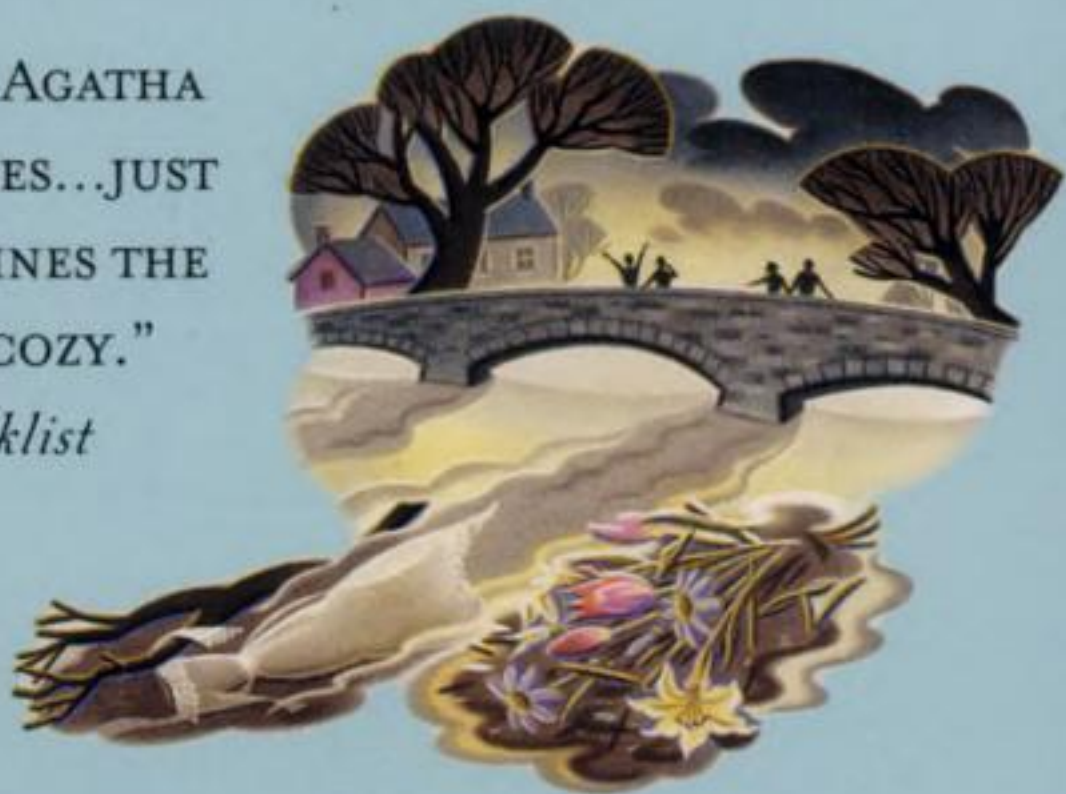


AGATHA RAISIN AND THE DAY THE FLOODS CAME

"BEATON'S AGATHA
RAISIN SERIES...JUST
ABOUT DEFINES THE
BRITISH COZY."

—*Booklist*



W. W. BEATON

Agatha Raisin and the Day the Floods Came, M. C. Beaton, Macmillan, 2003, 031298586X, 9780312985868, 240 pages. 'Til Death Do You Part...Crankier than ever, Agatha Raisin wants to forget that her husband left her to enter a monastery-a turn of affairs more humiliating than when she caught him with a mistress. She feels abandoned, fat, frumpy, and absolutely furious. What are her options? She takes an island vacation and joins a Pilates class. But what finally lifts her spirits is finding a corpse. The dead girl is a member of Agatha's exercise class, afloat in a rain-swollen river, dressed in a bridal gown, and clutching a wedding bouquet. Agatha's policeman friend Bill Wong suggests she leave this macabre murder to the Worcester CID. Pah! What do they know? Once she enlists the aid of the bachelor mystery writer next door, puts on a disguise, and interviews some likely suspects, Agatha will be her brash, redoubtable self again- unless she becomes the killer's next victim first....

