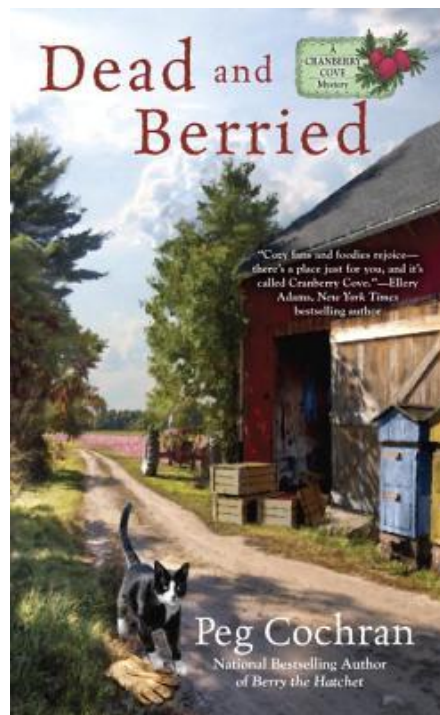




Dead and Berried

Peg Cochran

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It's hive time for murder in the latest Cranberry Cove mystery from national bestselling author Peg Cochran. It's June in Cranberry Cove and Monica Albertson's plan to sell cranberry relish to chain stores is taking off. The cranberry bogs are in bloom, and local beekeeper Rick Taylor and his assistant Lori Wenk are bringing in bees to pollinate the blossoms. When a fatal prick fells Lori, the buzz is that Rick is to blame. In trying to clear her friend's name, Monica discovers that more than a few people in Cranberry Cove have felt the power of Lori's venom, and it looks as if this time she may have agitated the hive a bit too much. With the fate of the farm on the line, Monica must get to the bottom of the crime before another victim gets stung."

Dead and Berried Details

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Author : Peg Cochran

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From Reader Review Dead and Berried for online ebook

Jeannie and Louis Rigod says

In this latest episode (to date) we find the Cranberry Cove Farm busily getting ready for the upcoming season. We also get to enjoy the foods and activities of 'Flag Day' honoring the Dutch settlers in Michigan.

Monica Albertson, sister of Jeff, is adjusting to baking delicacies for the Farm's store. Cranberry muffins, cookies, and scones as well as yummy sounding breads, jams, and salsas are featured.

Cranberries need to be Bee pollinated as do another hundred or so crops. Thus, Jeff has to introduce rented bees to the bogs. Cranberries are slightly bitter and local native bees prefer other nectars. It is all going well until the Bee keeper's assistant, Lori is stung to death, or was it murder?

This cozy is filled with information and ship wrecks, as well as human natures being shown.

The ending was what I thought it was going to be, however, there was a twist at the very end that I truly enjoyed. Good read.

Peggy R says

For me, reading a Peg Cochran cozy mystery is like returning to visit old friends and this book is no exception. Ms. Cochran is so adept at creating quaint towns and then she fills them with fun, quirky, interesting characters while weaving a mystery and sometimes education on the theme throughout the story.

This is the third book in the Cranberry Cove Mystery series and can be read as a stand alone without a reader feeling lost or like they have missed out on something. I love Monica. She is settling into her new life in Cranberry Cove, with the exception of murders occurring on the farm or in her new town. She is a smart and cautious amateur sleuth. She does not try to show up the police, but rather alerts them to any new clues and evidence she finds. I also like the relationship that is developing between her and her half brother Jeff, who owns the farm. The mystery was woven throughout the story and there seemed to be a few suspects who had motive to murder. It turns out the victim was not all that nice. I did suspect the killer about 1/2 way through the story, but it did not affect my enjoyment.....mostly because if you have read any of my reviews I almost never figure out the culprit.

Peg Cochran is one of my favorite cozy mystery authors and her books are always a pre-order or automatic buy on release day for me. If you have not read one of her books but are a fan of well written stories, quaint, charming towns, well plotted mysteries and a cast filled with fun, smart, quirky and interesting characters, I would highly recommend you pick up one of her series and give it a try.

Dawn Michelle says

I need to start this review with this - the narrator for this series on the audiobooks is TOTALLY AND COMPLETELY HORRIBLE. Hideous. Blech. Yuck. There were moments where I had to make myself concentrate on the story because I was totally not listening to what was going on because the narrator was just so horrible.

That said, this was a good story - I love that it is set in Michigan [my second home growing up] and I love that it is set on a cranberry farm [because you know, cranberries] and I do like Monica as a MC. I also like her relationship with her half-brother Jeff and how kind she is with his mom [her stepmom - my own situation growing up with multiple step people {for lack of a better way to put it}] and how she interacts with the people in her town - it makes the story much more believable.

