



**Rules of Murder**

A DREW FARTHERING MYSTERY  
by Julianna Deering

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**“Readers will want to carve out uninterrupted time to read this mystery in one sitting. Red herrings at every turn will have them guessing and flipping pages until the shocking end.”**  
—RT Book Reviews

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# Bethany House Launches First Cozy Mystery Series with Julianna Deering

## *Rules of Murder*

A DREW FARTHERING MYSTERY

by Julianna Deering

Minneapolis, MN—With *Rules of Murder*, Bethany House launches its first ever cozy mystery series from author Julianna Deering. In her debut novel with Bethany House, Deering concocts a playful murder-mystery set on the country estate of English gentleman Drew Farthering.

The concept for *Rules of Murder*, says Deering, was inspired by her love of 1920s and '30s crime fiction, which she calls the “golden age” of the genre. A longtime fan of Agatha Christie, Dorothy L. Sayers, and Margery Allingham, Deering remarks, “Nobody could tell a tale of murder and mayhem like those English ladies did.” When she decided to take a crack at writing herself, Deering thought it would be fun to mix up her favorite aspects of these “drawing room” mysteries—the forerunners of today’s cozy mysteries—in her own historical mystery story.

While researching for her book, Deering came across a historical—and humorous—list of rules for “proper” mystery writers, written in 1929 by priest and novelist Father Ronald Arbuthnott Knox. “His list had just the right classic mystery tone and was of course written during the period of history that interested me. I decided that I would write a book that breaks or at least bends all of his rules,” says Deering. These rules, consulted within the book by the hero of *Rules of Murder*, were also the inspiration for the title of the book.

A witty whodunit with solid elements of faith and romance, *Rules of Murder* is a delightful mystery told in finest 1930s style that keeps readers guessing until the very end.

*Drew Farthering loves a good mystery. So when a body is discovered during a weekend party at his country estate, Drew decides to look into the crime himself. With the help of his best friend, Nick Dennison, and Madeline Parker, a beautiful and whip-smart American guest, Drew sets out to crack the case. Meanwhile, everyone staying at Farthering Place is in danger of becoming the next victim.*

*Trying hard to remain one step ahead of the killer—and to impress Madeline—Drew must decide how far to take this dangerous game.*

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**



Julianna Deering has always loved British history and literature and is particularly a fan of the classic mysteries written by Dorothy Sayers and Agatha Christie. She graduated from the University of Texas at Dallas and now works for an attorney specializing in wills and estate planning. She lives outside Dallas, Texas, where she loves to quilt, cross-stitch, and watch hockey. Learn more at [juliannadeering.com](http://juliannadeering.com).

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