

A KENNI LOWRY MYSTERY

THICK AS THIEVES



Tonya Kappes

Book Club Kit

HEY Y'ALL!

I had such a blast writing *Thick as Thieves*, and I hope you had just as much fun reading it! Kenni Lowry has always had a way of juggling crime, quirky town politics, and her ghostly Poppa—but throwing a wedding into the mix? Now that's a recipe for chaos!

This book blends mystery, humor, and heart—the same ingredients I love in a good story. I hope you enjoy this book club guide filled with discussion questions, a playlist, and a few special Southern treats to make your gathering extra fun. Thank you for reading, and remember—bless your heart doesn't always mean what you think it does!

Happy reading,
Tonya

Discussion Questions

1. **Thick as Thieves** mixes mystery with humor and romance. What was your favorite aspect of the story?
2. How did Kenni handle the balance between solving a murder and planning her wedding? Would you have reacted differently in her situation?
3. Mama Viv had plenty of opinions on Kenni's wedding. What's the funniest (or most over-the-top) wedding tradition you've seen in real life?
4. Kenni's ghostly Poppa always gives her cryptic clues. How do you think his presence affects her as a sheriff?
5. The murder mystery involve a long-standing family feud. What role does food play in small-town traditions and storytelling?
6. What were some of your favorite scenes or most memorable lines in the book?
7. If **Thick as Thieves** were a TV show, who would you cast as Kenni, Finn, and Mama Viv?
8. The book ends on a hopeful (and hilarious) note. What do you think is next for Kenni and Finn?

Playlist

Enjoy a southern-inspired playlist while discussing *Thick as Thieves*!

Holy Roller
Zach Bryan

Slow Burn
Kacey Musgraves

Slim Pickins
Sabrina Carpenter

Love is a Cowboy
Kelsea Bellerini

Need You Now
Lady A

Man! I Feel Like a Woman!
Shania Twain

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun
Cyndi Lauper (For Mama Viv!)

Suspicious Minds
Elvis Presley (For the mystery!)

Going to the Chapel
The Dixie Cups

Listen on Spotify

Mama Viv's

"Bless Your Heart" Chess Bars

A wedding wouldn't be complete without something sweet, and Mama Viv insists these bars are the perfect addition to any reception.

Ingredients:

- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1 stick butter (melted)
- 1 egg
- 1 package (8 oz) cream cheese (softened)
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 box powdered sugar (about 3 ½ cups)
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Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a 9x13 baking dish.
2. Mix cake mix, melted butter, and 1 egg until combined. Press into the dish as the crust.
3. In another bowl, mix cream cheese, remaining eggs, vanilla, and powdered sugar. Pour over crust.
4. Bake for 35–40 minutes until golden brown. Let cool before cutting.
5. Serve with sweet tea and plenty of small-town gossip.

Sweet Adelines'

Signature Spiked Sweet Tea

Perfect for sipping while unraveling a mystery!

Ingredients:

- **6 black tea bags**
- **4 cups boiling water**
- **$\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar**
- **4 cups cold water**
- **1 cup bourbon or peach schnapps (optional)**
- **Lemon slices and fresh mint for garnish**

Directions:

- 1. Steep tea bags in boiling water for 5–7 minutes. Remove bags.**
- 2. Stir in sugar until dissolved.**
- 3. Add cold water and refrigerate until chilled.**
- 4. Pour over ice, add a splash of bourbon or schnapps, and garnish with lemon and mint.**

Fun Activities for Your Book Club

 **Act It Out:** Pick a favorite scene and have book club members act out the dialogue in their best Southern accents!

 **Wedding Planning Madness:** Have each person write the wildest wedding request they've ever heard (or make one up!). Put them in a jar and read them out loud.

 **Recipe Heist Mystery:** Hide a “stolen recipe” card and have members find clues to solve who took it—Cottonwood-style!

Tonya Kappes loves hearing from readers! Share your book club photos and thoughts about *Thick as Thieves* on social media using #tonyakappes

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