

CARMELA DUTRA

Author of the Food Truck Mystery Series

Serving up murder, mischief, and Bay Area flavor.



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Author Bio

Short Bio (50 words)

Carmela Dutra writes cozy mysteries steeped in food, family, and Bay Area flavor. Her Food Truck Mystery Series debuted with *A Murder Most Fowl*, praised by Kirkus Reviews, Criminal Element, and New York Times bestselling author Ellery Adams. She lives in the Bay Area with her family and pets.

Find her on Facebook and Instagram: @authorcarmela

Or check out her website www.carmeladutra.com

Long Bio (262 words)

Carmela Dutra is a Bay Area–based author who writes cozy mysteries with sharp banter, strong sibling bonds, and the vibrant food culture of Northern California’s most eclectic region. Her Food Truck Mystery Series blends culinary competition, small-town secrets, and humor-forward sleuthing, all rooted in the distinctly diverse rhythms of the Bay Area.

Her debut novel, *A Murder Most Fowl*, received praise from Kirkus Reviews for its “serious set of crimes leavened by plenty of amusing moments,” and from Criminal Element for the “juicy reasoning behind the sabotage [that] was almost as shocking as the murder itself.” New York Times bestselling author Ellery Adams called it “the perfect escapist read, brimming with banter and an extra helping of fun.” Carmela has also been featured in CrimeReads.

The second installment in the series, *Hot Wings and Homicide*, earned additional praise from Kirkus Reviews, which said, “Winner, winner, murder for dinner . . . An entertaining mystery with amusing characters—including a pet chicken.” Further cementing Carmela’s voice in the cozy mystery space.

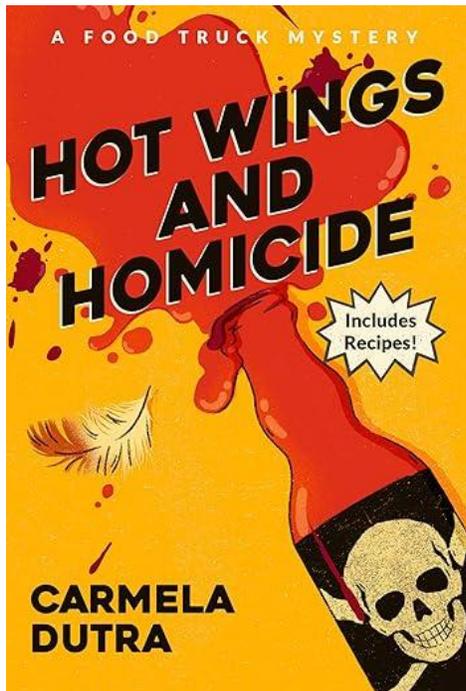
A frequent podcast guest and live-event panelist, Carmela has appeared on *Bookish Flights*, *The Fiction Lounge*, *Cozy Crime Reads*, and *Bookshelf Odyssey*, and has spoken at bookstores including Kepler’s Books & Magazines. She is known for her warm, engaging presence and her ability to connect with readers through humor, craft, and community.

Carmela lives in the Bay Area with her husband, two dinosaur-obsessed sons, and an assortment of over-cuddled pets. When she’s not writing, she can usually be found at a bookstore, a farmers’ market, or chasing the perfect chicken wing.

Find her on Facebook and Instagram: @authorcarmela

Or check out her website www.carmeladutra.com

NOVELS



Title: Hot Wings and Homicide

Publisher: Crooked Lane Books (May 12th, 2026)

ISBN: 9798892424417

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Twins Beth and Seth Lloyd are on the chopping block in the follow-up to *A Murder Most Fowl*, where a perfect recipe for murder is stirred up.