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Philly Stakes An Amanda Pepper Mystery, #2, Gillian Roberts, Jan 17, 2012, Fiction, . Amanda attempts to instill the spirit of Christmas by having her students prepare and serve a meal for the homeless, but her plan backfires. A wealthy and politically ambitious

A Dyeing Shame Death at the Beauty Box, Elizabeth Spann Craig, Apr 30, 2006, , 216 pages. When Tami Smith, boozing beautician at the Beauty Box is found dead with a pair of hair shears in her back, there are suspects and secrets aplenty in her small Southern town of

Adam and Evil An Amanda Pepper Mystery, Gillian Roberts, Jan 22, 2013, FICTION, 125 pages. Available for the first time in ebook format, this special edition includes a new introduction from author Gillian Roberts and an exclusive interview with Amanda Pepper herself

False Economy A Surprising Economic History of the World, Alan Beattie (Economics correspondent.), 2009, Business & Economics, 321 pages. Why do oil and diamonds lead to economic disaster more often than boom? Why doesn't Africa grow cocaine? This title uses stories of economic triumph and disaster to explain how

Agatha Raisin and the Per , , , , . .

Introducing Agatha Raisin The Quiche of Death/The Vicious Vet, M. C. Beaton, Sep 30, 2008, Fiction, 400 pages. Presents the first two books in M.C. Beaton's Agatha Raisin series, "The Quiche of Death", in which Agatha leaves her successful London firm to settle in the quiet village of

Agatha Raisin and the Witch of Wyckhadden , M. C. Beaton, Jun 15, 2000, Fiction, 256 pages. After being shaved bald during a previous case, Agatha Raisin goes to a seaside resort and enlists the aid of a local witch to grow her hair back, putting her right in the

Every Storm , Lori Wick, Jul 15, 2004, Fiction, 368 pages. 1945--Lieutenant Donovan Riggs is ready to do anything for his country, even lay down his life. WWII is drawing to an end, but before that can officially happen, trouble with

There Goes the Bride , M. C. Beaton, Aug 31, 2010, Fiction, 304 pages. Despite her interest in a handsome new Frenchman, Agatha Raisin cannot get her mind off her ex-husband James Lacey, especially when his young bride is killed right before

The Deadly Dance , M. C. Beaton, Dec 27, 2005, Fiction, 256 pages. Frustrated by a series of small jobs after opening her own detective agency, Agatha Raisin places the fledgling agency's reputation on the line by alienating her friends and

What are her options? She takes an island vacation and joins a Pilates class. But what finally lifts her spirits is finding a corpse. The dead girl is a member of Agatha's exercise class, afloat in a rain-swollen river, dressed in a bridal gown, and clutching a wedding bouquet. Agatha's policeman

friend Bill Wong suggests she leave this macabre murder to the Worcester CID. Pah! What do they know? Once she enlists the aid of the bachelor mystery writer next door, puts on a disguise, and interviews some likely suspects, Agatha will be her brash, redoubtable self again- unless she becomes the killer's next victim first...

Tetchy Agatha Raisin's attempt at a little R&R in the wake of her beloved husband's defection to a French monastery gets her revved up for another mystery when she hears that a fellow vacationer was murdered. The real story in M.C. Beaton's Agatha Raisin and the Day the Floods Came takes place upon Agatha's return to her Cotswold home, when she learns of a young woman's apparent suicide and decides to investigate with the aid of her new neighbor, the dashing, cultured and vaguely lascivious writer John Armitage, and her own surprising flair for deceit and disguise.

Beaton's Agatha Raisin series (this is her twelfth) just about defines the British cozy: she gives us an individualistic sleuth working out of a thatched cottage in an achingly picturesque Cotswolds village. Agatha Raisin deviates from the sensible Miss Marple norm, however, in being thin-skinned, prickly, and annoying, but this difference spices up the formula. Agatha's latest adventures begin when her husband runs off to join a monastery in France. Agatha seeks solace in an island vacation. During her getaway, she notices a newlywed couple; within days, the groom drowns the bride. On her return home, during a dramatic flash flood, Agatha sees another dead bride, wearing a white gown and clutching a bridal bouquet, sweeping past on the river. Agatha swings into action, pestering the locals and enlisting the aid of her new neighbor, a mystery writer. Very improbable detective work, but a satisfying read nonetheless for cozy lovers. Connie Fletcher

This most recent of M.C. Beaton's Agatha Raisin series (all complete delights for cozy-holics like me) finds our Agatha at long last rid of her handsome ex-neighbor and ex-husband James Lacey, who has sold his cottage and joined a French monastery. And good enough for him, too, after the way he treated our Agatha. Regular readers will be delighted to see Agatha recovering surely if slowly from the wounds inflicted on her by the misogynistic, emotionally abusive Lacey...and will find further snickers in the brief images of the fickle tightwad Sir Charles Fraith, a former partner in investigation and erstwhile lover, caught in a not necessarily happy marriage and newly chubby to boot. Don't we all want to see Agatha find a man who thinks she's as funny and worthy as we do? Could her new neighbor, the famous author John Armitage, be The One? Can't wait for the next installment in this series to find out! As far as the plot, it's predictable and delightful. If you're an Agatha Christie fan, you'll recognize the plot and certain clue devices early on, although Beaton takes a few twists and contemporary turns on the original. Beaton never fails to delight in her plots, nor in the continuing saga of the grumpy but tender-hearted Agatha! More, more, more, and more, please Ms. Beaton!

