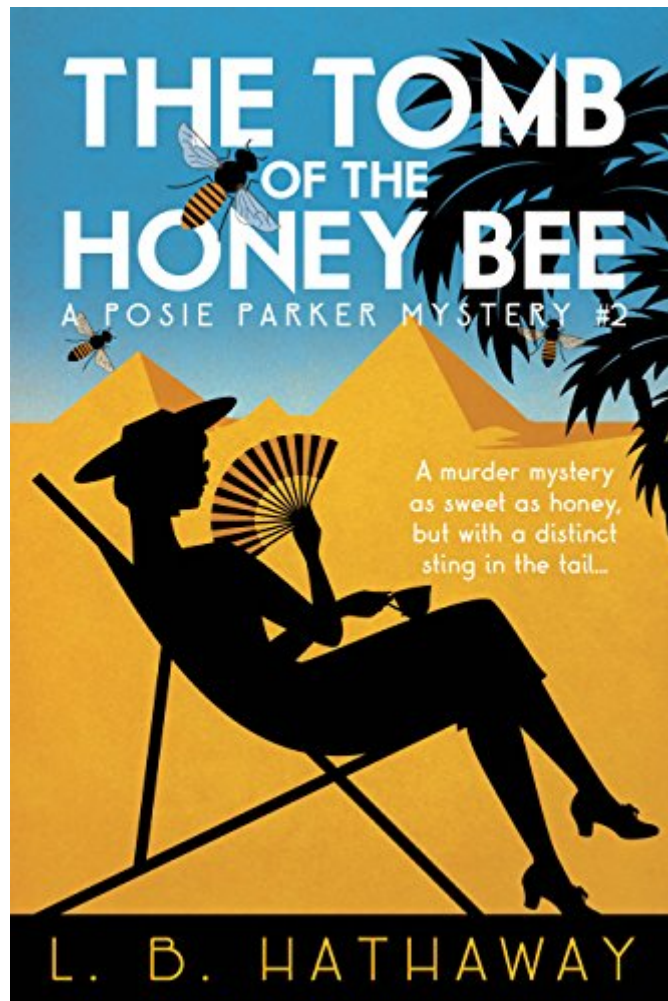


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# The Tomb Of The Honey Bee: A Posie Parker Mystery (The Posie Parker Mystery Series Book 2)



## Synopsis

Like your mysteries as sweet as honey but with a real sting in the tail? Summer 1921 Posie Parker thought she was about to enjoy a restful summer. But this is no ordinary summer holiday... When famous explorer Alaric Boynton-Dale disappears, Posie uncovers many dark secrets: an aristocratic family torn apart by hatred, a bizarre murder at an English country house, and a cryptic clue left behind by Alaric which is sweet as honey, but deadlier than poison. In an action-packed case where simply everyone has a motive for wanting Alaric dead, Posie's investigation starts off in the English Cotswolds, takes her through the glamorous South of France, on to the mysterious island of Ortigia in Italy, and then into the Tombs of the Pharaohs in Egypt. But is she being followed by a cold-blooded killer? And where has Len, her almost-boyfriend, disappeared to? This is a classic Golden Age of Crime murder mystery which will appeal to fans of Agatha Christie and Downton Abbey. The Tomb of the Honey Bee is the second book in the delightfully classic English Posie Parker Mystery Series, although the novel can be enjoyed as a stand-alone story in its own right. If you love an action-packed historical cozy crime with a feisty protagonist, download a sample or buy 'The Tomb of the Honey Bee' now. Other books by L.B. Hathaway available on : 'Murder Offstage' (A Posie Parker Mystery #1) 'Murder at Maypole Manor' (A Posie Parker Mystery #3) 'The Vanishing of Dr Winter' (A Posie Parker Mystery #4) To be the first to hear about L.B. Hathaway's new releases sign up for the newsletter at: [lbhathaway.com](http://lbhathaway.com) Follow L.B. Hathaway on: Twitter: @LbHathaway

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is the second book in this series. Although fun reading, I was amazed that the phrase, "retail therapy" was used in a book based in the 1920's. With all the research to be era specific, I found this to be jarringly inconsistent since the phrase was not used until the 1980's. Hence, the three stars.

