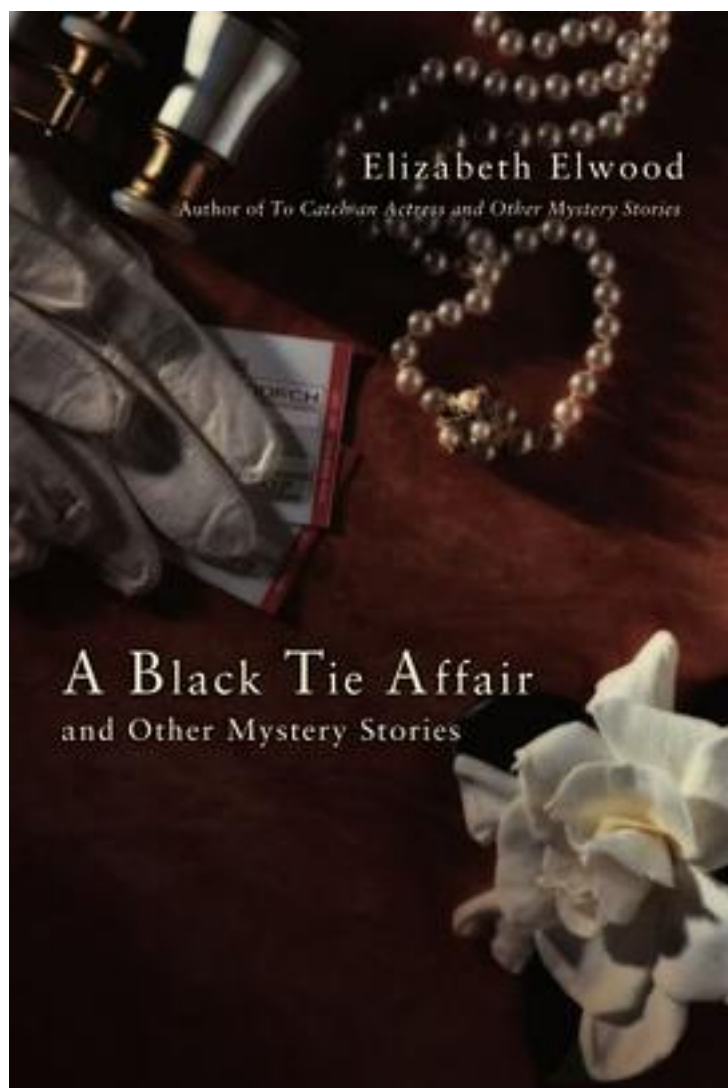


A Black Tie Affair and Other Mystery Stories



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""Classic murder mystery plots reminiscent of Agatha Christie and Ellery Queen.""-Kirkus Discoveries ""The writing is assured and lively, and the logic is credible.""-Barbara Kay, National Post columnist Opera singer and part-time sleuth, Philippa Beary, returns in the second of a series of lighthearted mystery books featuring the Beary family. In "A Black Tie Affair and Other Mystery Stories," Philippa-together with her feisty city councillor father and her detective inspector brother-foils would-be criminals in a variety of settings. In the title story, set against the backdrop of the world of professional singing, Bertram Beary thwarts the poisoning of a beautiful prima donna during a New Year's Eve gala performance of "Die Fledermaus," In "The Mephisto Waltz Jump," rivalry between two young champions at the skating rink results in a catastrophic accident-or was it an accident? And an abandoned dog becomes the key to the unravelling of a deadly plot in "A Grim Ferry Tale." With subjects that range from political controversies to disasters at the Christmas pantomime, these nine intriguing stories will challenge mystery lovers everywhere.

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