

soap opera the guiding light

soap opera the guiding light stands as one of the most enduring and influential series in television history. This iconic soap opera captivated audiences for decades, weaving together tales of romance, intrigue, and family drama in the fictional town of Springfield. Throughout its impressive run, The Guiding Light shaped the landscape of daytime television, introduced memorable characters, and reflected the evolving social issues of its time. In this article, we delve into the origins, development, and legacy of The Guiding Light, exploring its impact on popular culture and its place as a pillar of the soap opera genre. Readers will discover the show's history, notable storylines, beloved cast members, and its transition from radio to television. Whether you are a longtime fan or new to the world of soap operas, this comprehensive guide offers an in-depth look at the phenomenon that is The Guiding Light.

- History and Origins of The Guiding Light
- Evolution of the Soap Opera Genre
- Notable Characters and Cast Members
- Iconic Storylines and Themes
- Production and Broadcast Milestones
- Legacy and Cultural Impact

History and Origins of The Guiding Light

The Guiding Light was first introduced to audiences in 1937 as a radio drama created by Irna Phillips, a pioneer of the soap opera format. The show's original focus was on Reverend John Ruthledge and the community he served, emphasizing themes of hope and morality. The early episodes aired on NBC Radio, quickly becoming a staple of American daytime entertainment. In 1952, The Guiding Light made a groundbreaking transition from radio to television, cementing its status as a cornerstone of the genre. The show's longevity is unparalleled, as it aired for an impressive 72 years, making it the longest-running soap opera in broadcast history. Its ability to adapt to changing times and audience preferences contributed to its lasting success and influence.

Evolution of the Soap Opera Genre

Transition from Radio to Television

The move from radio to television marked a significant turning point for The Guiding Light. This transition allowed the show to reach new audiences and explore more dynamic storytelling techniques. Visual elements such as set design, costumes, and facial expressions added depth to character interactions, enhancing viewer engagement. The ability to broadcast daily episodes helped establish and maintain a loyal fan base, setting a standard for other soap operas to follow.

Innovations in Storytelling

The Guiding Light pioneered many aspects of serialized storytelling, including complex, interwoven plots and character-driven drama. The show was known for tackling social issues ahead of its time, such as interracial relationships, mental health, and domestic violence. These storylines brought relevance and realism to the genre, influencing the direction of other daytime dramas. The writers employed cliffhangers, long-term arcs, and multi-generational family sagas, which became hallmarks of soap opera storytelling.

Notable Characters and Cast Members

Iconic Families of Springfield

Central to The Guiding Light were several prominent families whose lives and relationships formed the backbone of the show. Among them, the Bauer, Spaulding, Lewis, and Cooper families stood out for their intricate dynamics and compelling storylines. The Bauers, for instance, were depicted as the show's moral center, while the Spauldings were often embroiled in power struggles and intrigue. These families provided a rich tapestry of drama that kept viewers invested for generations.

Memorable Cast Members

- Charita Bauer as Bert Bauer: A beloved matriarch whose character embodied strength and compassion.
- Kim Zimmer as Reva Shayne: Known for her dynamic performances and dramatic story arcs.
- Michael Zaslow as Roger Thorpe: Portrayed one of the most notorious villains in soap opera history.
- Robert Newman as Josh Lewis: A central figure in many of the show's most memorable romantic storylines.

- Beverlee McKinsey as Alexandra Spaulding: Brought complexity and intrigue to the affluent Spaulding family.

These actors and their characters became synonymous with The Guiding Light, contributing to the show's reputation for strong performances and enduring appeal.

Iconic Storylines and Themes

Romance and Family Drama

Romantic entanglements and family conflicts were at the heart of The Guiding Light's narrative. The epic love story between Josh Lewis and Reva Shayne remains one of the most celebrated in soap opera history, captivating audiences with its passion and twists. The show also explored the challenges of marriage, parenthood, and generational differences, creating relatable and emotional storylines that resonated with viewers.

Social Issues and Cultural Reflection

The Guiding Light was notable for its willingness to address difficult social issues. Over the years, the show featured storylines about alcoholism, mental illness, AIDS, and racial discrimination. By integrating these themes into its plots, The Guiding Light fostered conversations about important topics and mirrored changes in American society. The show's commitment to realism and social relevance set it apart from other daytime dramas.

