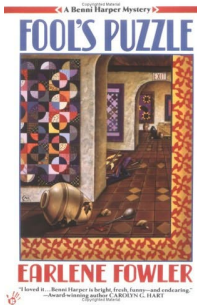


# The Benni Harper series by Earlene Fowler

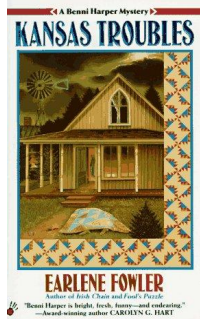
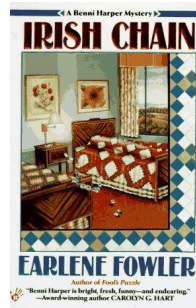


## Fool's Puzzle [1994]

Thirty-four-year-old widow Benni Harper takes a job as curator of the San Celina folk art museum, only to find herself embroiled in the murder of an artist and small-town intrigues that shed new light on her own late husband's death.

## Irish Chain [1995]

Investigating the death of the San Celina Senior Citizen Prom king, museum curator Benni Harper goes against the wishes of her police chief boyfriend and uncovers the victim's fifty-year-old affiliation with a World War II Japanese blackmailing ring.

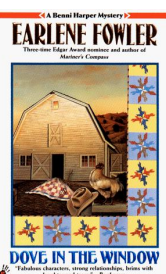
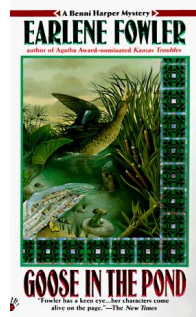


## Kansas Troubles [1996]

After a whirlwind marriage to police chief Gabe Ortiz, quilter and amateur sleuth Benni Harper joins her husband on a trip to his Kansas hometown, only to become caught up in a murder investigation.

## Goose in the Pond [1997]

Benni Harper, the sleuth whose crime-solving talents are as colorful and complex as the patchwork she loves, faces her most perplexing case yet as she tries to find out who killed the library storyteller, who was found facedown in the lake.



## Dove in the Window [1998]

When photographer Shelby Johnson is murdered during the San Celina, California, Heritage Days celebration, her friend Benni Harper, dedicated

quilter, rancher-turned-museum curator, and new wife of Police Chief Gabe Ortiz, searches for the killer.



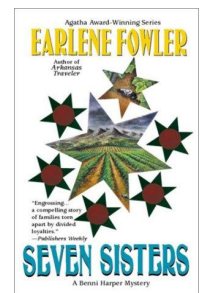
## Mariner's Compass [1999]

Jacob Chandler knew everything about Benni Harper, and in his house were pieces of her life: a hand-carved statue of her childhood horse and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings that covered her work, her marriages, and the death of her first husband.

And when Jacob Chandler died, he left his home in Morro Bay and all its contents to Benni - the only stipulation being that Benni had to stay in the house, alone, for two weeks before the inheritance became hers. But Benni Harper has never even heard of Jacob Chandler. Now she has two weeks to follow his scavenger-hunt set of clues to discover whether he is her guardian angel or personal demon. The waters are rough and the direction unclear as she finds herself setting a course to a time and a place in her own past - a place Benni Harper and Jacob Chandler both knew as home...

## Seven Sisters [2000]

While trying to unravel a feuding family's past, folk art expert Benni Harper uncovers a shocking pattern of tragedy-and a patchwork of clues that form a very disturbing design.



