Cozy Mystery Plot Starter Kit

An original plotting companion: the seven beats of a cozy mystery, five sleuth archetypes, and a clue-chain worksheet — written by Pickzox, not copied from any prompt pack.

The seven beats

1. Village setup and sleuth introduction. 2. The crime, discovered gently. 3. Suspects with motives. 4. Clues and red herrings. 5. The setback. 6. The reveal. 7. The cozy resolution.

Five sleuth archetypes

The baker, the bookseller, the gardener, the retired teacher, and the innkeeper — each with a natural reason to notice things others miss.

Clue-chain worksheet

For every clue, write: who planted it, who finds it, what it seems to mean, and what it really means. If a clue has no second meaning, it is a red herring candidate.

A free Pickzox bonus for readers of our Cozy-Mystery Tradecraft Engine review. Honest reviews at pickzox.com.