Production and Broadcast Milestones

Record-Breaking Longevity

A defining feature of The Guiding Light was its extraordinary run, with over 15,700 episodes aired between 1937 and 2009. This achievement earned the show a place in the Guinness World Records as the longest-running television drama. The show's format evolved over the decades, adapting to changing technologies and viewer expectations, including the shift from black-and-white to color broadcasts and the introduction of digital production techniques.

Awards and Recognition

Throughout its history, The Guiding Light received numerous accolades, including Daytime Emmy Awards for Outstanding Drama Series, acting, writing, and directing. The show's cast and crew were regularly celebrated for their creative contributions and dedication. The Guiding Light's impact on the industry was recognized by critics and peers alike, solidifying its status as a benchmark for excellence in daytime television.

Legacy and Cultural Impact

Influence on Television and Popular Culture

The Guiding Light's legacy extends far beyond its final episode. The show influenced generations of writers, producers, and performers, inspiring the creation of new soap operas and serialized dramas. Its storytelling techniques, character development, and commitment to social relevance have become standards within the industry. The Guiding Light also played a significant role in shaping the careers of many actors who went on to achieve fame in film and television.

Enduring Fan Community

Even after its conclusion, The Guiding Light continues to be celebrated by fans and media scholars. Online forums, fan conventions, and social media groups keep the spirit of Springfield alive, sharing memories, favorite storylines, and discussions about the show's impact. The Guiding Light's ability to foster a dedicated community speaks to its lasting resonance and importance within the soap opera genre.

Trending and Relevant Questions and Answers about soap opera the guiding light

Q: When did soap opera The Guiding Light first premiere?

A: The Guiding Light premiered as a radio drama in 1937 and transitioned to television in 1952.

Q: Who created The Guiding Light?

A: Irna Phillips, a pioneering writer and producer in the soap opera industry, created The Guiding Light.

Q: Which families were central to The Guiding Light's storylines?

A: The Bauer, Spaulding, Lewis, and Cooper families were central to many of the show's key storylines.

Q: What made The Guiding Light unique among soap operas?

A: Its record-breaking longevity, willingness to address social issues, and complex character development made The Guiding Light unique.

Q: Who were some of the most memorable characters on The Guiding Light?

A: Memorable characters include Bert Bauer, Reva Shayne, Roger Thorpe, Josh Lewis, and Alexandra Spaulding.

Q: What awards did The Guiding Light win during its run?

A: The Guiding Light received multiple Daytime Emmy Awards for drama series, acting, writing, and directing.

Q: How did The Guiding Light influence other soap operas?

A: The show's innovative storytelling and focus on social relevance set standards that influenced the development of other daytime dramas.

Q: When did The Guiding Light air its final episode?

A: The Guiding Light aired its final episode on September 18, 2009.

Q: What social issues did The Guiding Light address in

its storylines?

A: The show addressed issues such as alcoholism, AIDS, mental health, interracial relationships, and domestic violence.

Q: Why does The Guiding Light remain significant in television history?

A: Its impact on the soap opera genre, groundbreaking longevity, and lasting fan community make The Guiding Light a significant part of television history.

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Soap Opera: The Guiding Light - A Nostalgic Look Back at Television's Enduring Legacy

For generations, the phrase "soap opera" conjured images of dramatic twists, tear-jerking romances, and families grappling with seemingly endless conflicts. Among the titans of the genre, The Guiding Light held a unique position, boasting the longest run of any daytime drama in television history. This post delves into the rich history of The Guiding Light, exploring its impact on television, its enduring characters, and the reasons it remains a cherished piece of cultural memory for many. We'll uncover what made it so captivating, why it resonated with audiences for over 70 years, and what its legacy means for daytime drama today.

H2: A Legacy Forged in Radio and Refined on Television

The Guiding Light's journey began not on the small screen, but on the radio waves in 1937. Initially a 15-minute serial, it quickly captivated listeners with its relatable stories centered around the lives of ordinary people in the fictional town of Springfield. The transition to television in 1952 marked a pivotal moment, introducing a visual dimension that further enhanced the storytelling and emotional connection with viewers. This early adoption of television allowed The Guiding Light to establish a loyal fanbase and cement its place as a daytime staple. The show's longevity was unprecedented, a testament to its adaptability and the enduring appeal of its core themes.