I knew who the killer was early on, though initially it was a guess, but that grew as I continued reading. I didn't get the why, but I wasn't surprised when I read that either. It didn't ruin the book for me though *IN SPITE OF* the crappy narrator.

Amy says

An enjoyable read though the mystery was not all that mysterious and the ending a bit cliché. I really like Monica, Jeff, Greg, and the Cranberry Cove setting. I look forward to the author's continuing writing and new publisher of this series. Overall, a pleasant cozy mystery.

Fred says

Dead And Berried is the third book in the A Cranberry Cove Mystery series.

Monica Albertson's side of the business has really blossomed and is kept busy baking muffins and making salsas that she sells in the store and is making available to stores around town. Meanwhile, the bogs are also loaded with blossoms and Jeff has contracted with Rick Taylor to bring in two hives of bees to pollinate the blossoms. What with an approaching storm they decide not to release the bees and everyone leaves. A short time later Monica hears the screams of her assistant, Arline when she goes to see what is the matter, she finds Taylor's assistant, Lori, dead. Lori has apparently died from bee stings, the main question that is foremost on everyone's mind is why were the bees released, who released them and where is Lori's protective gear.

It soon becomes apparent to Monica that there are several people who might have wanted Lori out of the picture and some might even be close to her. Monica continues to search the alibis of the most likely suspects, hoping she doesn't get stung herself.

Once again the supporting cast of characters are around to provide so light-hearted moments. Even with Gerda VanVelsen in the hospital, her twin Hennie, owners of the Gumdrop shop continues to have a positive outlook. Greg owner of Book 'Em bookstore is around to try and keep Monica safe. Maybe a little romance might be buzzing around for Monica and Greg. Then there is Monica's stepmother, Gina. Gina moved to Cranberry Cove in the previous book and has opened an aromatherapy shop. Despite her snobby times and trying to run Monica's life, she does or says something that will make the reader chuckle

Delicious sounding recipes are also included in the book.

I am anxiously awaiting the next book in the series.

Debbie says

"Dead and Berried" is a cozy mystery. This is the third book in the series. You don't need to read the previous books to understand this one, and this one didn't spoil the whodunit of the previous mysteries.

This was a clue-based mystery, and there were enough clues to guess whodunit. The clues were easy for me to spot, so I knew whodunit very early on and further clues only confirmed it. The heroine isn't stupid, but she's a little slow in connecting subtle clues together. I liked that the police also figured out whodunit. The heroine provided them with any solid evidence she discovered, so she was helpful to them. She's also generally a nice person and so didn't go around ruining people's reputations in the course of her investigations (which I appreciate).

There were no sex scenes or bad language. Overall, I'd recommend this interesting novel.

I received this book as a review copy from the publisher.

LORI CASWELL says

Dollycas's Thoughts

It's all about the bees in this berry of a mystery.

Time to pollinate the blossoms at the Sassamanash Farm so Jeff calls in Rick Taylor, his assistant Lori Wenk and their bees to do the job. Unfortunately Lori gets stung and has a deadly reaction, or did she? She is dead but it looks more like murder than a bee swarm. All eyes turn to their owner Rick, but why would he want his assistant dead? Monica quickly finds the woman had her share of enemies and she knows she needs to clear Rick and the farm's reputation. But is she going to end up getting stung?

I was excited to see a character named Lori, but that is where our similarities end ? She didn't deserve to be killed but she sure wasn't the nicest person.

Monica Albertson is a unique amateur sleuth. She doesn't work behind Detective Stevens' back, she assists and turns over any evidence she finds quickly. The work the case together as much as they can.

All the characters in this series are engaging. I still identify strongly with Monica's brother Jeff. We share a disability of having one arm that is basically useless. When I see his independence and how hard he works it really gives me hope. While my right leg is also useless I still want to try harder to do more things. Jeff is quite an inspiration. They are surrounded by a wonderful cast. This time we get to know Nora, the beekeeper's wife and the main clerk at the the farm's store better. The Albertson's also have a new neighbor and the women in town, including Jeff's mom are all vying for his attention.

The mystery weaves its way through Monica's life as she strives to keep up with her baking and relish making all while trying to find out who could have killed Lori. We also learn more about cranberries, bees, and ships buried in Lake Michigan. As a resident of neighboring Wisconsin I found the shipwrecks very interesting.

I was amazed that when Monica eliminated almost all the suspects and the one I was leaning toward was actually the killer. That rarely happens.

Peg Cochran's descriptive voice draws me right in to the happenings in and around Cranberry Cove. I really

feel like I have traveled there instead of just read about this town. It's like a mini Michigan vacation every time I read one of these books. I may have to make an actual trip to the state and check things out. Until then, I will anxiously await the book in this series!

