



## To Kill a Matzo Ball

*Delia Rosen*

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**To Kill a Matzo Ball** Delia Rosen

"Delia Rosen provides an entertaining deli whodunit." --*Mystery Gazette* on *One Foot in the Gravy*

### Hitting below the Borscht Belt. . .

For ex-Manhattanite Gwen Katz, running Murray's Pastrami Swami, the Jewish deli she inherited from her late uncle in Nashville, Tennessee, makes her feel like a whitefish out of water. To add to the craziness, martial arts teacher Ken Chan has come to sample her kosher delicacies for a black belt ceremony he wants catered.

But just as Chan is about to try a matzo ball, bullets shatter the deli's window and Ken Chan is killed as he pushes Gwen to safety. Was Chan the victim of a hit by a crime gang from New York's Chinatown? Was a local hate-group targeting Chan--or maybe even Gwen? With the Nashville Police--and the FBI--baffled, Gwen enlists the help of an eccentric new-age entrepreneur.

But more than bad vibes are coming her way as a killer returns. . .and this time it's the deli owner who may be the outgoing order. . .

"Will certainly leave the reader hungry for more." --*MysteryLibrarian.com* on *A Brisket A Casket*

"A really humorous cozy. . . Readers will thoroughly enjoy this deli tale." --*Once Upon a Romance* on *One Foot in the Gravy*

### To Kill a Matzo Ball Details

Date : Published July 1st 2014 by Kensington (first published January 1st 2014)

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Author : Delia Rosen

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## From Reader Review To Kill a Matzo Ball for online ebook

### Janet Schaffner says

Was it the Chinese mob, the local neo-Nazi group, or the man taking "etheric readings"? A fun read, with plenty of twists and turns

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### Nidofito says

That was almost like a script for a movie. It was fast paced with lots of action, family drama and secrets. I liked Nash more in this book - less snarky - though I still feel she's a little too quick to jump to conclusions against her culture/background.

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### Susan says

Gwen Katz is talking to a customer when her deli is shot up and the customer killed. He saved her life by pushing her to the floor. But was he the target, or is she? Other attempts on her life seem to indicate that she's in trouble, although she doesn't have any real enemies. But there's a new white supremacy group in the area that may be targeting Jewish businesses. Not as much of the deli atmosphere as in previous books.

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### Sonja says

I really enjoy how this series just keeps getting richer.

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### Nancy Narma says

“Staring Into the Matzo Ball of Revenge”

With Ms. Rosen's latest work, we're back in Nashville and, of course, stopping by “Murray's Deli”, now owned and managed by Murray's Niece, Gwen “Nash” Katz. As usual, the Deli is abuzz with activity and we are re-acquainted with her likable, quirky staff, headed by Thomasina, who runs the cash register with an iron hand, but really has a heart of gold. In the midst of the breakfast rush, Gwen receives a call and sets up an appt. about a catering job for the Po Kung Fu Academy's Belt Promotion celebration. Sifu Ken Chan keeps his appt. and is just about to sample a matzo ball when shots ring out—he throws himself to the floor, taking Gwen with him—ultimately saving her life as the gunfire takes his. Who would want the family and tradition-oriented Sifu dead? Could it have been the work of the criminal element known as the “Triads”? Gwen feels guilty but thankful she is alive, but, little does she know that the journey to the truth has barely begun. With previous murders of African-American Police Officer Marcuz Frank and his girlfriend pointing to a group known as the “SSS” ( Shock, Shoot, Slawter), and so raw in the minds of the NPD, no stones will be left unturned until the perpetrators are captured. Were they really trying to shoot the Sifu? Is there a Chinese vendetta? Or, was Gwen the intended victim—ruining her business as well? She waits on a strange-acting customer named Banko Juarez who is an “Etheric Cleanser”, claiming he is studying the “Planes of