H2: The Enduring Characters of Springfield

One key factor in The Guiding Light's success was its compelling array of characters. Families like

the Bauers and the Lewises became synonymous with the show, their intertwined lives forming the backbone of countless storylines. Viewers witnessed their triumphs and tragedies, their loves and losses, over decades. The depth and complexity of these characters, even the villains, contributed significantly to the show's emotional resonance. The actors who portrayed these characters became household names, their performances deeply ingrained in the collective consciousness of generations. Characters like Reva Shayne, Josh Lewis, and Edmund Bauer transcended the medium, becoming symbolic figures representing the complexities of human relationships and life's journey.

H3: The Evolution of Storylines and Themes

Over its seven-decade run, The Guiding Light continuously evolved its storylines, adapting to changing social attitudes and reflecting the contemporary concerns of its audience. Early episodes dealt with more traditional family dramas, but as society changed, so did the show. It tackled relevant issues such as infidelity, adoption, mental health, and LGBTQ+ relationships, often serving as a platform for social commentary. This willingness to address complex and often controversial themes maintained its relevance and kept it connected to a constantly shifting audience.

H2: The Show's Impact on Television and Culture

The Guiding Light's influence on the television landscape is undeniable. It paved the way for countless other daytime dramas, setting a standard for storytelling, character development, and production values. Its extended run also showcased the power of serialized storytelling, a format that continues to dominate television today. Beyond television, the show left an indelible mark on popular culture, spawning catchphrases, inspiring fan fiction, and becoming a topic of discussion across generations. Its legacy extends beyond its final broadcast; it's a significant part of the television history of the United States.

H3: The End of an Era and its Lasting Legacy

After a remarkable 72-year run, The Guiding Light aired its final episode in 2009, marking the end of an era for daytime television. While its cancellation was met with sadness by loyal fans, the show's legacy remains strong. Its impact on the genre, its memorable characters, and its contributions to television history ensure that The Guiding Light will continue to be remembered and discussed for years to come. The show serves as a testament to the power of enduring storytelling and the enduring connection between television and its audience.

Conclusion:

The Guiding Light wasn't just a soap opera; it was a cultural phenomenon. Its enduring success stemmed from its ability to connect with audiences on a deeply emotional level through compelling characters, relevant storylines, and a consistent commitment to quality storytelling. Its legacy continues to inspire and influence television today, serving as a reminder of the power of long-form narratives and the lasting impact of well-crafted characters.

FAQs:

1. Where can I watch episodes of The Guiding Light? Unfortunately, due to rights issues, finding full episodes online can be challenging. Some clips may be available on YouTube and other streaming services, but complete seasons are not readily accessible.

2. What made *The Guiding Light* different from other soap operas? Its remarkable longevity is one key difference. It also consistently evolved its storylines to remain relevant, tackling social issues ahead of other shows.
3. Did *The Guiding Light* influence other television shows? Absolutely! Its serialized format and focus on character-driven narratives have significantly influenced countless daytime and primetime dramas.
4. Who are some of the most iconic characters from *The Guiding Light*? Reva Shayne, Josh Lewis, and Edmund Bauer are frequently cited as some of the most memorable and influential characters.
5. Why was *The Guiding Light* cancelled? While there's no single reason, declining ratings and shifting viewing habits are generally cited as primary contributors to the show's cancellation.

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longest-running program in television history, Guiding Light has set a standard few shows can ever hope to reach. Beginning on radio in 1937, then transferring to television in 1952, it has captured the hearts and minds of generations of viewers, tackling important issues with relevance and poignance, reflecting life as it is lived and never shrinking from controversy. Guiding Light: The Complete Family Album commemorates this phenomenal history. Book jacket.

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terrorist attack threaten to reduce her and the island she loves to ashes. As Cleopatra's deadly skills are put to the test, she must first untangle the devastating secrets of her past. Don't miss this debut novel, a gripping page-turner from acclaimed American actress, playwright, author Tina Sloan.