OpenBookSociety.com says

<http://openbooksociety.com/article/de...>

Dead and Berried

Cranberry Cove, Book #3

By Peg Cochran

ISBN13: 9780425274552

Author website: <http://www.pegcochran.com/>

Brought to you by OBS reviewer Kayt

Synopsis:

It's hive time for murder in the latest Cranberry Cove mystery from national bestselling author Peg Cochran.

It's June in Cranberry Cove and Monica Albertson's plan to sell cranberry relish to chain stores is taking off. The cranberry bogs are in bloom, and local beekeeper Rick Taylor and his assistant Lori Wenk are bringing in bees to pollinate the blossoms. When a fatal prick fells Lori, the buzz is that Rick is to blame.

In trying to clear her friend's name, Monica discovers that more than a few people in Cranberry Cove have felt the power of Lori's venom, and it looks as if this time she may have agitated the hive a bit too much. With the fate of the farm on the line, Monica must get to the bottom of the crime before another victim gets stung."

Review:

I really enjoy author Peg Cochran's "Cranberry Cove" mystery series. I love the characters from protagonist Monica Albertson, to her wonderful brother Jeff who is a veteran that still has lingering issues from his time served and also owns Sassamanash Farms which is a cranberry farm. I love the family relationships with them and also their mothers. Yes they have different moms. The town is filled with wonderful personalities that keep the stories entertaining and at times humorous. I delight in the small town life of Cranberry Cove. This latest installment Dead and Berried is the third book in the great series. What a superb twist in the method of murder! You cannot beat the twists and turns of this tangy read that has just enough bite to make you settle in and not put this book down.

Monica has really settled into life in Cranberry Cove and her baked goods and salsas are taking off. And she may have a bit of a romance started as well, good for her. Jeff is as busy as he always is getting things in order with his cranberries. The cranberries are blooming and Jeff decides they may need some help to have produce well. He hires beekeeper Rick Taylor to bring some bees out to help the blossoms really bloom and produce. Rick and his assistant Lori Wenk bring out two hives. They have to wait for the weather and leave. Or so everyone thinks. Lori unfortunately will not be leaving on her own two feet. She is dead.

At first everyone thinks Lori has had a reaction to bee stings. While that seems odd as she should know

better, it is accepted. Then things take an even worse turn when murder is suspected. Monica has assisted Detective Stevens before so she is ready to help this time. She learns that maybe Lori was not that nice and some of her meanness was towards Monica's clerk and her husband, Rick. Monica is not one of those amateur detectives that make you cringe in the stupid actions, she is smart, helpful and thoughtful. I really enjoy how she goes about finding clues and coming to her conclusions. I have to say I had a clue who the killer was, but the reason was still a mystery.

I think Dead and Berried is the best in this tasty and entertaining series. Each one has been better and better and the first was great. I cannot wait for the next release in this series. The characters continue to develop and become more familiar and I love coming to spend some time in Cranberry Cove. They are complex and real and most are people I would love being friends with and having over for dinner (as long as they brought the food, lol). This is a well written and fun read. Peg Cochran writes in a style that makes you comfortable immediately, has you wanting to delve further and further into the book and not put it down. She has Cozy Mystery down to a well-honed recipe that delights and works in so many ways and levels. I love this book and know that cozy readers will as well.

OBS would like to thank the publisher for supplying a free copy of this title in exchange for an honest review

Kayt18 says

I love the newest installment in Peg Cochran's Cranberry Cove cozy mystery series. It is the best yet. The characters are like my friends, well most of them that is. Very well written and the mystery is fun and entertaining. What a great method of murder too, lol. Well almost that is. I love Monica and her brother Jeff and the wonderful relationship they have. I really enjoy that Monica is not one of those crazy amateurs that are always getting themselves in trouble. Instead she works with her local police and is smart and intelligent in her detecting. This is one seriously enjoyable read. You are going to love it. I cannot wait for the next in this super series.

I was given a copy by the publisher with no expectations. My views are an honest review and my own.

Mayda says

Monica is learning more about the cranberry bog business, even as she bakes and makes cranberry pastries and salsa. She finds out that extra borrowed bees are needed to boost the harvest of the berries, and when a helper to the beekeeper turns up dead with multiple stings, Monica decides to ferret out the killer. Monica has good intentions, but the end result is not without consequences. Much happens in this cozy of life by the cranberry bog. Though this novel could be considered to be a standalone, you'll appreciate it more if you read the preceding books in the series. The development of the characters and their growth just adds to the charm of the stories.