Like "Agatha Raisin and the Love from Hell," the manner in which this latest Agatha Raisin installment unfolds pretty much mirrors Agatha's frame of mind and feelings. The ending of her short-lived but ill fated marriage to her great love, James Lacey, has left Agatha feeling empty, lonely and utterly diminished in the self confidence department. As such, the novel moves between Agatha's feelings of inadequacy and her determination to get a handle on things and so move forward and onward. This could be slightly off putting if you're not an Agatha Raisin fan, and if you're not prepared to fall in with whatever master plan M. C. Beaton has mapped out for Agatha. I enjoyed the book very much. It was well written, cleverly executed and completely engrossing.

Saddened and weary -- first James ends their marriage in order to join a monastery, then Sir Charles Fraith (someone she thought she could count as a friend) gets married to a French society beauty and never bothers inviting her to his wedding -- Agatha decides that what she needs in a holiday far away from everyone she knows. A week at a small isolated South Pacific island seems just the ticket. And to her surprise Agatha finds herself enjoying her vacation. The other vacationers are incredibly friendly and take great pains to include Agatha in their activities. Only the honeymooning couple remains aloof. And although something about the newly wed husband strikes Agatha being slightly 'off,' she manages to keep her opinions to herself, and refrains from interfering.

This is only my fourth Agatha Raisin book but I'm afraid that I am becoming tired on her constant

whining over her advancing age and physical attractiveness (or lack thereof). I do realize that this book is #12 in the series and follows the departure of James, her now ex-husband, who left her to join a monastery (of all things) and the marriage of her latest paramour to another woman. One can understand that she might be a bit lacking in the self-esteem department and the fact that she signs up for Pilates classes and undergoes a beauty over-haul are understandable actions as is her get-away vacation to Robinson Crusoe Island.....but all that incessant kvetching about men, her looks, her age and her love life begins to wear a bit thin.

Upon returning from her island trip torrential rain and flooding strike her village and Agatha sees the body of a young woman clothed in a wedding dress floating down the river. She recalls the woman from an incident that occurred during her visit to the beauty salon the previous day and, being Agatha, feels she has carte blanche to investigate the girl's death. As usual, she is warned by the police "not to interfere" with their investigation.....a warning she promptly dismisses.

The usual characters are all here as well as a couple of new ones like John Armitage, a successful mystery writer, who has conveniently moved into the house next door and is thereby available to assist Agatha with her investigation as well as play a part in her romantic fantasies. The mystery itself is pretty simple and the police are predictably obtuse.

On the plus side, there are a couple of amusing sequences like Agatha's vaulting into the bushes while trying to evade an oncoming vehicle and being mistaken for a drunk when she staggers out of her hiding place. Objectively speaking, this is an unremarkable addition to this cozy series with a few amusing scenes and comments that elevate it from humdrum to adequate. 2 1/2 stars

Drowned brides are like buses: nothing for ages, then two come along at the same time ...! Abandoned by husband James, Agatha hops on a plane to the South Pacific, hoping to mend her broken heart. But there she meets a happy honeymooning couple, for whom disaster strikes when, tragically, the bride drowns. Back home, alarm bells start ringing for Agatha when a woman, dressed in a wedding gown, is swept down river. The police say suicide, but Agatha, spurred on by recent memories, particularly her own disastrous marriage, sets out to prove them wrong. Praise for the "Agatha Raisin" series: 'Sharp, witty, hugely intelligent, unfailingly entertaining, delightfully intolerant and oh so magnificently non-PC, M.C. Beaton has created a national treasure' - Anne Robinson. 'M.C. Beaton's imperfect heroine is an absolute gem' - "Publishers Weekly". 'The Miss Marple-like Raisin is a refreshing, sensible, wonderfully eccentric, thoroughly likeable heroine' - "Booklist". 'Once started, you'll have a job to put it down until you've finished' - Amazon reader, Kent. 'Another wonderful tale about Agatha and her chums ...Long live Aggie!' - Bookworm, Essex.