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dramatic entertainment and reality show, as the soaps continue to engross and entertain millions of viewers around the world every single day. In *Afternoon Delight: Why Soaps Still Matter*, author and veteran soap expert Carolyn Hinsey brings a unique passion and perspective to the genre, having covered daytime television for more than twenty years. In this enthralling new work, she shares all the dirt, dish, and drama that make soaps great from what happens on-set to what makes it on-air, from backstage drama to back room dealings, and all the sensational soapy scandal from the daytime bedroom to the network boardroom. Filled with fascinating anecdotes, celebrity contributions, insider analyses, and a true fan's perspective; *Afternoon Delight: Why Soaps Still Matter* vividly makes the case that daily dramas still serve up a delicious dish of programming with a purpose. Where are we now? The #1 soap *The Young and the Restless*, currently has over 4 million viewers every day (take that, Jon Stewart!). As *The World Turns* went off the air in Sept. 2010 with a higher rating than *Mad Men*. Clearly, there is enormous interest in the still-surviving daytime soaps and a desire for them to thrive for another 50 years. Soap operas have blazed a trail across television that continues to be relevant in our homes and in our lives to this day; to millions of loyal viewers there is no doubt that you can still find plenty of love in the afternoon!

soap opera the guiding light: *My Life to Live* Agnes Nixon, 2017-03-21 From the Emmy-winning creator and writer of *All My Children* and *One Life to Live*, a memoir of her trailblazing rise to the top of the television industry, including behind-the-scenes stories from some of the most beloved soaps of all time. Before there was Erica Kane, Adam Chandler, or Victoria Lord, there was Agnes Nixon, a young girl who dreamed up stories for paper dolls. Those tales she imagined--ones filled with ambitions, rivalries, and romances--would soon parallel her own path to success. In a memoir filled with as much drama as the soaps she penned, Nixon shares her journey from Nashville to New York City, as she overcomes the loss of her fiancé in World War II, a father intent on crushing her writing dreams, and the jealousy of her male colleagues on her way to becoming one of the most successful names in television. While fans will delight in Nixon's own incredible life, they will also love her behind-the-scenes insight into her most popular shows. Inside, she shares the inspiration for Erica Kane and how she cast Susan Lucci in the role; an excerpt from the never-before-seen *All My Children* story bible; entertaining anecdotes about her shows' beloved casts and special guests, including Carol Burnett, Kelly Ripa, Oprah Winfrey, and Warren Buffett; and more. But *My Life to Live* is also a portrait of a pioneer. Driven to use her ratings power for good, Nixon fought and broke network taboos by wrestling with controversial social issues ranging from women's health, interracial relationships, and the Vietnam War to drug addiction, LGBT rights, and AIDS. By infusing her characters with sensitivity, humor, and humanity, she enabled millions to examine an opposite point of view. And long before Shonda Rhimes launched a golden age of female showrunners, Agnes Nixon positioned ABC to become the media giant it is today. She is a true television legend, and her candid and inspiring glimpse behind the curtain of the television industry will charm soap fans and story lovers alike.

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soap opera the guiding light: *Wallowing in Sex* Elana Levine, 2007-01-09 DIVA cultural history of sexual content in television shows and TV advertising during the 1970s./div

soap opera the guiding light: *The Fan Who Knew Too Much* Anthony Heilbut, 2012-06-19 A dazzling exploration of American culture—from high pop to highbrow—by acclaimed music authority, cultural historian, and biographer Anthony Heilbut, author of the now classic *The Gospel Sound* ("Definitive" —Rolling Stone), *Exiled in Paradise*, and *Thomas Mann* ("Electric" —Harold Brodkey). In *The Fan Who Knew Too Much*, Heilbut writes about art and obsession, from country blues singers and male sopranos to European intellectuals and the originators of radio soap opera—figures transfixed and transformed who helped to change the American cultural landscape. Heilbut writes about Aretha Franklin, the longest-lasting female star of our time, who changed performing for women of all races. He writes about Aretha's evolution as a singer and performer (she came out of the tradition of Mahalia Jackson); before Aretha, there were only two blues-singing gospel women—Dinah Washington, who told it like it was, and Sister Rosetta Tharpe, who

