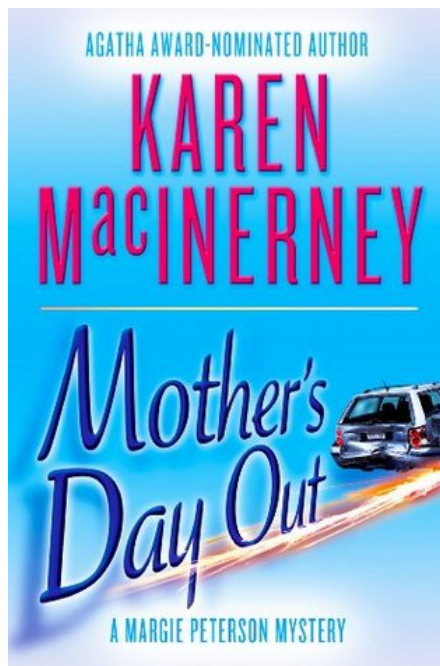




Mother's Day Out

Karen MacInerney

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Mother's Day Out Karen MacInerney

Margie Peterson is a typical stay-at-home mom until she trades dishes for detective work to become Austin's least likely PI. Soon she's knee-deep in cheating husbands, transvestites, and trouble in a laugh-out-loud new mystery from award-winning author Karen MacInerney.

With a husband who works long hours trying to make partner and two rambunctious kids that are running her ragged, Margie Peterson is like any other worn-out suburban mom. When she decides to take a job as a PI for a seedy local detective agency, everything changes. It doesn't take long for Margie to get in over her head: her first day on the job she totals her minivan, mistakenly enters a drag contest, and winds up in the bathroom with a dead transvestite. But when Margie finds her home number in the victim's phone, things really start to get interesting.

Mother's Day Out Details

Date : Published April 15th 2014 by Thomas & Mercer (first published June 2nd 2012)

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Author : Karen MacInerney

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Genre : Mystery, Cozy Mystery, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Humor

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From Reader Review Mother's Day Out for online ebook

Mark Baker says

Margie's looking for work to help pay for her kid's pre-school. Her first week on the job ends with her finding a dead transvestite in a restroom. What's even more shocking is what Margie discovers while waiting for the police. Can she solve a case that has become very personal?

This is a definite departure from the author's normal cozy mysteries, most along the lines of a Stephanie Plum book in content and tone. That includes the humor; this book had me laughing many times. The characters are very strong and easy to remember, and the plot kept me guessing until the logical and suspenseful end. I did have one problem with one aspect of the plot as a Christian, but that is my only hesitation. This is a very solid book overall.

Read my full review at Carstairs Considers.

Lady says

From Bored Housewife To Budding PI?

NOT for the homophobic, closedminded, or humor challenged!!!

This series must be read in order. This is the first book. I can't wait to read Mother Knows Best!

Margie is not so sure her life is turning out as she had planned. Yes she has a nice house, a husband, a pet cat, and two adorable kids... A girl and a boy. Everything should be perfect. But her marriage seems to have hit a bit of a slump and there is NO WAY she is taking out a home loan just to pay for preschool! That only leaves her with one viable option... Find a job. Since she hasn't worked in ages her old boss will not rehire her especially now that she has *gasp* children so that just leaves the want ads. Becoming a Private Investigator seems like a good idea... Or at least a lucrative and interesting one. Will she be good at it? Will her husband and her in-laws force her to quit? What is her husband hiding? Will she ever get back her daughter's confiscated fry phone?

***This series is suitable for adult readers who enjoy mysteries filled with suspense, thrills and intrigue and a heroine trying to find her footing in a world that doesn't even resemble the world she thought she lived in while maintaining a sense of humor and never giving up :)

Kylie H says

Once I got past the first chapter I started to find this light and entertaining mystery quite intriguing. Margie is a mother of two young children who takes up a part time job as a private investigator to help cover costs. In a series of events she finds herself in some truly bizarre situations, but soon comes across a murder with a

personal connection. I got caught up in the story and could not put the book down. A bit over the top in parts, but a delightful chick-lit, crime antidote to some of the more gruesome books I have read recently. I look forward to reading more in this series.

Linda says

I very much enjoy Karen MacInerney's other series so was happy to discover this book on kindle. It's the first of a new series called Margie Peterson. It is hilarious! Laugh-out-loud funny. It's fresh and so true to life. Margie, a stay at home mom with two pre-school kids is married to a lawyer who still hasn't made partner. Who doesn't need more money? So Margie answers an advertisement for a job and ends up as a fledgling P.I. working for Peachtree Investigations. Her boss, Peaches, is something else too. So surely Margie can follow a guy to get proof that he's cheating? Nope. She ends up in a gay bar surrounded by transvestites and on stage in a contest. Then she finds a dead guy. Think murder. That's only the beginning. Soon she is suspecting that things are not right with her husband's law firm or even with her husband. While she investigates, the most bizarre thing happens to her.