human existence” and through his computer program invention, can help discover who is behind this dastardly deed. But can he? Or is he a fake? Gwen reluctantly pays her respects at the Academy and meets Matriarch Auntie May Wong, who asks her to return for the wake. Getting odd vibes from Auntie May, Gwen seeks out and employs Juarez to help her discover if the shooter is a deli customer. Should she trust Juarez? After their meeting a series of strange occurrences happen—Gwen is kidnapped, questioned and released, duped by a tall hospital orderly, and, later, shot at in Hadley Park, with Juarez by her side! Gwen is continually asked how the Sifu signed the deli receipt—could there have been a coded message within that small slip of paper? As hokey as Juarez’s etheric cleansing may seem, he recognizes some similarities between two sets of readings. What does this mean? Who can Gwen trust? Certainly, former boyfriend/Detective Grant Daniels comes to mind—but does he trust her since their break-up? Are FBI Agent Lawrence Bowe-Pitt and NPD tech guy Richard Richards on the up and up and to be trusted as well? Frustrated, Gwen seeks the help of hypnotist, Dr. Cagliostro. You quickly realize that little details often mean a lot and that, sometimes, things (and people) are not always as they seem. Ms. Rosen has concocted a twisted tale of intrigue and murder with a slew of unforgettable characters you won’t soon forget. She has also graciously included Uncle Murray’s recipe for his famous “Potato Knish”. Cozy Readers, you don’t want to miss this one—and you’ll be chomping at the bit (or bagel) for Gwen’s next adventure as well.

Nancy Narma

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### **Melissa says**

I thought this may have been the best mystery in this series.

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### **Gwen says**

kept me guessing right to the finish

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### **Lynda says**

Rating 3.5

I started off loving this book. That was before the heroine became a whiner. I still liked the mystery enough to give it a 3.5, but I am not sure that I will read more of the series.

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### **Wyshona D. Lawson says**

I'm finished with this series. I do not think I can handle Gwen calling people "rednecks," "hicks," or "hillbillies," nor having such a chip on her shoulder about being Jewish. Not every comment made by someone is a jab against Jewish people.

In addition, I'm tired of her being tired of Grant. Move on or accept him the way he is.

## Mary says

Gwen Katz has taken over her father and uncle's deli in Nashville. She is a transplant from New York. This is not the first murder in her world and I'm sure it will not be the last one.

It was a funny book and a good read. I will look for others from this author.

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## Misha says

The writing is not terrible, but I can only get through so many monologues about how Jewish people are the only remaining persecuted minority in the United States before giving up.

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## Melissa Lee says

I received a copy of To Kill a Matzo Ball by Delia Rosen as a bonus to a GoodReads giveaway, which was offered by the publisher.

Leaving behind her job on Wall Street, Gwen Katz inherits her Uncle Murray's deli in Nashville Tennessee. To Kill a Matzo Ball is the 5th book in Rosen's Deadly Deli Mystery Series and begins 14 months after Gwen took over the restaurant. One busy morning, Gwen meets with a customer by the name of Ken Chan who is interested in hiring her catering services for a belt ceremony at his Kung Fu Academy. During their consultation a shot is fired from outside and Chan saves Gwen's life by tackling her to the ground. Unfortunately in doing so, he took the fatal bullet himself. Now Gwen takes it upon herself (against the wishes of her former flame; a detective) to uncover who exactly was the target for the attack; Chan or herself. With the help of another deli customer, Banko Juarez and his etheric reading computer software, she begins investigating the Kung Fu school. She learns that the attack could have been perpetrated by a rival Chinese gang or a group of racist supremacists.

Try as I might, I couldn't seem to connect with Gwen or the story at all. To me, the main character was careless and not in a humorous or charming way. I wonder if I would have felt more of a connection with Gwen, had I read the previous books in the series.

My opinion aside, the story did move along at a good pace and got to the point of the plot in a matter of pages, which was nice. I was also pleased to see that the author ended off with a traditional Jewish recipe: Potato Knish, with an added southern flair.

In conclusion I think that this Cozy Mystery would be better suited to previous fans of the series.

For my full review of To Kill a Matzo Ball and other books I've read, check out my blog:  
<http://mlsmanyreads.blogspot.ca/>

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