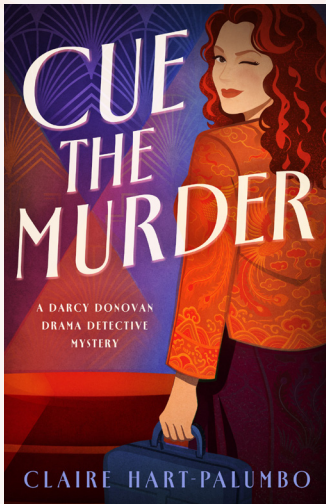


Cue the Murder

A Darcy Donovan Drama Detective



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A Darcy Donovan
Drama Detective
BY CLAIRE HART-PALUMBO

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How do you go from acting in Noël Coward plays to catching psycho killers?

Thirty-two-year-old stage actress Darcy Donovan juggles five jobs to follow her art. With two shows closing, and laid off from job #3, she is hired as a freelancer by a magazine run by her dream guy, but romance is upstaged by the return of her not quite ex-husband.

Playing investigative reporter has its own risks. When her favorite security guard at the theater takes a swan dive off a skyscraper, she sets out to prove it wasn't suicide and find the granddaughter he talked about. It's a wild ride through the streets of H-town in her billboard VW bug, as she becomes a murder suspect, rescues an abused woman only to be run off the road by the maniacal husband, investigates her own divorce lawyer, encounters a desperate real-estate tycoon, and is thoroughly intimidated by her NPR radio-reporter mom before scoring her first cover story and the love of her editor.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Claire Hart-Palumbo grew up in rural Texas. A year of teaching in her hometown forced her to admit she wanted to be an actress. Between starting up mid-sized professional theaters, she studied at American Conservatory Theater and received an MFA from University of Texas. During forty-plus years in professional theater she has been an actress, director, and teacher primarily in Houston. Concurrently, she spent twenty years as an instructional designer. In 2020 she moved back to her farm, teaching and writing remotely, while renovating a 170-year-old farmhouse. She lives there with her cats, across the pasture from her sister and brother.



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