

BAYOU BOOK THIEF

Book Club Guide



"Bound to captivate readers."

—AGATHA AWARD—WINNING AUTHOR

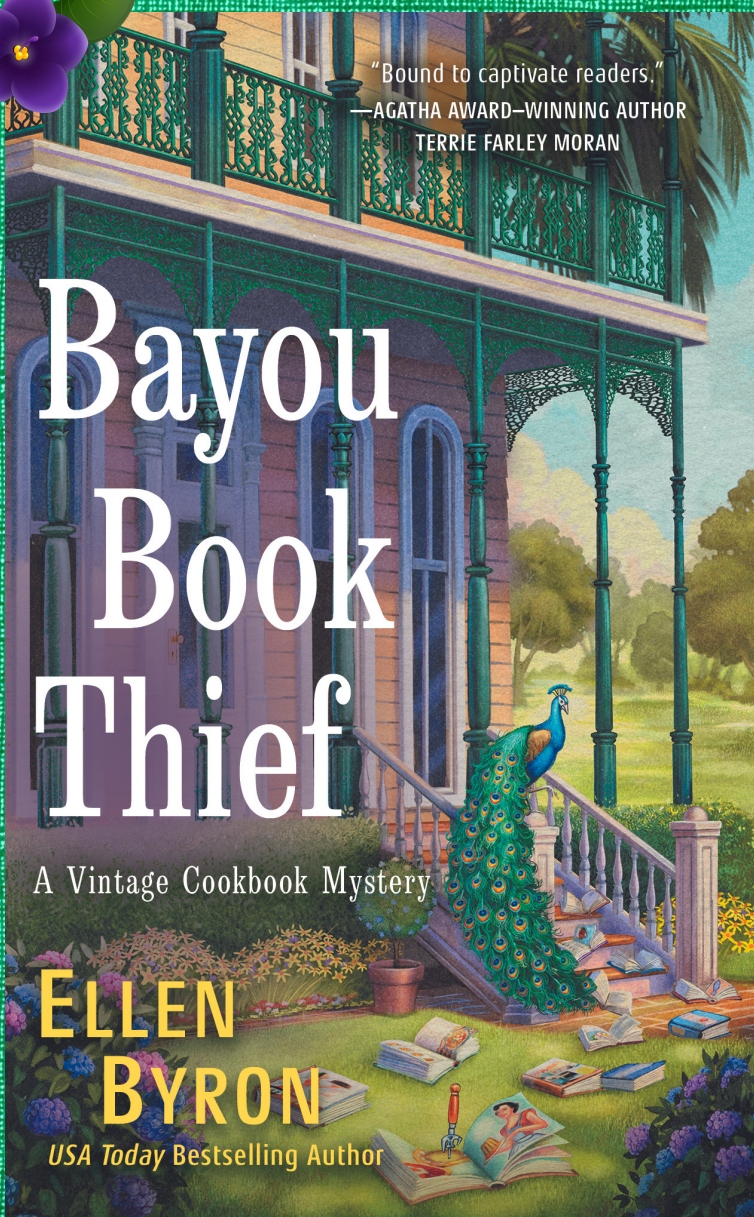
TERRIE FARLEY MORAN

Bayou Book Thief

A Vintage Cookbook Mystery

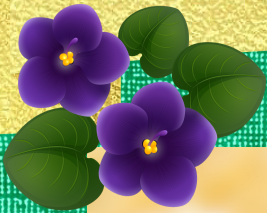
**ELLEN
BYRON**

USA Today Bestselling Author



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The Inspiration



**The Vintage Cookbook
Mystery series was
inspired by my own
hobby of collecting
vintage cookbooks. I
married this to my love
of New Orleans and
fascination with its
legendary female
restauranteurs like Ella
Brennan. And thus a
series was born!**

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Book Club Entertaining Ideas



Choose paper goods in Mardi Gras colors of purple, green, and gold.

For beverages, offer iced tea and a classic NOLA drink like a Sazerac or Pimm's Cup.

For snacks, go potluck but with a twist - invite guests to bring a dish featuring a recipe from their favorite vintage cookbook.



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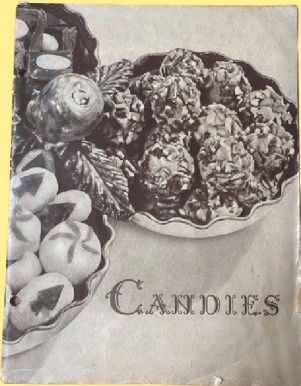
A recipe



This is a super easy recipe adapted from *Candies*, a 1939 cookbooklet from Pet Milk.

COCONUT PATTIES

Adapted from *Candies*, a 1939 cookbooklet published by Pet Milk to promote their products.