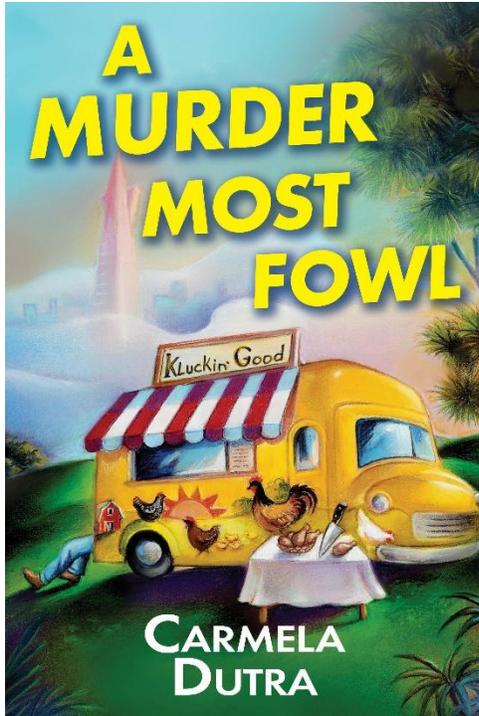
Business at Kluckin' Good is smoking hot. To keep momentum going, Beth and her twin brother, Seth, just scored a prime spot at the Flavors of the Bay Food Festival. For three and a half days, food lovers will flock to the Bay Area's biggest culinary event to enjoy gourmet food trucks, cook-offs, and live music, but this recipe for success is also the perfect setup for murder.

When the infamous food critic Brad Dawson—also Beth's ex—turns up dead, the only clue at the scene of the crime is a Kluckin' Good tumbler mug. The timing couldn't be worse. Beth and Brad were seen in a heated altercation, and days prior, witnesses saw Seth punch Brad. Suspicion naturally falls on the twins. With the cops hot on their trail, Beth will have to avoid the flames to clear their names and save her food truck's reputation.

But the chickens are out of the coop, and as Beth digs into Brad's final hours, she will uncover rivalries, grudges, and a different side of Brad she never knew. If she doesn't crack the case soon, she might be the next one to get cooked. Best of cluck!

A mouthwatering mystery for fans of Joanne Fluke that will leave you peckish for more.

[Pre-order](#)



Title: A Murder Most Fowl

Publisher: Crooked Lane Books (Sep. 9th, 2025)

ISBN: 9798892423175

[Download the HR A Murder Most Fowl](#)

A food truck run by twins serves up a clucking good murder in this cozy debut mystery, perfect for fans of Lucy Burdette and Joanne Fluke.

When their late aunt Dolly passes away, twins Beth and Seth Lloyd inherit a chicken themed food truck. Despite the challenges, the siblings rise to the occasion, even going as far as signing up their truck Kluckin' Good to compete on a top cooking show and ruffle a few feathers for some good publicity. But the competition

goes from heated to lethal when a contestant is found dead.

With the elimination competition becoming far too literal, Beth and Seth will need all the help they can get to get out of the frying pan without landing in the fire. With their loyal assistant—and Beth's best friend—Rylie by their side, they'll have to follow the bread crumbs to untangle a very twisted case before either one of them is put on the chopping block.

This humorous series debut with a mouthwatering mystery will charm readers and keep them guessing right until the not-so-bitter end.

Order

Praise for the Food Truck Mystery series

“Winner, winner, murder for dinner . . . An entertaining mystery with amusing characters—including a pet chicken.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“The perfect escapist read, brimming with banter and an extra helping of fun.”

—Ellery Adams, New York Times bestselling author of *The Secret, Book, and Scone Society* mysteries

“A serious set of crimes leavened by plenty of amusing moments add up to a fun read.”

—Kirkus Reviews

“The juicy reasoning behind the sabotage that plagued the show was almost as shocking as the murder itself.”

—Criminal Element

“Plan a snack and a drink, a comfy blanket and staying up past your bedtime with this book!!!”

—Cozy Mystery Book Reviews

“Imaginative, clever, laced with humor and unexpected plot twists leading to a dramatic conclusion.”

—Midwest Book Review

“The first book in the series, and it’s a good one . . . Fans of small-town murder mysteries will enjoy this one.”

—Red Carpet Crash

“An absolutely knockout debut . . . Forget the real housewives of anywhere—This book is fun-filled, first-class entertainment without even turning on your TV!”

—Wonder Women Sixty