I'm already reading book #2!

Brandy says

Funny chick-lit type Mystery where a mom becomes a PI sort of as an afterthought and tangles with some interesting characters, discovers both she and her husband have secrets from one another—just like so many of people she is investigating. Cute story. Quick read. Will definitely read more by author!

FangirlNation says

Margie Peterson has taken a part-time job as a private investigator to pay for her two children's preschool in Mother's Day Out by Karen MacInerney. On her second job, in which she is to seduce a man to test his fidelity to his wife, she finds herself in a gay bar on tranny night. Going to the "princess room," complete with urinals, she finds a man in a ball gown who has been shot in the face. Using the victim's phone to call 911, Margie accidentally hits redial and calls her own home. Determined to find out the truth about her husband, whom she discovers has lied to her about knowing the executive of a shipping company, Margie sets out in what becomes a much more dramatic case than she has ever imagined she might get involved in.

Read the rest of this review and other fun, geeky articles at Fangirl Nation

J.A. Belfield says

I was warned that this book might be slightly absurd.

I have to say the assessment was spot on.

However, Karen MacInerney serves absurd with a very satisfying side of 'I'll have another slice of that, thank you very much.'

What can I say about Mother's Day Out? Dude, I don't even know where to start. I mean from this opening

...

"After seven years of chiselling away at the petrified contents of Tupperware containers, wiping a variety of organic substances off of two small children, and cleaning up after an incontinent Siamese cat, I thought I could stomach anything.

I was wrong."

... to learning the MC—Margie—had recently started a new (and utterly absurd) job of P.I., to witnessing the boshup of the first job, and then being called to The Rainbow room ...

I'll stop there otherwise I'll end up detailing the entire book to you, and, man, there was so much, I doubt I'd remember to list it all.

Just know that this is one excellently woven together book. Sure there were a couple bits I saw coming when Marge didn't (or refused to), and sure there were a couple of predictable moments—but who cares?

From the get go, this book had me laughing out loud, snorting on my drinks, tittering like I'd had one too many ports, and neighing like a horse—all before I started to feel Marge's pain and followed her down a path no wife should ever have to stumble down ... and before I knew it this book was making me cry.

All I can say is the connection I felt to this character—for me to go from one end of the spectrum of emotion to the other—was nothing short of awesome.

If you love a mystery with the most unlikeliest P.I. EVER, who almost seems to fluke her way through every single discovery she makes and who joins the dots to figure stuff with all the smoothness of an Etch-o-Sketch, and with enough snort-worthy moments to have the family looking up and wanting to know what's tickled your fancy ... then, yeah, pay Margie Peterson a visit. You will not be disappointed.

In fact, the only teensy reason this didn't rate the full 5 was because of the abovementioned predictions I made, and because there were (a very small scattering of) typos (which didn't detract from my enjoyment of the read).

Would I recommend this? For sure! ?

Betty says

Mother Goes To Work

This is the first book in this humorous series. The Protagonist, Margie Peterson see an ad for an assistant PI. Thinking it would be better than waiting tables, she applies for it. Most of the work are following people for divorce cases. Her case takes her to the Rainbow Bar. Simple, all she needs to do is seduce a man. She has no idea that is a Gay bar. She finds a dead man in the Princess restroom. Margie is horrified to find her home number among the dead man's belongings. The books have bombs exploding, buildings burning, missing the money, smuggling, illegal undocumented workers, fashion show, country club and others events that will keep you turning the pages and laughing. Margie is learning about a life she didn't know exist. I recommend it highly.

Dianne says

Below is how I felt upon my first reading - upon my second reading you can see that my opinion has changed (stars have been deleted). I did more skimming of this book than reading and I wondered how all the threads were going become tied together into a whole.

**They were but in more unlikely ways than even Stephanie Plum could do.
I see that there are many more books so people really did enjoy this (as I was hoping that there would be more) however, it will take me a bit of thought before I try this series again. I'm not too fond of a mom handing her kids off more than she has then to herself...sorry**

Below is my review of this book the first time I read it years ago:

Wow - what a wacky book. Sometimes I would find myself laughing like a maniac and sometimes I would find myself nearly in tears.

I just have to find out what is in store next for Margie, Blake and the kids.

At one point while reading this, I thought that the author had bitten off more than she could chew and that all of the storylines couldn't possibly come together and make sense as they eventually did. And I felt that even if they could come together it was going to be a hurried and unsatisfying ending. It was not. The author did a wonderful job of tying up all of the loose threads (well except for Margie's marriage).