specialized, like Aretha, in ambivalence, erotic gospel, and holy blues. We see the influence of Aretha's father, C. L. Franklin, famous pastor of Detroit's New Bethel Baptist Church. Franklin's albums preached a theology of liberation and racial pride that sold millions and helped prepare the way for Martin Luther King Jr. Reverend Franklin was considered royalty and, Heilbut writes, it was inevitable that his daughter would become the Queen of Soul. In "The Children and Their Secret Closet," Heilbut writes about gays in the Pentecostal church, the black church's rock and shield for more than a hundred years, its true heroes, and among its most faithful members and vivid celebrants. And he explores, as well, the influential role of gays in the white Pentecostal church. In "Somebody Else's Paradise," Heilbut writes about the German exiles who fled Hitler—Einstein, Hannah Arendt, Marlene Dietrich, and others—and their long reach into the world of American science, art, politics, and literature. He contemplates the continued relevance of the émigré Joseph Roth, a Galician Jew, who died an impoverished alcoholic and is now considered the peer of Kafka and Thomas Mann. And in "Brave Tomorrows for Bachelor's Children," Heilbut explores the evolution of the soap opera. He writes about the form itself and how it catered to social outcasts and have-nots; the writers insisting its values were traditional, conservative; their critics seeing soap operas as the secret saboteurs of traditional marriage—the women as castrating wives; their husbands as emasculated men. Heilbut writes that soaps went beyond melodrama, deep into the perverse and the surreal, domesticating Freud and making sibling rivalry, transference, and Oedipal and Electra complexes the stuff of daily life. And he writes of the "daytime serial's unwed mother," Irna Phillips, a Chicago wannabe actress (a Margaret Hamilton of the shtetl) who created radio's most seminal soap operas—*Today's Children*, *The Road of Life* among them—and for television, *As the World Turns*, *Guiding Light*, etc., and who became known as the "queen of the soaps." Hers, Heilbut writes, was the proud perspective of someone who didn't fit anywhere, the stray no one loved. *The Fan Who Knew Too Much* is a revelatory look at some of our American icons and iconic institutions, high, low, and exalted.

soap opera the guiding light: Legitimizing Television Michael Z Newman, Elana Levine, 2012-02-27 *Legitimizing Television: Media Convergence and Cultural Status* explores how and why television is gaining a new level of cultural respectability in the 21st century. Once looked down upon as a plug-in drug offering little redeeming social or artistic value, television is now said to be in a creative renaissance, with critics hailing the rise of Quality series such as *Mad Men* and *30 Rock*. Likewise, DVDs and DVRs, web video, HDTV, and mobile devices have shifted the longstanding conception of television as a household appliance toward a new understanding of TV as a sophisticated, high-tech gadget. Newman and Levine argue that television's growing prestige emerges alongside the convergence of media at technological, industrial, and experiential levels. Television is permitted to rise in respectability once it is connected to more highly valued media and audiences. Legitimation works by denigrating ordinary television associated with the past, distancing the television of the present from the feminized and mass audiences assumed to be inherent to the old TV. It is no coincidence that the most validated programming and technologies of the convergence era are associated with a more privileged viewership. The legitimization of television articulates the medium with the masculine over the feminine, the elite over the mass, reinforcing cultural hierarchies that have long perpetuated inequalities of gender and class. *Legitimizing Television* urges readers to move beyond the question of taste—whether TV is good or bad—and to focus instead on the cultural, political, and economic issues at stake in television's transformation in the digital age.

soap opera the guiding light: True Believer: The Rise and Fall of Stan Lee Abraham Riesman, 2021-02-16 The definitive, revelatory biography of Marvel Comics icon Stan Lee, a writer and entrepreneur who reshaped global pop culture—at a steep personal cost HUGO AWARD FINALIST • "A biography that reads like a thriller or a whodunit . . . scrupulously honest, deeply damning, and sometimes even heartbreaking."—Neil Gaiman Stan Lee was one of the most famous and beloved entertainers to emerge from the twentieth century. He served as head editor of Marvel Comics for three decades and, in that time, became known as the creator of more pieces of

internationally recognizable intellectual property than nearly anyone: Spider-Man, the Avengers, the X-Men, Black Panther, the Incredible Hulk . . . the list goes on. His carnival-barker marketing prowess helped save the comic-book industry and superhero fiction. His cameos in Marvel movies have charmed billions. When he died in 2018, grief poured in from around the world, further cementing his legacy. But what if Stan Lee wasn't who he said he was? To craft the definitive biography of Lee, Abraham Riesman conducted more than 150 interviews and investigated thousands of pages of private documents, turning up never-before-published revelations about Lee's life and work. *True Believer* tackles tough questions: Did Lee actually create the characters he gained fame for creating? Was he complicit in millions of dollars' worth of fraud in his post-Marvel life? Which members of the cavalcade of grifters who surrounded him were most responsible for the misery of his final days? And, above all, what drove this man to achieve so much yet always boast of more?