This recipe is easy
- there's no cooking involved -
and delicious!

ellenbyron.com

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup melted butter
- 1/4 evaporated milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla
(Author's note: you can substitute other flavors, like rum, for the vanilla)
- 3 cups powdered sugar
- 1 1/2 cups sweetened coconut
- 1 cup candied fruit or dried fruit
cut into small strips or squares (optional)

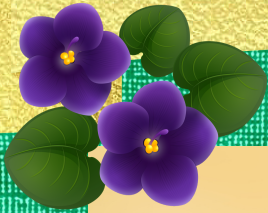
Directions:

- Add milk and vanilla to the melted butter and stir until creamy.
- Gradually add the powdered sugar by a half cup or cup at a time, stirring to incorporate after each addition.
- Add coconut a half cup at a time, stirring after each addition.
- Cover a baking sheet with wax paper. Place about a tablespoon at a time of the mixture on the wax paper, pressing down slightly to form a patty. Garnish with dry or candied fruit, if desired.
- Chill for an hour or until the patties are firm.

Servings: approx. 24

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Questions



QUESTIONS

- 1. What skills make Ricki a good amateur sleuth?**
- 2. Which character surprised you the most?**
- 3. The first victim is a book thief. Is there anything sympathetic about him?**
- 4. What are Ricki's personal strengths and flaws?**
- 5. What are some of the social and preservation issues raised in the book?**

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Questions, page 2



6. Ricki has very personal reasons to dislike social media. How do you feel about it?

7. What are some of the hurdles facing both Bon Vee and the city of New Orleans?

8. Which character do you relate to most?

9. What role do you think vintage cookbooks can play in today's world?

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Ellen's NOLA Top 5



Favorite Bar:

**Patrick's Bar Vin, French
Quarter**

Favorite museum:

**Historic New Orleans
Collection**

Favorite Quarter eatery:

Napoleon House

Favorite Uptown Activity:

**Wander the Garden District;
lunch at Commander's Palace**

Favorite treat:

**Pralines, of course! (and
beignets)**

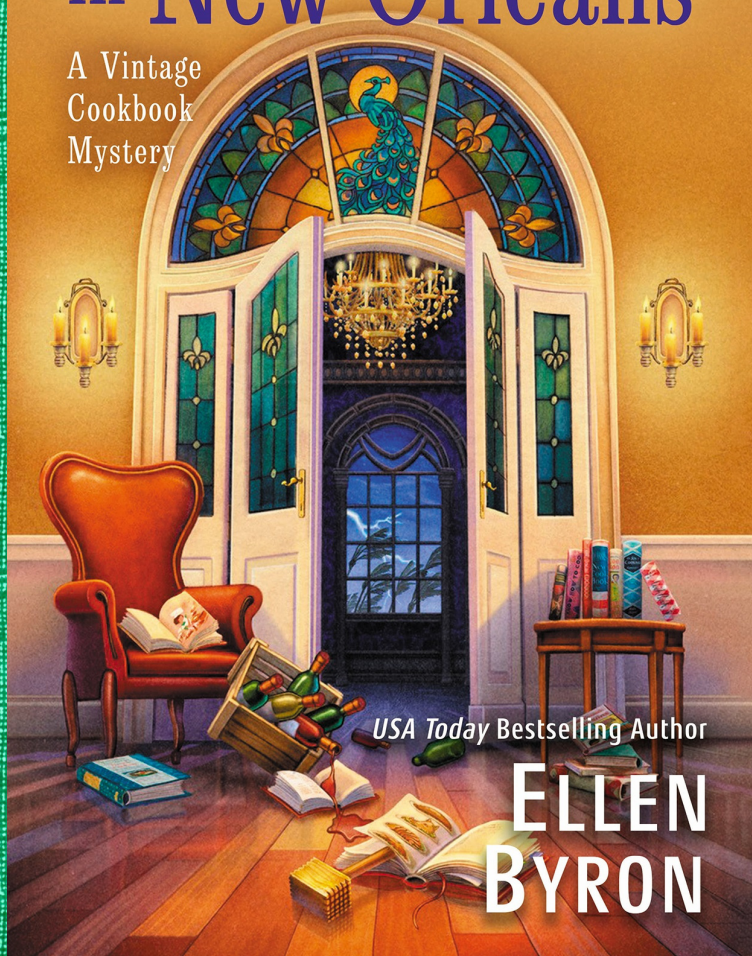
WINE AND DIED IN NEW ORLEANS

Vintage Cookbook Mystery #2



Wined and Died in New Orleans

A Vintage
Cookbook
Mystery



USA Today Bestselling Author

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