Kristina says

Dead and Berried by Peg Cochran is the third book in A Cranberry Cove Mystery series. Monica Albertson lives on Sassamanash Farm in Cranberry Cove, Michigan and provides baked goods to the farm store on the property. The cranberry bogs are full of blooms, and it is time to pollinate the flowers. Jeff, Monica's half-brother and owner of the farm, has hired Rick Taylor of Rick's Bees. Rick and his assistant, Lori Wenk arrive at the farm with the bees, but are unable to release them that day due to the weather (honey bees do not like wet days). Monica is back in the farm kitchen finishing her baking when Jeff comes running in asking for her to call 911. Jeff found Lori on the ground near the bee hives. Bees are swarming near the hives where someone let them out and stirred them up. Lori was stung many times and has passed away. Detective Tammy Stevens arrives and starts asking questions. It appears to be an accidental death until the toxicology report proves otherwise. Rick is at the top of the suspect list and his wife, Nora is distraught (she works at the farm store). Monica begins making inquiries about Lori and discovers that Lori had been stirring up a hornet's nest of her own. Could this have led to her murder? But what happens when Monica gets too close to discovering the killer's identity?

Dead and Berried contains good writing, great characters (except Gina), charming small town and a good pace (makes it a pleasure to read). I thought Dead and Berried was an engaging novel that held my attention. I like that Monica does not sneak around behind Detective Stevens back doing her own investigation (I appreciate that there are no nasty cops either). The two work together (share information) to find the killer (such a nice change). Dead and Berried can be read alone (if you really want to). The author provides the necessary background information so a reader will not be lost or confused. I give Dead and Berried 4 out of 5 stars. One issue that I had with this book was the mystery. I could identify the killer early in the story (right after the body was discovered). I wish there had been a good twist (I love it when I do not solve the crime until late in the book or not at all). I liked the information about shipwrecks that occurred in Lake Michigan (a writer has moved to town). I found it fascinating. It was also interesting to discover that cranberry flowers need migratory honey bees (or bumble bees) brought in to help pollinate the flowers. They are not capable of self-fertilization. The one character that I do not like is Gina, Monica's stepmother. She is a piece of work. I found her extremely annoying and self-centered. I keep hoping the author will decide to make Gina a victim of murder! The ending is sweet and romantic (happy sigh). There are cranberry recipes at the end of the book. I look forward to reading more books in A Cranberry Cove Mystery series.

Renate says

Entertaining read with an excellent blend of intrigue and facts. A well crafted whodunit mystery, which keeps the reading guessing until the very end. As a Michigander, I enjoyed the small town SW Michigan setting. I enjoy reading a story with some interesting facts. Therefore this story does not disappoint - facts about bee pollination, dementia, financial elder abuse, Lake Michigan shipwrecks, and Dutch customs and traditions make this mystery come to life . Peg Cochran does not disappoint in this well edited cozy mystery, which may be read as a stand alone.

Pamela says

Really enjoyed this cozy mystery. The entire series has been good; getting to know more and more of the townspeople. Love is in the air at Cranberry Cove in this installment; oh, and murder too!

Nicole says

Dead and Berried (Cranberry Cove #3) brings another murder to Cranberry Cove, Michigan and once again Monica, along with her trusty sidekick and stepmother Gina, must discover the murderer during the annual Flag Day celebration. Nicely written, and I really enjoy this series. I hope there's a fourth installment!

Suspense Magazine says

Life is going well for Monica Albertson, who has moved to the small Michigan town of Cranberry Cove to go into the cranberry business with her half brother, Jeff. Jeff is the owner of Sassamanash Farm, and not only produces the fruit but also has a store on the premises to sell a wide variety of yummy food all of which contain—you guessed it—cranberries. Jeff takes care of the crop and Monica bakes and runs the store with the assistance of part-time employees, Nora Taylor and Arline Loomis.

There's more to producing a successful cranberry crop than Monica (and I) ever realized. For example, cranberry flowers can't self-fertilize, and fertilization is critical to expand the number of plants. To give them some help, Jeff has rented bees (yes, you read that correctly) under the watchful supervision of local beekeeper Rick Taylor, Nora's husband, who arrives with a truckload of honeybees and his assistant, Lori Wenk. It's obvious to Monica that Lori has a king-size crush on her boss and doesn't care who knows it, including Rick's wife. It's even more obvious that, once a few of the bees are released, Lori's in the wrong profession, because she's stung so many times that she immediately dies. Something is definitely wrong, because Rick had decided against releasing the bees because of an approaching rain storm, and the bees don't like getting wet. Who released the bees? And why? Is it murder? And what a way to die.

The police immediately suspect Nora. They're also suspicious of Rick, who was uncomfortable with Lori's advances. But when Monica starts nosing around, she finds Lori had a history of antagonizing people that stretched way back. Monica is determined to find the truth about her death, no matter what the cost.

"Dead and Berried" is a fun mystery that cozy fans will love. The book has true to life characters, a realistic plot, and clever twists and turns that are totally unexpected.