soap opera the guiding light: Phantom of the Soap Opera Judi Miller, 1988 One by one, a ruthless killer stalks the actresses of the soap opera, *All My Days*, delivering the same violent end to them all. And not even street-smart police detective Theresa Morrison suspects his real identity until he comes after her.

soap opera the guiding light: Lorelei's Guiding Light Lorelei Hills, 2002-06-29 When Lorelei Hills, the tough, vivacious character from TV's beloved *Guiding Light*, wakes up in Mexico, she asks, who am I? What she wants and needs to know desperately is her name, where she's from and how she came to be in a stranger's bed. *Lorelei's Guiding Light: An Intimate Diary* is the inside story of one woman's struggle to come to terms with her identity and to emerge as a force to be reckoned with. Here is the Lorelei that viewers of the show have never seen--the history and emotions, the hopes and dreams that have made her the star of an unforgettable human drama. Learn all the hidden details about her lost days and nights in Mexico, her high-roller life in New York, her childhood in Virginia. And experience in-depth her innermost thoughts, schemes and desires that have never emerged on the screen. From the moment she teams up with the character you love to hate, Edmund Winslow, to impersonate Lorelei's late lookalike Beth Raines in order to claim Beth's fortune, family and very possibly her ex-husband (the deeply attractive Phillip Spaulding) this book is unputdownable, the ultimate record of a secret life, written in Lorelei's own impossible-to-imitate style. As written by Beth Chamberlin, the actress who portrays both Lorelei Hills and Beth Raines, this page turner is filled with intrigue, gossip, deceit and, of course, plenty of romance--in short, everything you expect from *Guiding Light*... and more.

soap opera the guiding light: Soap Opera Super Couples Henrietta Roos, 2016-11-10 A television genre best known for romantic storytelling, daytime soap operas have for decades spun tales of couples embroiled in passion, lust and adventure. Yet it was not until the early 1980s that star-crossed lovers became standard and the term super couple was coined by the media, marking a new era of experimentation and growth in daytime soaps. This book documents the phenomenon, tracing its history, legacy and impact on the soap opera industry and on popular culture at large.

soap opera the guiding light: Knowledge Stew Daniel Ganninger, 2016-05-27 Are you ready to learn something new? The 2nd volume in the *Knowledge Stew Guide* series continues the quest to find the most interesting facts in the world. Take a journey through topics that range from science, history, and geography to food, entertainment, and business and learn the facts behind the facts. Discover things you might not have known about the moon, or why we're taller in the morning and shorter at night. Find out about a strange amusement park, a secret vault at Mt. Rushmore, or the world's most expensive coffee. These things, plus plenty more, are waiting for your brain to take them in. Just don't forget your spoon. For even more facts, check out Volume 1 of *Knowledge Stew: The Guide to the Most Interesting Facts in the World*.

soap opera the guiding light: Dating Dead Men Harley Jane Kozak, 2004-01-20 "Dating Dead Men, Harley Jane Kozak's hilarious debut novel, proves that the search for love can be as funny as it is deadly."—Kris Neri, author of the *Agatha, Anthony and Macavity Award*-nominated *Tracy Eaton* mysteries Los Angeles greeting-card artist Wollie Shelley is dating forty men in sixty days as

research for a radio talk show host's upcoming book, *How to Avoid Getting Dumped All the Time*. Wollie is meeting plenty of eligible bachelors but not falling in love, not until she stumbles over a dead body en route to Rio Pescado--a state-run mental hospital--and is momentarily taken hostage by a charismatic doctor who is on the run from the Mob. Wollie fears that her beloved brother, a paranoid schizophrenic living at Rio Pescado, is involved in the murder, so rather than go to the authorities, she decides to solve the crime on her own. As she meets up with an array of small-time crooks and swaggering mobsters only slightly more sinister than the men she's been dating, Wollie realizes that getting dumped is the least of her problems. Finding true love, she discovers, sometimes means learning how to avoid getting killed . . . *Dating Dead Men* will keep readers guessing until the final bullet is shot--and cheering for the irresistible Wollie as she makes her way out of confusion and into the welcoming embrace of Mr. Right.

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