

Patricia M. Muhammad
presents

Sweet As Murder

Getting to Know Some of the Characters:



Wilhemina Grace (Harris) Dankworth: She is a coloured detective married to a British gentleman named Charles. She is of a good height and covered in milky caramel skin. Wilhemina has bright dark brown eyes, inquisitive, caring and always observing. Her hair is of a deep black hue and she has a somewhat aquiline nose. The detective was of a lean athletic build with strong legs and a small waist. She can be bashful, but strong, kind but stern. Her colleagues notes that she is diligent but courteous. Wilhemina is also affectionate, caring, but demands her boundaries be respected. She is no baker and finds the explicit irony when she must go undercover at the Society's annual baking competition.

Charles David Alexander Dankworth: Charles is quite tall and towers over his wife. An Englishman for sure, he still appreciates Wilhemina's candor and wit. His medium dark hair is neither straight or curly, but wavy. It has the penchant for becoming unruly at times, which his wife only dishevels even more in jest. He has a naturally deep voice that smoothly seeped through his soft lips that always kisses Wilhemina gently in the early morning hours. Charles has rather large hands that would overtake her waist whenever he embraced his wife. He is direct, assertive, but very protective of Wilhemina. Charles is a devoted husband, preoccupied daily with his wife's well-being. Charles responds to his wife playful nature in like kind, wondering how she could be so silly at times while balancing such a serious job.



Arthur Dobson: Arthur is another detective at the station house who is assigned with Wilhemina to go undercover on the current case at the Society. He is taller than average and speaks in a matter of fact tone. He wears a cropped haircut, avoiding the trending hair styles for men that requires copious amounts of pomade. He respects his co-detective for her abilities and would defend her and her husband against any racial biased aimed at the interracial couple. Dobson is known by his colleagues for being a 'straight-shooter', which is one of the reasons he and Wilhemina were the perfect work partners for this case.



The Society: The Society is an institution organized by the talented 10th of the *coloured** elite whose mission is for the upliftment of its people through philanthropy and charitable works. It is part of a hierarchy of both the coloureds and whites. Though most believe their reach is not beyond American society, it works alongside its counterpart with international implications. Each year it sponsors an annual baking competition. Sometimes it hosts preliminary contests as part of initial vetting process. It emphasizes that the declared winner of these competitions have more at stake than a blue ribbon and boasting rights. Whomever wins and parallel to this decision, whomever the Society chooses will have a prosperous future and will become a part of great decision-making body. In recent years what is most common among them is homicide.



Marceline: Marceline is one of the youngest bakers in the competition. She exhibits odd behaviour from the very first day of the three-day competition and onward. Initially, Wilhemina associated her peculiar conduct as a reaction to the chaotic homicide that they witnessed. Marceline is friendly and attempts to comfort others whom she befriended. However, she is easily distracted by the light and a voice beckoning beyond the four walls of the auditorium.



Natalie: Natalie is a fellow baker who befriends Wilhemina. She has common sense but also realizes the importance of the baking competition. Natalie is observant and weary of other members of the baking contest. She is loyal. Once Natalie determines you are a friend, she is consistently supportive. This baker discovers that she wishes to win just as much as anyone else, but there are certain thresholds she just will not cross in order to do so.



Leonard B. Wilkinson: Leonard is tall. He speaks with a commanding voice. He is observant. Mr. Wilkinson is also well-versed in the use of light. However, he does not show forth his ability in an ostentatious way. He uses his power as a means of discernment. Leonard is also President of the Society. He plays an important role in the hierarchy beyond his established position. He speaks twice throughout the baking competition to greet and address the candidates. His assignment is parallel to that of the three judges. While they determine who is to win the baking competition, Mr. Wilkinson is to determine who the Society will select as the chosen one. They are not necessarily one and the same; and either decision can be overridden by those of the elite who decide otherwise. The President also has the ability to make recommendations extending beyond or relation to those who have associated with the Society now or in the past. He determines who is a threat, double-agent or foe to the Society's mission.



Dorothy Brown: Dorothy is an experienced housewife and the quick-witted, not-so-courteous veteran baker of this year's competition. She is prone to

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gossip and slander, which she uses as her part of her social arsenal to sow discord among the bakers. Dorothy observes her fellow contestants less than a threat, but more as a scout on behalf of the Society. Mrs. Brown rebels against strong authority until the very end of her social demise. She is older than most of this year's entrants and becomes painfully aware as each day passes that she never had a chance to become the chosen one. She lacks self-awareness and never realizes that her obstinate nature and cruel actions heavily contributed to her to be further excluded from associating with the Society or any of its affiliates.



Arnold: Arnold is the harmless vagrant who has sat outside of the Society's field building for years. He observes the comings and goings of all who enter the property, this includes those bakers participating in this year's baking competition. Arnold has a penchant for sweet treats. The seemingly anonymous observer is stabbed outside on the first day of the baking competition. He is patient and able to communicate to those who have the power of the light. Sometimes he is unable to control his gifts due to trauma from years ago. Yet, he is wise. He too plays his role within the hierarchy of who will be the chosen one. His mind may appear disheveled at times, but he knows what he speaks, of what he hears and how to direct others. Although most aren't aware of his background, he is more important than he seems. In one sense, he is a master of the light.



Dr. Francis Tate: Francis is a medical doctor at the local hospital and treating physician for their special patient Arnold. He is tall, quite intelligent, focused and goal driven, but becomes frustrated when Arnold assigns him a near impossible task to complete. After noticing Francis' ring, his patient superficially designates Dr. Tate to discover who the Society should select this year as the chosen one. The good doctor is familiar with the light, but rarely uses it. He is astounded when a new object mysteriously comes into his possession that shows him what the light is capable of.