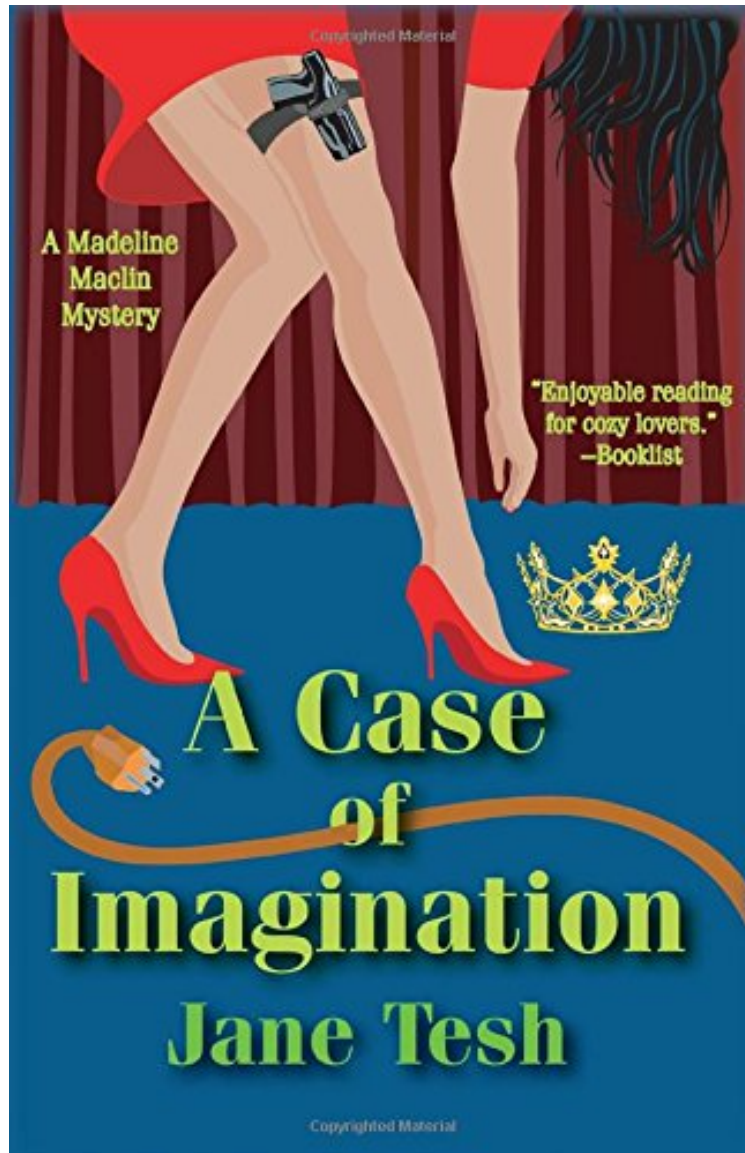


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## A Case of Imagination: A Madeline Maclin Mystery (Madeline Maclin Series)

Jane Tesh

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**Jane Tesh : A Case of Imagination: A Madeline Maclin Mystery (Madeline Maclin Series)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Case of Imagination: A Madeline Maclin Mystery (Madeline Maclin Series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Ghost s Can Be FunBy Kindle CustomerI really liked this book

because the author has put together a very good story. I would recommend this book to anyone that likes a story that has a good plot and a good cast of characters. The author has written a very good story that will appeal to any one that likes to read a good mystery. I am looking forward to reading more stories by this author. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wanders through useless subplots By Turquoise Lover This story reminded me of one of my elementary school student's best writing workshop pieces. Madeleine, though acting as the strong (smart?) female lead character continues to care-take (love) a weak, out-of-touch "best friend" guy, who has gone through a series of girl friends - and is now dealing with another conniving woman. Oh, and the guy is very rich (but won't use the money) and thinks he is psychic (\*note unrelated episodes of psychic cleansing while a murder is forever being investigated...). On to the plot(s): our main character arrives in a small town to live with her not-rich, not-boyfriend in his dead uncle's "haunted"(?) house. The murder finally occurs. Next enter numerous unrelated subplots with no connection to the murder, and no clues that might keep the reader anxious to solve the crime. The murder - and feebly failed love story-line - are both wrapped up in short order in the last chapter(s), with a few explanatory paragraphs. How easy was that?!! Just like my 5th graders! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent! By M. Davis What a sweet story! Great characters, great storyline. I wished it had been longer because I got so caught up in the title character who is very interesting and enjoyable.

