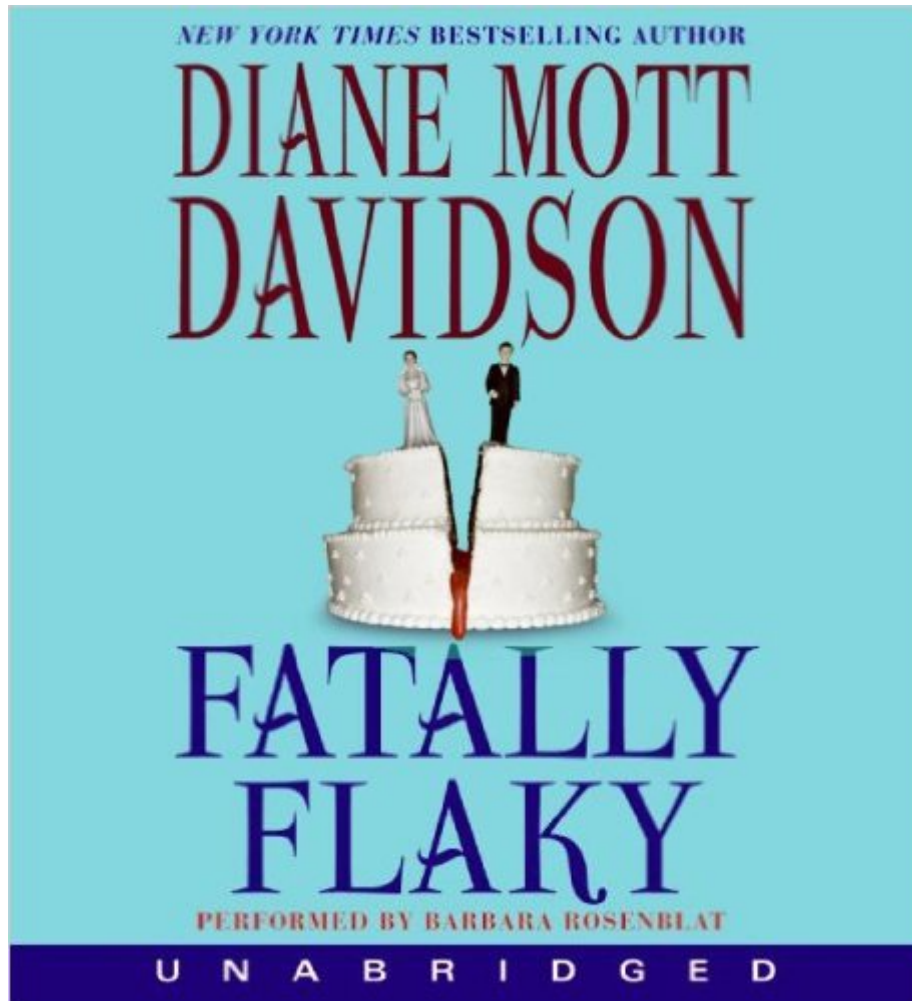


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# Fatally Flaky (Goldy Culinary Mysteries)



## Synopsis

• a series that remains as reliable and satisfying as a favorite casserole recipe. • "Cleveland Plain Dealer" Colorado caterer Goldy Schulz encounters Bridezilla • and murder • in *Fatally Flaky*, another delectable mystery by Diane Mott Davidson. The USA Today and New York Times bestselling author • of *Double Shot*, *Dark Tort*, and *Sweet Revenge* whom the Baltimore Sun describes as, • a cross between Mary Higgins Clark and Betty Crocker • is • today's • foremost practitioner of the culinary whodunit • according to Entertainment Weekly. *Fatally Flaky* is Diane Mott Davidson at her mysterious and mouth-watering best.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars • See all reviews • (253 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This is completely out of character for me - writing a review when I'm only slightly over half way through the book. I'm writing this now because I'm not sure I'm actually going to finish it. This, in and of itself is a strange phenomenon when discussing any of DMD's books. I have been an avid reader of DMD's Goldy-the-Caterer books from day one, but I have to say I feel this one is not her best work. Firstly, the writing is tedious and in some passages, amateurishly written. It's almost as if this were the author's first attempt at writing, not the 15th book in a series. Where was the editor, I wonder? Secondly, who the heck is this godfather guy? He'd done so much for Goldy in her life and we just hear about him in her life now? Additionally, he's not even a likable character. Thirdly, I used to have a catering business and am a professional harpist as well, catering and playing music for many wedding engagements over the years. It was the only way to have made ends meet in those lean times. However, NEVER would I accept an engagement from a family with a bride like Billie

Attenborough. The way Goldy lets everyone walk all over her, it's amazing she's still in business. It's doubly amazing that Tom puts up with her constant interference in police business...It's a wonder Tom hasn't been fired by now - and BTW: he's the most likable character in the series. I think there's still some freshness that can come out of this series, but it will take some serious thought on Diane's part. For instance; a 16-year-old in the household is no insignificant thing. With teenagers in the house, that typically takes center stage. However, Arch has become increasingly relegated to an 'extra' in her books. This feels totally unnatural.

This series is cursed with an entirely unattractive main character. Some authors do that on purpose, conscious of their protagonist as an anti-hero. Davidson, however, presents Goldy Schultz as someone we are supposed to like and respect and seems unaware that no sensible person would want anything to do with her on any level of intimate friendship or family tie. Most of Davidson's plots are interesting, but they are advanced by having the main character behave like a melodramatic moron. In "Fatally Flaky," which could describe her heroine as much as any plot element, Davidson waits until page 165 to have Goldy commit her first felony (theft of a valuable piece of jewelry from a crime scene), but they come thick and fast after that. And why does Goldy swipe this item, when she could have pointed it out to a cop standing five feet away? Why does she steal it, handle it, and take it away from the scene, break the chain of custody? No particular reason. She just wants to bring it home to her cop husband, who could perfectly well have looked at it in the evidence locker. Now he has to go to work and explain that his wife stole it, and therefore it's useless in court, but that she meant well. Yeah, right. And there are no repercussions for him or for her over this. Yeah, RIGHT. The crime spree continues. Goldy steals that \$50K jewelry item. She breaks into a house and steals a gold clock. She sneaks into a country club to swipe evidence instead of letting the cops know it's there so they could acquire it legally. She trespasses here, there, and everywhere. She obstructs justice by withholding physical evidence more times than I can keep track of. She vandalizes costly camera equipment while trying to rob, er, "investigate," another location.

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