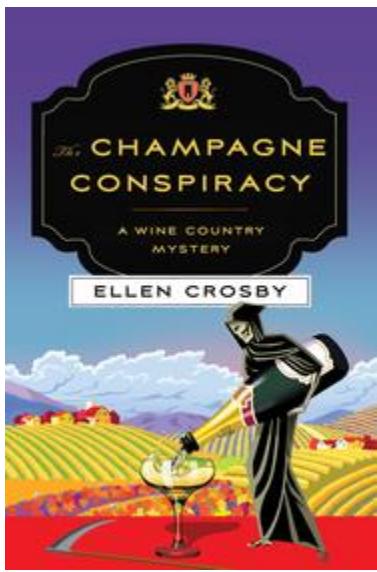




## VINO NEWS

### A NEW “WHODUNNIT” ABOUT VIRGINIA WINE COUNTRY



Ellen Crosby, author of Virginia wine country mystery novels, has just published a new book, *The Champagne Conspiracy*. It is sixth in the series that includes *The Merlot Murders*, *The Chardonnay Charade*, *The Bordeaux Betrayal*, *The Riesling Retribution*, *The Viognier Vendetta* and *The Sauvignon Secret*. The mysteries are set near Middleburg in the heart of horse and hunt country and chronicle the life of Lucie Montgomery, a young woman who has inherited her family's vineyard along with a somewhat cantankerous winemaker named Quinn Santori.

#### **THE CHAMPAGNE CONSPIRACY** A Wine Country Mystery by Ellen Crosby

Winter has come to the Montgomery Estate Vineyard in Atoka, Virginia. Lucie Montgomery and winemaker Quinn Santori have decided to make champagne, a first for the vineyard. But then Gino Tomassi, Quinn's uncle, turns up on their doorstep one afternoon, demanding help in solving the mystery of what happened to Zara Tomassi, the first wife of his grandfather, who died in a San Francisco hotel in 1923 under suspicious circumstances. And it seems there's no coincidence that her death came the day after

President Warren Harding passed away in that same hotel. Gino needs answers before his blackmailer takes him for all he's worth—or exposes an explosive family secret. Lucie searches for what happened almost a hundred years ago as she delves into Prohibition-era Washington, D.C.—a town of bootlegging and duplicity, jazz clubs and speakeasies. But then the investigation turns deadly, threatening Lucie, her relationship with Quinn, and the vineyard, as they realize someone is still out there nearly a century later who will go to any lengths to keep the truth about Zara's death a buried secret.