""On this nice July morning in Parkland, North Carolina, the office of Madeline Maclin Investigations might as well have been an Egyptian tomb: hot, dusty, and dead."" It doesn't help that her landlord Reid Kent, does a brisk business...and briskly hits on Mac to rejoin his agency. He maintains no one will hire a former Miss Parkland as a serious PI. Mac has been friends forever with Jerry Fairweather. Jerry claims to be psychic and is, unlike his two brothers, somewhat screwy. And he refuses to claim a share in the Fairweather fortune. But he shares some good news with Mac--his Uncle Val has died and left him a house. The two friends drive out to Celosia, a half hour away, where they discover a local beauty pageant in trouble and a house just perfect for setting up shop. A Psychic Shop. The arrival of lawyer Olivia, Jerry's shark-like girlfriend, rouses both Mac's interest in the mystery at the pageant and the one in her own heart. And then comes the first murder.... A Case of Imagination is Jane Tesh's playful first mystery, the start of a series by an author who admires Terry Pratchett, Martha Grimes, Carl Hiaasen, and P.G. Wodehouse.

From Publishers Weekly Beauty pageant tomfoolery and psychic shenanigans add comic zest to Tesh's cozy debut. Madeline "Mac" Maclin, the former Miss Parkland of Parkland, N.C., is a struggling PI and a young divorcée in hot pursuit of clients and even hotter pursuit of romance with Jerry Fairweather. When Jerry asks Mac to check out his new inheritance, a spooky old house in the nearby town of Celosia, she jumps at the chance. Soon Mac finds herself investigating the murder of a contestant at the local beauty pageant as well as the haunting of a famous romance author's neurotic husband, though her slapdash sleuthing is more reminiscent of Nancy Drew than, say, Kay Scarpetta. While Jerry renovates his new digs, he contemplates launching a haunted B and B with Olivia Decker, Mac's main rival for Jerry's affections. At times Tesh writes as if she doesn't know where she wants to go—zany, romantic, serious?—but hopefully she'll develop a more consistent tone as she hones her craft in later entries in the series. (Feb.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Onetime beauty queen Madeline Maclin is trying to get her fledgling detective agency in Parkland, North Carolina, off to a good start, but it is hard when everyone thinks of her as the former Miss Parkland. When her eccentric friend Jerry Fairweather tells her that an uncle has died and left him a house in nearby Celosa, she decides to help him fix it up. When they arrive, they learn that the house may be haunted and are further intrigued to hear that the local beauty pageant is under siege. After Jerry's greedy, on-again, off-again girlfriend, Olivia, shows up to see if she can profit from his real estate, Madeline decides to put her pageant knowledge to work looking for the saboteur who is destroying sets. Then murder enters the picture, and she really gets busy. The small-town southern milieu, busy plot, and good humor--a slightly frothier version of Margaret Maron's Deborah Knott series--make Tesh's debut enjoyable reading for cozy lovers. Barbara Bibel Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved Beauty pageant tomfoolery and psychic shenanigans add comic zest to Tesh's cozy debut. Madeline ""Mac"" Maclin, the former Miss Parkland of Parkland, N.C., is a struggling PI and a young divorcee in hot pursuit of clients and even hotter pursuit of romance with Jerry Fairweather. When Jerry asks Mac to check out his new inheritance, a spooky old house in the nearby town of Celosia, she jumps at the chance. Soon Mac finds herself investigating the murder of a contestant at the local beauty pageant as well as the haunting of a famous romance author's neurotic husband, though her slapdash sleuthing is more reminiscent of Nancy Drew than, say, Kay Scarpetta. While Jerry renovates his new digs, he contemplates launching a haunted B and B with Olivia Decker, Mac's main rival for Jerry's affections. At times Tesh writes as if she doesn't know where she wants to go - zany, romantic, serious? - but hopefully she'll develop a more consistent tone as she hones her craft in later entries in the series. (Feb.) --Publisher's Weekly