

PILLOW STALK

A Madison Night Mystery | Diane Vallere



Interior Decorator Madison Night might look like a throwback to the sixties, but she proves that independent women can have it all. When a killer targets women dressed in her signature style—estate-sale vintage to play up her resemblance to Doris Day—what makes her unique might kill her. The police connect the new crime to a twenty-year-old cold case, and Madison’s long-trusted contractor is the leading suspect. As the body count piles up, Madison uncovers a Soviet spy, a campaign to destroy all Doris Day movies, and footage that will change her life forever.

Author Bio:

After two decades working for a top luxury retailer, Diane Vallere traded fashion accessories for accessories to murder. *The Pajama Frame*, #5 in her Madison Night Mad for Mod Mystery Series, comes out February 2018. She also writes the Samantha Kidd, Lefty Award-nominated Material Witness and Costume Shop, and Sylvia Stryker Outer Space mysteries. She started her own detective agency at age ten and has maintained a passion for shoes, clues, and clothes ever since.

The Madison Night Mystery Series:

PILLOW STALK (#1)

THAT TOUCH OF INK (#2)

WITH VICS YOU GET EGGROLL (#3)

THE DECORATOR WHO KNEW TOO MUCH (#4)

THE PAJAMA FRAME (#5)

Author Appearance Opportunities:

- Skype or FaceTime
- Conference Call
- In-Person

Diane will happily attend in person if it fits these travel parameters:

Nationwide for groups of 20+ (schedule permitting).

CONTACT: diane@dianevallere.com

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Is Madison Night asserting her independence by choosing to remain single, or is she possibly undermining herself by denying the feelings she has for the men in her life?
2. Does Madison have good cause to distrust Lt. Tex Allen? Is Tex Allen trustworthy?
3. From what we know of Hudson James: his quiet nature, his passion for his work, a reliable figure in Madison's life, vs. his very guarded, private, almost mysterious persona, do you ever doubt his innocence or consider his possible guilt?
4. Does Madison's love and loyalty for all things Doris Day serve her or shield her? Has she submerged herself in an idealistic movie-life so she doesn't have to deal with her own? Can she move forward or is she more comfortable in someone else's past?
5. Consider the relationship between Madison and Hudson: are they taking things slowly to develop a solid foundation for a relationship in the future, or are they both using the other as a crutch as they try to heal their own pasts?
6. The night Madison "slept" with Hudson in the unrented apartment, did she reveal her true feelings for Hudson by staying by his side, or did she recklessly put her life in danger by staying with a wanted man?
7. Tex appears to be a classic womanizer. Do you think he sees Madison as a challenge or an equal?
8. Consider the various similarities and differences between the following characters and what they might represent: Madison Night vs. Doris Day; Hudson James vs. Tex Allen; Mad for Mod vs. The Mummy; Rocky vs. Mortiboy
9. Is Madison's method of studying the obituaries for potential estate sales creepy or smart?
10. Madison has a handicap in the form of her knee injury but insists on regular exercise and on walking more than most people. Is she stubborn, determined, or in denial? Does this trait help or hurt her as she tries to figure out what is going on around her?

SPOILER QUESTIONS:

1. Is it plausible that the laid back, movie and Mary Jane-loving Richard would betray his friends and coworkers because of the threat from Andreev Popov? Did he have any other choice?
2. Much of what made Madison the independent woman she is is undermined by the truth she learns at the end of the book. How might this affect her?
3. Who would you like to see Madison with? Tex, Hudson, or Brad? Why?



PAIRING MENU

Roly Polys (meatballs renamed for the song in the *Pillow Talk* movie)

Ravioli Pillows

Pinot Noir (it's Doris Day's favorite wine!)

GOODIES & SWAG

The author is happy to send along swag: bookmarks.

Party suggestion: Discuss *Pillow Stalk* and then watch *Pillow Talk*!

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TOP CRITICAL REVIEWS

“A multifaceted story...plenty of surprises...And what an ending!” – *New York Journal of Books*

“Make room for Vallere’s tremendously fun homage. Imbuing her story with plenty of mid-century modern decorating and fashion tips, not to mention a steady patter of Doris Day trivia, Vallere debuts a well-paced cozy series. Her disarmingly honest lead and two hunky sidekicks will appeal to all fashionistas and antiques types and have romance crossover appeal.” – *Library Journal*

“If you are looking for an unconventional mystery with a snarky, no-nonsense main character, this is it. Madison is a strong leading lady who lands in lots of quirky situations. Instead of clashing, humor and danger meld perfectly, and there’s a cliffhanger that will make your jaw drop. You’ll look forward to the second Madison Night mystery.” – *RT Book Reviews*

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