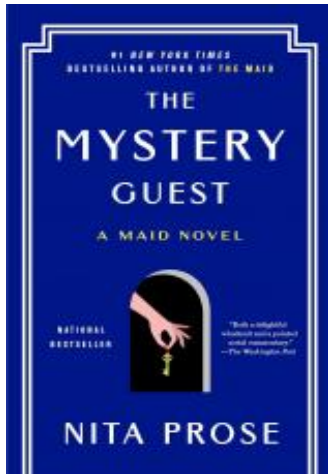


# The Mystery Guest: A Maid Novel

by Nita Prose

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## About the Book

**A new mess. A new mystery. It's up to Molly the maid to uncover the truth, no matter how dirty, in this stand-alone novel from the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *THE MAID*, a "Good Morning America" Book Club pick.**

Molly Gray is not like anyone else. With her flair for cleaning and proper etiquette, she has risen through the ranks of the glorious five-star Regency Grand Hotel to become the esteemed Head Maid. But just as her life reaches a pinnacle state of perfection, her world is turned upside down when J. D. Grimthorpe, the world-renowned mystery author, drops dead --- *very dead* --- on the hotel's tearoom floor.

When Detective Stark, Molly's old foe, investigates the author's unexpected demise, it becomes clear that this death was murder most foul. Suspects abound, and everyone wants to know: *Who killed J. D. Grimthorpe?* Was it Lily, the new Maid-in-Training? Or was it Serena, the author's secretary? Could Mr. Preston, the hotel's beloved doorman, be hiding something? And is Molly really as innocent as she seems?

As the high-profile death threatens the hotel's pristine reputation, Molly knows she alone holds the key to unlocking the killer's identity. But that key is buried deep in her past, as long ago, she knew J. D. Grimthorpe. Molly begins to comb her memory for clues, revisiting her childhood and the mysterious Grimthorpe mansion where she and her dearly departed Gran once worked side by side. With the entire hotel under investigation, Molly must solve the mystery posthaste. Because if there's one thing she knows for sure, it's that secrets don't stay buried forever.

## Discussion Guide

1. Who did you first suspect might be responsible for J. D. Grimthorpe's death? What did you think about the red herrings in the story?
2. Who was your favorite supporting character, and why?
3. Gran has some of the best one-liners! What were some of your favorite quotes from Gran?
4. Molly says, "I've always been attuned to what others ignore." Why do you think Molly is able to see what others cannot? Do you think of yourself as someone who is often attuned to what others ignore?
5. Molly says, "Sometimes, fate has an uncanny way of delivering exactly what's deserved." In both good and bad ways, do you think fate delivered the proper ends for each character?
6. Did the ending surprise you?
7. How has Molly Gray grown as a character? What changes did you notice since first meeting Molly in *THE MAID*? What do you think is next for our favorite maid?

## Author Bio

Nita Prose is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *THE MAID*, which has sold more than two million copies worldwide; *THE MYSTERY GUEST*; *THE MISTLETOE MYSTERY*; and *THE MAID'S SECRET*. A "Good Morning America" Book Club pick, *THE MAID* won the Ned Kelly Award for International Crime Fiction, the Fingerprint Award for Debut Novel of the Year, the Anthony Award for Best First Novel, and the Barry Award for Best First Mystery. *THE MAID* was also an Edgar Award finalist for Best Novel.

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