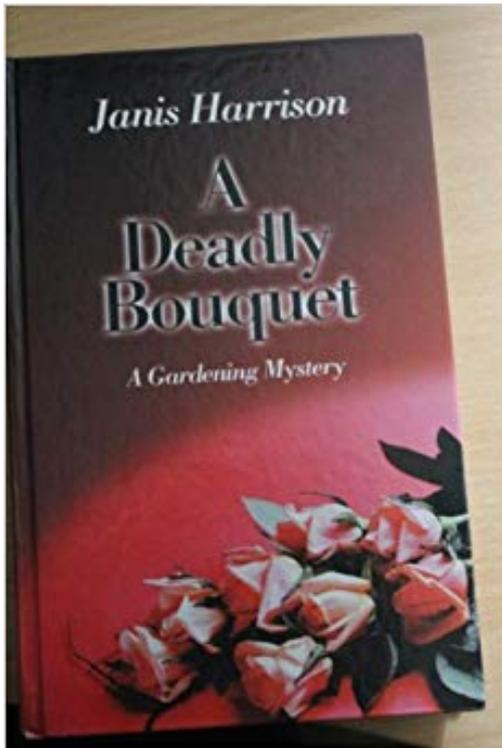


## A Deadly Bouquet: A Gardening Mystery *by* Janis Harrison



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**Author:** Janis Harrison

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## Reviews of the *A Deadly Bouquet: A Gardening Mystery* *by* Janis Harrison

**monotronik**

Neat series. Good cosies, my favorite kind of mystery.

**Felolune**

It is going to be a wedding extravagance and the mother of the bride is driving florist Bretta Solomon crazy with all weird endless string of ideas. Other River City, Missouri merchants are also going certifiable trying to satisfy a woman whose plans keep changing and turning more complicated and stranger by the second. Days before the wedding, Evelyn Montgomery calls for a meeting to include Sonya the event coordinator, Dana the caterer, and Claire the hair stylist.

Before Evelyn can ever speak, Oliver dies from a heart attack while staring at the other merchants.. Late that same day, Bretta visits Claire's Hair Salon because the stylist hinted she knows something about Oliver' death. Bretta arrives at the beauty shop too late because Claire is dead, the victim of a murderer. A few days later one of Claire's clients is killed in a gas explosion and Bretta thinks all the deaths are linked. Unable to keep her curiosity in check, Bretta decides to investigate not realizing that somebody will go to any lengths to stop her.

This is the fourth Solomon mystery and it is the best by far. The characters are all likable, even the pesky mother of the bride, so readers won't want any person in A DEADLY BOUQUET to be the villain. The climax is shocking, and nobody will be able to figure out what is really going on until Janis Harrison reveals the perpetrator in her cerebral puzzler that is nothing short of genius.

Harriet Klausner

### **Vudojar**

I read the first book in this series, "Roots of Murder" and enjoyed it. I missed the next two, then happened on this one. I expected to enjoy it as much as the first but was very disappointed by the amount of violence in it. Also, the author increased the level of suspense higher than I prefer. Our heroine was run off the road, seriously injuring her romantic interest (who did that? We're never told). Her car was vandalized, a woman was gruesomely strangled, another was blown up, there was arson -- far too much mayhem for a traditional cozy and as that's the type of book I prefer, this was not for me.

### **Mr.mclav**

While this is yet another Bretta Solomon mystery from the beloved Harrison, I didn't think this was one of her all-time best like "Lilies That Fester", but this was a good, strongly-plotted mystery, and there is a denouement that'll shock even the most seasoned of mystery readers. Don't take my word for it, though. Buy this lovely little gem and see for yourself if you don't fall in love with Bretta!

### **Neol**

Another enjoyable Bretta Solomon Gardening Mystery. Bretta has 2 men in her life in this novel - her long ago departed father and her new interest Bailey Monroe. Of course, we have a few corpses thrown in for intrigue.

### **Haralem**

Small town florist, Bretta Solomon has taken on the job of flowering up a park for a very wealthy set of nuptials. The mother of the bride is a constant ache of persnickety annoyance. Even when a hired landscaper drops dead at her feet of a heart attack and the designated hairdresser is found murdered in the back of her salon, hoity toity Evelyn Montgomery focuses only on perfecting her daughter's day, brushing off the deaths as no more than setbacks to her plans.

In a carry over from her last book, a man of desire re-enters her life as her new neighbor and they meekly try to start a relationship, until an attempt of her life waylaid their steps. Meanwhile, the father that deserted her and her mother is now living with her and trying to make amends while adding his own sleuthing abilities to keep her safe and find out why there is a need to.

There is a deep dive into philosophy with Aristotle's works playing a major role and giving this read a more provoking stance than the general mystery. Quite enjoyable. Plus, an added lesson on the not-so-lovely language of flowers and a bit of botany. Nothing beats an entertaining book that has a lesson or two added into the pages.

Harrison's books just get better and better.

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