren may not be at all what he seemed and Sophie digs to get to the bottom of the story. Of course, our favorite characters are back to help Sophie to help solve the mystery. And the sooner the better, so the ladies of Old Town can go back to having tea at The Parlour!

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### Pearl says

\*FTC: I received a copy of this book from the author in exchange for a fair and honest review.\*

In this 10th serving of Krista Davis' Domestic Diva series, Sophie Winston finds herself yet again entangled in the affairs (and deaths) of others. "Rosie" is the last word of Robert, a new-to-the-area antiques dealer, and unfortunately, Sophie is the one to hear it. Unraveling the mystery of "Rosie" will require Sophie and the gang (Nina, Mars, Bernie, and Francie) to poke around the new tea shop in town, dive deep into Robert's increasingly complicated past, and uncover more than few secrets. All the while, there's also the puzzle of Natasha's mystery intruder...who would want to do her in? (Who wouldn't, is perhaps another question). Some deft maneuvering on the author's part and the pieces fall into place at the end with satisfying results.

New readers could certainly enjoy this book without the benefit of reading the rest of the series. However, I would definitely recommend starting from the beginning to get a fuller sense of the characters.

### Additional Thoughts

- 1) It's always fun to read the little "Dear Natasha" and "Dear Sophie" snippets at the beginning of each chapter, especially when they provide differing perspectives on a reader's question/inquiry.
- 2) I hope Davis commits to Mars' decision about his relationship with Natasha. I've never understood what he saw in her or why he stayed so long. Natasha is certainly a colorful character, and she brings a lot of life to her parts of the plot. However, her established personality is just not a match for Mars.

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### Amanda says

It happened! Right at the beginning of chapter 4 and I couldn't be happier! I won't say a word, so as not to ruin the book for anyone, but what I've been hoping for has come to pass! Now that I've gotten the giddiness out of my system, on to my review. :)

I've been a fan of Krista Davis' Domestic Diva Mysteries from the start, and this tenth book didn't disappoint! The story kept a good pace throughout, not rushing or lagging. It also has a good balance of mystery and regular-day stuff, like the high tea and auction, and the attorney convention Sophie had coordinated.

I was kept guessing whodunnit until the very end, which I like in a mystery. The main characters are great, though I miss a couple of characters from previous books. Other domestic newbies like me can appreciate the cooking, etiquette, and hostess tips throughout (though I often disregard tips from Natasha!) I especially get a kick when Natasha and Sophie answer their respective advice columns with opposing responses to the same question!

This is one of my two favorite cozy mystery series and they're still as fun to read as ever!

I was lucky enough to win a free advance copy of this book in exchange for my review, though all opinions are my own.

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### **Debbie says**

I loved this book, it never slowed down. Between attacks, murder, past histories and much more you never know what is coming next, you are kept on your toes. I am afraid to say too much because I don't want to give anything away. Sophie attends a tea for a charity auction, man trouble is in the works. Of course a murder occurs that leaves a hint to the past, attacks are going on, and you don't know who is going to be next or who to trust and believe. Sophie has her hands full trying to figure this one out.

The mystery was excellent, I could not figure it out and kept me guessing with all the twists and turns. Many of the usual characters are back that I love and a few new ones. As always I love the question and answers at the start of each chapter. I you have not read this series, I don't think that you would have a problem reading it as a stand alone, but I highly recommend it, not only to give you more background, but it is a fun series.

There is the added bonus of some great sounding recipes in the back.

I was lucky enough to have received this book from the author in exchange for a fair and honest review, and this is my honest opinion.

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### **Fred says**

The Diva Serves High Tea is the tenth book in the A Domestic Diva Mystery series.

Another enjoyable visit with Sophie and Natasha in Old Town Alexandria, Va. As much as Natasha gets on my nerves, I also have to laugh at some of the things she comes with.

Many people are excited when The Parlour, a tea shop, opens, but soon Robert Johnson, owner of an antique store across the street, dies after eating there at a fundraiser organized by Natasha. Sophie would like to see The Parlour reopened quickly, so she with the help of Nina, Francie and Velma set out to learn who might have wanted Johnson dead.

As always, each chapter has a Q&A for Sophie and Natasha, be sure to check these out as quite a few are very funny.

Delicious recipes are also once again included with the book.

Looking forward to reading the next book in this fun series.