** 'Agatha Raisin is sharp, witty, hugely intelligent, unfailingly entertaining, delightfully intolerant and oh so magnificently non PC. M C Beaton has created a new national treasure... the stories zing along and are irresistible, unput-downable, a joy. If you buy one book a year, let it be this. Agatha Raisin is The Strongest Link.' - Anne Robinson * 'Beaton's dry sense of humour and her unflattering but affectionate portrait of gruff, often adolescent acting Agatha make this... tale a bloom worth picking.' - Publishers Weekly" --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

M.C. Beaton was born in Scotland. She worked for many years as a journalist on Fleet Street. As well as the bestselling Agatha Raisin series, she is the author of the acclaimed Hamish Macbeth mysteries. She divides her time between the Cotswolds, where she lives in a village very much like Agatha's beloved Carsely, and Paris.

Oh dear my second and I fear my last Agatha Raisin. This appears to be the twelfth in the series I had previously read the first one which I enjoyed. It just seems to be more of the same. It comes across that Agatha is still a cranky older woman in a series of unfulfilling and unsatisfactory relationships which colour her view of the whole world. The murder story was good but the back story kept getting in the way for me. Perhaps it is aimed at a different market. Dare I say older women in search of murder story with a little romance? I suppose it fits the bill.

A really enjoyable storyline . Agatha at her best , fed up and bored with life ,she goes off to

Robinson Crusoe island and moans continually about the lack of the 5 star facilities that she is used to, but on meeting a lovely family who take her in hand she has a great time . On returning home it doesn't take long for her to get involved in a puzzling murder ,recalling memories of the island holiday.

usually funny as well as having the serious side. shenanigans with the neighbours on all counts especially the chap next door! Or even with any new character that in a particular story melts in with Agatha Raisin. I have some dramatisations of Agatha Raisin which are hilarious with the seriousness of a case they are just light mysteries.

You have to be careful with these as it is so easy to become addicted. I listen to the books whilst ironing and now everybody has beautifully ironed socks as I stop the CD as soon as the ironing is finished and have to wait until ironing again to continue with the story. Penelope Keith is without doubt superb and totally draws you into the story. Speedy delivery well packaged.

Incomer Gloria French is at first welcomed in the Cotswold village of Piddlebury. She seems like a do-gooder par excellence, raising funds for the church and caring for the elderly. But she has a bad habit of borrowing things and not giving them back, so when she is discovered dead, poisoned by a bottle of elderberry wine, folk in the village don't...More

Agatha has fallen in love - again. This time it's the local gardener, George Marston, she has her eye on. But competition for his attention abounds. With her shameless determination Agatha will do anything to get her man - including footing the bill for a charity ball in town just for the chance to dance with him. But when George is a no-show ...More

Winter Parva, a traditional Cotswolds village next door to Carsely, has decided to throw a celebratory hog roast to mark the beginning of the winter holiday festivities and Agatha Raisin has arrived with friend and rival in the sleuthing business, Toni, to enjoy the merriment. But as the spit pig is carried towards the bed of fiery charcoal Agatha ...More

Agatha Raisin has never been one for enforced holiday cheer, but her friendly little village of Carsely has always prided itself on its traditional Christmas festivities. But this year the bells will not be ringing out Silent Night as Mr John Sunday, an officer with the Cotswold Health and Safety Board, has chosen Christmas as the time to crack dow...More

Agatha's former husband James is engaged to be married to a beautiful, young woman and Agatha has been kindly invited to the wedding. To take her mind off this, Agatha decides she has fallen for Sylvan, a Frenchman she met at James' engagement party. To distract her still further she decides upon a holiday and flies to Istanbul, where unf...More

Agatha Raisin's detective agency has become so successful that she decides to take time off for rest and relaxation. But as soon as she does, she remembers that when she does have time on her hands, she doesn't know what to do with it. So it doesn't take much for the vicar of a nearby village to persuade her to help publicize the chu...More

The local ladies all deem Mr John a wizard, so when Agatha finds a few grey hairs on her head - and the rinse she tries at home turns her hair purple - she makes a beeline for the handsome Evesham hairdresser. And as well as sorting out her hair it soon becomes clear the charming man also has designs on her heart - but their future together is cut ...More

The morning of Agatha's marriage to James Lacey dawns bright and clear. But her luck runs out in the church when Jimmy, the husband she had believed long dead, turns up large as life and twice as ugly. Agatha has a go at strangling him. James breaks off the engagement. So when Jimmy is found murdered next day, Agatha and James are both the pri...More

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