I have now read the first 2 books of the series set in 1921. I enjoy mysteries set in the 1920s and 1930s, but these books have too many anachronisms and that interferes with the suspension of disbelief required for historical fiction. Just 2 examples from "The Tomb of the Honey Bee": 1. A jet trainer in 1921? The first jet was flown in 1939. Any reader who has ever watched a movie set in WWI would not accept that. 2. A Texas oil millionaire who expects air conditioning in an English country house. Residential window box air conditioners were not invented until 1931 and cost \$10,000-50,000 per unit in 1932, equivalent to \$110,000-160,000 today. The first book also had anachronisms. These kind of errors, including period-inappropriate colloquialisms, are major stumbling blocks to the reader in remaining in the setting. The author's biography states that she is interested in history and contributes to history magazines. I hope she does a better job of researching those articles than she does these books. Although there are additional books available in the series, I am done with it..

Loved this book - Posie Parker would be a delightful friend! Great story, held my interest and I couldn't wait to get to the end! I'm ready to plan a trip to Sicily and Egypt. Recommend this book to fans of Maisie, Daisy, and Phryne. Takes me to an era that is simply the best. Thank you, Ms. Hathaway.

I enjoy historical mysteries when some care has been taken to be historically accurate. This author claims expertise in history, and perhaps in the sense of being aware of political situations in Great Britain in the 1920s she can reasonably make that claim. But the day-to-day details in the book are wrong enough to be jarring: Telegraph messages that go on and on, including postscripts, rather

than conserving word count; a person who declares herself in need of "retail therapy," a phrase first used in the 1980s; another character bemoaning the lack of central air conditioning at an English country estate. It becomes difficult as a reader to engage with a mystery if the characters themselves aren't bound by rules--will this person do what was within the norms of the time and place, or will they act in an anachronistic way? I had some trouble with this in the first book in the series, but pressed on to read the second--and that's where I hit my limit.

The Tomb of the Honeybee, a Posie Parker Mystery, by L.B. Hathaway  
When Alaric Boynton-Dale, the famous explorer and honey farmer disappears, his family calls astute investigator Posie Parker in to investigate and try to find him, dead or alive. Then, when the murder of a famous mystery author occurs at their home while Posie is visiting, she is tasked with finding the murderer as well. Did Alaric kill her and run away? Did a family member set to inherit a fortune kill them both? If so, why would they kill the mystery author? And, when Posie finds a mysterious very valuable coin at the scene, known to always have been worn around Alaric's neck, what does it mean? Does it implicate him as guilty? So many questions posed by Posie that you think they'll never get sorted out. A very sticky plot glued together with honey. The author takes readers on a leisurely international ramble through 1920s England, France, Italy, Egypt and back again. Again, it seems the spirit of Agatha Christie is sitting on Hathaway's shoulder. The transition to Egypt could have been smoother, and I hated the destruction that occurs in Egypt. It saddened me. But, all in all, I couldn't put it down. \*\*\*\*\*Five Stars ~Review by Sandy Penny, Founder of SweetMysteryBooks.com

I can see this will be my new addiction. I loved the first Posie Parker cosy crime mystery, and this was perhaps even better than the first. I really enjoyed the change of scenery â " traipsing with Posie around the 1920s English countryside, then Italy and Egypt. It is a quick and thoroughly enjoyable read, the sort where you stay up at night for â ^just one more chapterâ ™. I almost, pretty-much guessed the murderer (which is always satisfying), but the book still had me hanging on every twist and turn right up to the end. I also love reading the historical notes at the end, for more of a sense of the time. I canâ ™t wait for more in this series â " L.B. Hathaway is the new Agatha Christie. Highly recommended.

The Posie Parker series, of which I have read the first two, are a lovely blend of good writing, nicely edited and without the intrusive presence of too much "filler" in the form of elongated description of relatively unimportant scenes. The pacing is thus good, and though these books are not, nor

intended to be, meant to be short-listed for the Booker Prize, they are fine enough for this retired English Professor to read with delight sans boredom. An obvious omission, perhaps intentional, is to mention the protagonists friendships and family, but perhaps that is coming. I very much like this combination of novel of manners and mystery. Bra a!

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