

Murder Must Advertise

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When ad man Victor Dean falls down the stairs in the offices of Pym's Publicity, a respectable London advertising agency, it looks like an accident. Then Lord Peter Wimsey is called in, and he soon discovers there's more to copywriting than meets the eye. A bit of cocaine, a hint of blackmail, and some wanton women can be read between the lines. And then there is the brutal succession of murders -- 5 of them -- each one a fixed fee for advertising a deadly secret.

When advertising executive Victor Dean dies from a fall down the stairs at Pym's Publicity, Lord Peter Wimsey is asked to investigate. It seems that, before he died, Dean had begun a letter to Mr. Pym suggesting some very unethical dealings at the posh London ad agency. Wimsey goes undercover and discovers that Dean was part of the fast crowd at Pym's, a group taken to partying and doing drugs. Wimsey and his brother-in-law, Chief-Inspector Parker, rush to discover who is running London's cocaine trade and how Pym's fits into the picture--all before Wimsey's cover is blown.

Dorothy L. Sayers classic tale of murder and scandal at a chic London advertising agency, featuring the dashing and brilliant Lord Peter Wimsey

When executive Victor Dean dies from a fall down the iron staircase at Pym's Publicity, a posh London ad agency, Lord Peter Wimsey goes undercover to investigate. Before his tragic demise, the victim had tried to warn Mr. Pym, the firm's owner, about some scandalous behavior involving his employees.

Posing as a new copywriter, Wimsey discovers that Dean was part of an unsavory crowd at Pym's whose recreational habits link them to the criminal underworld. With time running out and the body count rising, Wimsey must rush to find the truth before his identity is discovered and a determined killer strikes again.

Other Books

Gaudy Night (a Lord Peter Wimsey Mystery), Dorothy Leigh Sayers 13 June 1893 - 17 December 1957 was a renowned English crime writer, poet, playwright, essayist, translator, and Christian humanist. She was also a student of classical and modern languages. She is best known for her mysteries, a series of novels and short stories set between the First and Second World Wars that feature English aristocrat and amateur sleuth Lord Peter Wimsey, which remain popular to this day. However, Sayers herself considered her translation of Dante's Divine Comedy to be her best work. She is also known for her plays, literary criticism, and essays. Sayers began working out the plot of her first novel some time in 1920-21. The seeds of the plot for *Whose Body?* can be seen in a letter that Sayers wrote on 22 January 1921: My detective story begins brightly, with a fat lady found dead in her bath with nothing on but her pince-nez. Now why did she wear pince-nez in her bath? If you can guess, you will be in a position to lay hands upon the murderer, but he's a very cool and cunning fellow ... (p. 101, Reynolds) Lord Peter Wimsey burst upon the world of detective fiction with an explosive "Oh, damn!" and continued to engage readers in eleven novels and two sets of short stories, the final novel ending with a very different "Oh, damn!". Sayers once commented that Lord Peter was a mixture of Fred Astaire and Bertie Wooster, which is most evident in the first five novels. However, it is evident through Lord Peter's development as a rounded character that he existed in Sayers's mind as a living, breathing, fully human being. Sayers introduced the character of detective novelist Harriet Vane in

Strong Poison. She remarked more than once that she had developed the "husky voiced, dark-eyed" Harriet to put an end to Lord Peter via matrimony. But in the course of writing *Gaudy Night*, Sayers imbued Lord Peter and Harriet with so much life that she was never able, as she put it, to "see Lord Peter exit the stage". Sayers did not content herself with writing pure detective stories; she explored the difficulties of First World War veterans in *The Unpleasantness at the Bellona Club*, discussed the ethics of advertising in *Murder Must Advertise*, and advocated women's education (then a controversial subject) and role in society in *Gaudy Night*. In *Gaudy Night*, Miss Barton writes a book attacking the Nazi doctrine of *Kinder, Kirche, Küche*, which restricted women's roles to family activities, and in many ways the whole of *Gaudy Night* can be read as an attack on Nazi social doctrine. The book has been described as "the first feminist mystery novel." Sayers's Christian and academic interests are also apparent in her detective series. In *The Nine Tailors*, one of her most well-known detective novels, the plot unfolds largely in and around an old church dating back to the Middle Ages. Change ringing of bells also forms an important part of the novel. In *Have His Carcase*, the Playfair cipher and the principles of cryptanalysis are explained. Her short story *Absolutely Elsewhere* refers to the fact that (in the language of modern physics) the only perfect alibi for a crime is to be outside its light cone, while *The Fascinating Problem of Uncle Meleager's Will* contains a literary crossword puzzle. Sayers also wrote a number of short stories about Montague Egg, a wine salesman who solves mysteries.

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