The writing style seems to be a mish-mash of so many other wacky style private investigator books, only better. There is plenty of mistakes made (some quite stupid) but there are also plenty of smart things happening.

The characters are a bit more mature than the usual ones you find in books like these, what with all the main characters and secondary characters having young child.

This was a great opener for what I hope to be a fairly long running series. This could a series that has plenty of room for story and character growth. Unfortunately what with the author's other series not running as long as I would have hoped, so I'm not going to count on it.

Emily Mckay says

I had the good fortune to read an advanced copy of this book and just loved it. MacInerney delivers great laughs, a fun mystery and plenty of real emotion, too.

Katie Zabel says

Good read

It was very good read and very good action/suspense novel. Makes me interested in reading the series. Good laughs too.

Sarah says

I can't recommend this to my Goodreads friends. The words "flimsy" and "scatterbrained" spring to mind when I consider the main protagonist, Margie Peterson, a fledgeling private eye mother-of-two. I must stop reading these cosy americana mysteries: they're sometimes a bit fun but usually follow a distinct format, so you know just how they're going to end. I suppose one could put them in a sort of "Chick Lit cum Cozy Mystery" category, light and fluffy, easily forgotten, and not really what I'm looking for in a book. Sorry.

Carole (Carole's Random Life in Books) says

This review can also be found at Carole's Random Life in Books.

My feelings are pretty mixed about this one. I really enjoyed the last book by Karen MacInerney that I read a few months ago so I decided to give this one a try when I saw it offered through Prime Reading on Amazon. I had a moment while listening to this book that I considered not finishing it. I decided to keep going and did find the second half more exciting. I would say that this was an okay read in the end.

Margie has been a stay at home mom but she decides to go back to work to help make ends meet for her family. Getting a job turns out to be more of a challenge than she expects until she gets a job with a local private investigator firm. Now while her kids are at preschool, she is out doing surveillance and whatever is needed. Everything seems to be going okay until she finds a murder victim while on the job.

There were a few moments that were humorous during the story but I often felt like the book was trying too hard to be funny. There was never a time that I actually wanted to laugh out loud. I may have actually groaned a time or two due to the forced humor which wasn't all that funny.

I was also not a fan of Margie's husband. From the very start of the story, I didn't care for the man. As the book progressed and I realized that he was hiding a few things, I liked him even less. What I really disliked was Margie's response to everything. I couldn't understand why she wouldn't sit down and have a conversation with him instead of investigating everything. Although, I must say that one of the things that kept me listening when I considered stopping was that I wanted to know what was going on with this man.

I did have a little bit of an issue with how the transvestite characters were treated in this story. The murder victim in this story is a transvestite and had an identity both as a man and a woman. I didn't think that this was handled in the story with any sensitivity. It almost seemed like it was supposed to be funny when the characters stumbled over which pronoun to use.

There were several storylines going on during this book and I wondered how everything would eventually come together. I did find the story to be a bit more exciting once some real action started happening. I did think that some of the things that happened in this book to be a bit of a stretch and there was at least one "clue" that Margie suddenly remembers from the very beginning of the story seemingly out of nowhere.

This was the first time that I have had the chance to listen to Cris Dukehart narrate a book and I think she did a great job with it. There were a lot of different voices that she used to really help bring the story to life. She had a very pleasant reading voice and I wouldn't hesitate to listen to her work again in the future.

In the end, this was a book that had some good moments and some moments that weren't as great. I thought it was okay but I probably won't be continuing with the series. If you are wanting to try one of Karen

MacInerney's cozy mysteries, I would recommend picking up Killer Jam instead.

Initial Thoughts

I am honestly not sure what I think about this one. It seemed to try a little too hard to be funny at times and some of these steps taken to solve the mystery were a reach. I didn't hate it and I didn't love it. It was simply okay. I don't really feel compelled to continue with the series even though I was enjoying the story a bit more by the end. The narration was great.

Book source: Kindle Prime borrow

Debbie says

Best book I've read this year! Laugh out loud Funny!! Great story! Can't wait for the second in the series!! ;)

Edel says

This is the first book in the Margie Peterson series and WOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Let us start with Margie.. your typical mother and wife until she gets a job working for Peaches as a P.I. From here on out it is action packed ...there is transvestites,illegal aliens,car bombs,hair dye,bad guys,dishonest husbands,fashion shows, smart thinking females, a few cats and more action then you can shake a stick at .. Did I mention the weapons...quite a few of them too.

One thing can be learned from this..a woman's work is never done and what would we do without our friends!!!!

If this is what we can expect from this new series then we are all in for a treat...