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### **Susan says**

This is the first book I have ever preordered - would I pre order again if this it was this author, No I'd be standing in line waiting for the bookstore to open so I could get it the day it was released; I wouldn't want to wait for it to come in the mail. Krista Davis is without a doubt one of the best cozy writers out there and her Domestic Diva Series is my favorite. The characters are all people I would love to spend time with, heck no share a meal and a murder with. Ms. Davis writing is superb and the only thing wrong is that you eventually finish it. It could be as long as War and Peace and I wouldn't mind. Engaging yes, fun yes, my favorite series YES! I have to admit to loving her other series as well but this will always be my favorite. I wonder if she would do me a favor and write and release another one tomorrow - I'd be first in line to buy it.

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### **Book Concierge says**

This is # 10 in the *Domestic Diva* Mystery Series, featuring two rival “divas” in Alexandria VA. Sophie Winston is the rational one. Her “friend” and rival is Natasha is the Diva (with a capital D) at a local TV show, and a drama queen if ever there was one. When the handsome and charming owner of a new antiques shop is found dying of botulism poisoning the morning after he attended a fund raiser at the new tea shop in town, everyone assumes it was accidental. But as Sophie learns more about Robert Johnson she finds there were many people who disliked the man, and for good reason. It’s soon apparent that this was no accident, someone managed to deliberately poison him using botulism toxin. But how? And who?

I love cozy mysteries because they are so ridiculously implausible, and typically have a cast of colorful characters. They are just fun to read. This one is no exception. Sophie is a really likeable character, and I like how her relationships with ex-husband Mars and attorney (and boyfriend) Alex play out. However, I am so tired of Natasha’s over-the-top reactions to everything. I’ve only read a couple of these, and I jumped ahead to # 10 simply to satisfy a challenge task. That’s probably the only reason I’ll subject myself to Natasha again. When is SHE gonna be the murder victim?

A couple of the recipes at the back seem interesting....

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### **Linda says**

The 10th page turner in the Domestic Diva Mysteries by Krista Davis! Fun to read with a smorgasbord of entertaining characters! Never a dull moment! Sophie Winston, an event planner, is welcoming newcomer, Martha Carter, owner of the new tea shop, The Parlour. The ladies in town like to gather for tea and gossip about how they find the proprietor of the antique store, Robert Johnson, a handsome, eligible widower but, alas; he soon perishes! Someone's in hot water now, and Sophie's sleuthing for answers to what's brewing. Krista Davis is at the peak with savvy plotting and writing skills. The ending is soooo funny! Delicious recipes included.

I received a complimentary copy from the author in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Jennifer Brown says**

Holy crap! This book had me spinning in circles with who the killer might be the entire time...I LOVED IT!! I was with the characters on going back and forth about the murderer with all the facts that were slowly revealed and I still didn't guess who it was correctly! There were a few small things that were obvious, but nothing major.

I love the characters in this series (yes, even Natasha). They are so lively and lovable and I could see myself hanging out with people like this. I did realize in the beginning that there are some books in the series that I have missed, but not enough to make me love this one any less. Sophie's life is certainly entertaining. I didn't really feel the connection between Alex and her, but that could be because I missed the beginning of their relationship in earlier books.

I never realized there was so much information about tea! In fact, I am seriously going to ask my sisters if they want to have a tea party (no joke) because I learned some fun facts and want to try out some stuff! I can't wait to read more of this series!! This is one book/series that I will absolutely recommend to my patrons!!

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

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### **LORI CASWELL says**

#### Dollycas's Thoughts

Time for tea! The Parlour is open and is hosting a literacy fundraiser, an auction. Our domestic diva, Sophie Winston, and her friends are there and bidding up a storm while enjoying the delightful fare the tea shop has provided.

The next morning Robert Johnson, the owner of the antique shop across the street from The Parlor is found dead. The police believe he was poisoned by something he ate at the fundraiser. The Parlor is shut down until all the food can be checked. No one else that attended the event got sick. There has to be another explanation. Sophie starts doing a little sleuthing of her own and she learns some very interesting things about the victim. She was right, there was a lot more brewing that anyone thought at first.

Spending time with Sophie and Natasha is always entertaining but this time there was a shocking development that made my heart soar!! These two have spatted back and forth for years but things may be about to change ? Can't say more because I do not want to spoil anything, but I did do a little chair dancing when I reached page 19.

Krista Davis is a cozy mystery master. She skillfully weaves everyday life with a well-plotted mystery. A mystery that is never easy to solve. Twists, turns, and tea abound within these pages making it almost impossible to put down. I especially enjoyed the descriptions of all teacups and the explanations of all the different types of tea. The author also knows how to add the precise amount of comedy in relation to the drama giving readers the total cozy package.