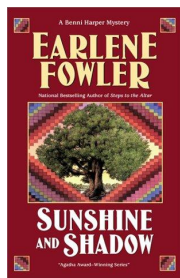
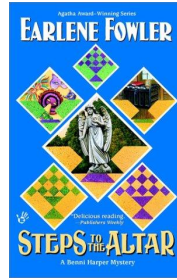
## Arkansas Traveler [2001]

Folk-art expert Benni Harper is thrilled to be back in Sugartree, Arkansas, with her friend Elvira, who's this close to getting engaged to Benni's cousin. But Benni's got a bad feeling that she just can't shake, and soon she knows why. Racism has come to Sugartree and it's rearing its ugly head as the merger of two churches with racially mixed congregations comes under fire, and the first black woman to run for mayor faces opposition from a gang

of white supremacists. And when one of the supremacists gets himself killed, Benni gets snagged by a murder mystery, unraveling clues that form a very shocking pattern.

### Steps to the Altar [2002]

Ninth in the Agatha Award-winning series that's been hailed as *engrossing*, *Steps to the Altar* finds California folk art expert Benni Harper preparing for two upcoming weddings, digging up clues to a decades-old unsolved murder-and struggling with a very personal crisis of the heart...



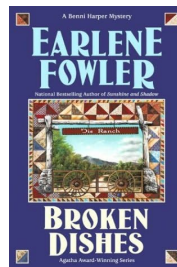
### Sunshine and Shadow [2003]

Spirited ex-cowgirl, quilter, and folk-art expert Benni Harper is back, investigating the connection between her favorite author, the murder of a family friend, and a crazy quilt. And when she starts receiving strange phone calls and anonymous letters telling her she'll be the next victim, her interest in the case becomes even more urgent.

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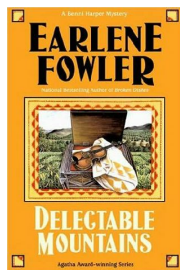
### Broken Dishes [2004]

On the property of a friend's dude ranch, Benni uncovers the remains of a long-dead murdered man buried in a shallow grave. Now, she must keep the guests safe and happy while unearthing the truth behind a terrible crime...



### Delectable Mountains [2005]

When the musical director of Benni Harper's church is called away, Benni finds herself "volunteered" to take over a children's play already in rehearsal. But the production comes to a screeching halt when Benni discovers the badly beaten body of the church handyman right in front of the altar.

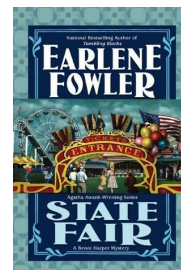
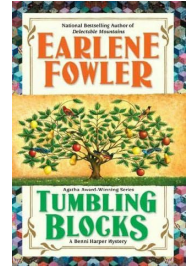


With a growing cast of suspects, and a small girl as

the only witness to the crime, Benni must unravel a plot of theft and murder before it's curtains for her.

### Tumbling Blocks [2007]

With Christmas just a few weeks away, Benni's queenly boss, Constance Sinclair, demands that she investigate the death of a local socialite. It's not long before Benni recognizes that there may be some deadly truth to Constance's suspicions. But with a famously reclusive artist about to put Benni's quilting museum on the map-and her daunting mother-in-law and her "surprise" new husband visiting-Benni's holiday is already hectic. Nevertheless, she'll need to crack the exclusive circle of suspects before one more gourmet goose gets cooked.

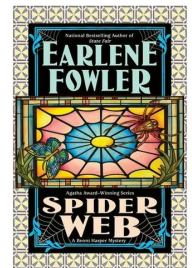


### State Fair [2010]

Folk art museum curator, rancher, and sometime sleuth Benni Harper returns with a long-awaited new mystery that has her attending the San Celina Mid-State Fair-a place for caramel apples and 4-H calves, colorful quilts and homemade jams, and maybe just a little murder...

### Spider Web [2011]

The Memory Festival is a celebration of recollections and loved ones through crafts. But when a local cop is wounded by a mysterious sharpshooter who seems to have a vendetta against the police, Benni fears for *her* loved ones, especially her police chief husband. Benni is determined to make her hometown safe-before their peaceful street fair becomes a day to remember in the worst way.



**Booklist created for the  
Just Desserts mystery fiction discussion group  
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sdc – 1/2012**