The helpful hints that start each chapter are fun and unique. I tend to find myself agreeing with or more taken with the Dear Sophie columns than the Dear Natasha ones. I feel Natasha is a DIVA while Sophie is a more Diva for us common folk. ?

This was a positively delightful story. Brew up a pot of tea, sit back, relax and enjoy!

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### **Melodie says**

I do so enjoy this series. Yes, I know Natasha is a PITA, and she's in top form in this one, but I find it easy to overlook her. There's a lot going on in this one with relationships and murder, so Ms. Davis keeps you guessing. I didn't figure out whodunit until pretty much the big reveal which is always a plus. Looking forward to the next one to see where the relationships go! RECOMMEND!

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### **Nate says**

I think when looking at this book through a particular lens this is the most well crafted and mature book in the entire series. I have been a long time fan of Sophie, Natasha, Nina, Mars and Bernie and I simply adore this series!

When a new Tea Parlor opens up in town the town is all a Twitter until the new antique shop in towns owner Robert Johnson dies of Botulism poisoning. It is up to Sophie and the gang to find Robert's killer before there are more deaths!

I love the way that Krista tells the mystery and also allows for some humor. There are some hilarious chickens in this book and that is all I will say!

Note: I received this book from the author in exchange for an honest review!

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### **Jonathan says**

There are some cozy authors that consistently blow me out of the water with the solidity of their book; Krista Davis is one of them. I have never read one of her books and come off it thinking that it was a bad or even mediocre book. Her books are consistently solid, reliable mysteries that I look forward to reading when they're released. *The Diva Serves High Tea* was no exception to this rule.

Let me start by saying that the titles are extremely corny and they honestly cast a bad light on the books, in my opinion. They make the books seem superficial, when in fact, each book has had solid characters, that grow in each story. A good book should always play out like a movie in your head, and these books are a prime example of that.

As I said above, in each book the characters grow and learn from their mistakes. The 'diva' in the title is an extremely intelligent, capable woman named Sophie. She makes mistakes, yet learns from them, and she isn't afraid to ask when she needs something. The other cast members, if you will, also have their specific place in these books and without them Old Town Alexandria wouldn't seem as lively. Natasha, Mars, Bernie, Francie, Wanda, Wolf, Alex, and Wong all reappear, along with some notable new characters.

The mystery was superb. I thought I knew exactly where it was going, but then another small plot was revealed and it threw a wrench in what I thought were Ms. Davis' plans.

Please, please, please do yourself a favor and read this series. Or, even if you don't read this series, read the Paws and Claws series also by Krista Davis. Both are two of my favorite cozies still being published. Highly recommend!

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### **Lisa Ks Book Reviews says**

The Domestic Diva is back, and better than ever!

Ten books into this wonderful series, and Krista Davis still gives a story that is as fresh as tea time treats.

The first thing I have to mention is how much I love that each chapter begins with a "Dear Natasha" or "Dear Sophie" letter. I went through and read them all before I started the book! I couldn't help myself.

A friend of mine has been teaching me the way of "tea". She doesn't know she if, but I've been paying close attention to her FB posts. So, needless to say, I was thrilled to see Ms. Davis had made this a part of her latest Diva mystery.

Expertly written, THE DIVA SERVES HIGH TEA, is now my favorite in this amazing series. With an excellent plot, this fast paced whodunit was all I hope it would be and more! I simply couldn't put it down until I had finished.

Fans of this series are going to adore this installment, and be left anxiously awaiting the next. Personally, I think it is time for one called The Diva Write A Book. Krista Davis, if you're reading this, you can use that idea if you'd like. ;-)

Keep reading when the story is over, for tasty recipes, and entertaining tips. And check out the excerpt of MISSION IMPAWSIBLE, Krista Davis's next Claws & Paws Mystery.

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### **Luffy says**

It's been a long time since I read a book and rated it one star. But this particular example is fraught with deterrences. It's as if the author wanted to troll its audience. The former is at the end of her tether I'm afraid.

The attempt to juggle melodramatic characters and a mystery backfired on Krista Davis, who should have known better. You know how writers rightly believe that if they don't keep on writing, their book sales will taper off.

It's time for me to stop what has at been been a patchwork book series and try new authors. I have no regrets regarding discontinuing this series as I don't believe water can be eked out of a stone. I'm done with it.

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