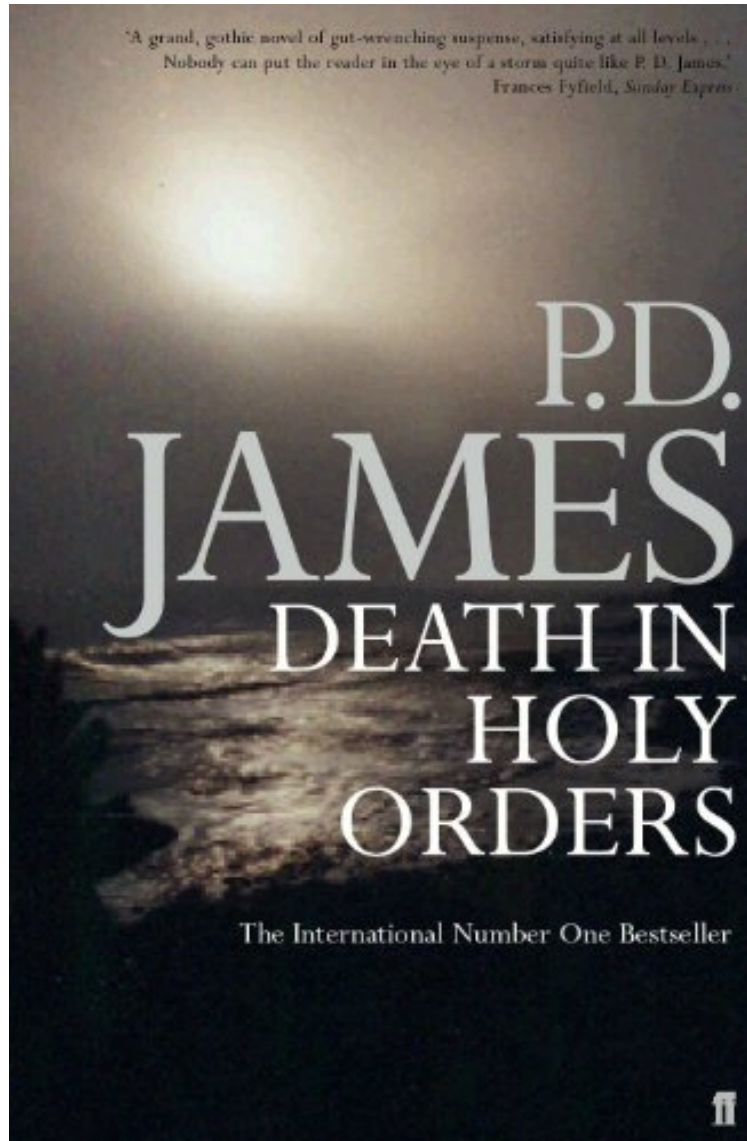


(Read free ebook) Death in Holy Orders (Inspector Adam Dalgliesh)

Death in Holy Orders (Inspector Adam Dalgliesh)

Von P. D. James

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Von P. D. James : Death in Holy Orders (Inspector Adam Dalgliesh) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Death in Holy Orders (Inspector Adam Dalgliesh):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen11 von 11 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Dagliesh goes back to the rootsVon Ein KundeThis novel takes Commander Dagliesh to St Anselms College, where he spent some holidays in his childhood. This time, of course, it's a suspicious death that brings him back. As PD James novels go, the bodies add up, while Dagliesh gets into one of his philosophical moods. So much for the content,

it is a mystery story after all. The atmosphere reminded me more of James' earlier novels like *Unnatural Causes* or *The Black Tower* than the most recent *Original Sin* and *A Certain Justice*. I certainly welcome this, as I was feeling that her last books were becoming a bit more "American" in style. Somewhere inbetween the even lines I seem to find a hint of the most famous of all monastery mysteries, *The Name Of The Rose*. It is probably not the author's most original whodunnit, but critics who complain that she is using the same formula again will find me saying that it is a formula I would not want to be changed as well as my favourite pasta sauce recipe. I think you will like this book and suggest that you don't start reading it too late in the evening, as you will not want to stop until you finished it.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Rich in Characters, Place, History, Social Mores and Plot Von Donald Mitchell *Death in Holy Orders* is a gem, and will delight long-time P.D. James fans as well as those for whom this is an introduction to her work. Well-known for her deep development of characters, this mystery is equally strong in giving you the locale (a small theological college perched on the sand cliffs near the North Sea in East Anglia), history (a twining of religion and family), social mores (actions have consequences), and a nicely detailed plot (four deaths, Church of England politics, and new connections for Adam Dalgliesh). Rarely is a book rich in all of these elements. Be warned. It's hard to put this book down! I finished reading at 1:22 a.m. despite needing to get up early this morning. Mystery purists will complain that the book reveals the villain too early. Actually, there's a benefit, because it allows the book to take on the dramatic qualities of a fine novel, as well as a mystery. I delayed reading this book because the title didn't really grab me. I don't know much about the Church of England, and felt that I would soon be lost. Actually, although I probably didn't grasp all of the details, the religious context did not cause me to lose the thread either. Although set at a theological college, the story deals more broadly with issues throughout society. The book opens with a fascinating literary device. A college staff member, Margaret Munroe, has found the body of a young student (ordinand) at the college buried under a pile of sand from a collapsed cliff. To ease her distress, she has been asked to write an account of the experience. Her exposition develops her character as well as the background of the book's story. This section serves like one of a pair of bookends to be matched at the end by a letter from the villain explaining the events described in the book. From these two examples, you can see the care with which Baroness James has developed her characters and story. You will feel that you know and understand quite a lot about over a dozen characters, and most of them you will find interesting and attractive to know more about. In most cases, some of the story will develop through their thoughts so that you can get inside of their reality. The book has much more action than the typical P.D. James mystery, and thus makes it more modern in that sense. On the other hand, she pays close attention to the classic elements of mystery by making it clear that the events are tied to someone in residence. You will be reminded of *And Then There Were None* in many ways, although I found this novel much better done than that Dame Agatha Christie classic. Adam Dalgliesh had visited the college, St. Anselm's, when he was young, and has a reunion with the former head of the college, Father Martin. That connection brings Adam Dalgliesh inside the story more than usual, which is all to the good. He is involved in an unlikely way. The dead ordinand, Ronald Treeves, was the adopted son of Sir Alred Treeves, a wealthy munitions industrialist. Sir Alred wants to know more about the circumstances, and asks Scotland Yard to send Dalgliesh, the Yard's most famous commander, to check it out. Dalgliesh has planned to take some personal time to visit the area and agrees. Through a series of unusual circumstances, the later investigations become his officially as well. The plot is delightful in that Baroness James continually gives the reader hints before the investigation turns them up. Yet, the plot remains obscure enough that although we know about more crimes and complications than Scotland Yard does, we still don't know who did what until she chooses to raise the curtain for us. It's a nifty bit of slight of hand, while making the reader feel welcome. Dalgliesh's connection to poetry is nicely placed into the story in a way that will delight long-term fans of this element of his character. After you finish reading this story, you should think about how actions you have taken or could take in the future could have unintended, negative consequences. How can you avoid those potential consequences? How can you help others prepare for them? Those issues are at the core of the moral of this story, and are good food for thought for us all. Take a bow, Baroness James. You deserve it!

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Exciting Von Ein Kunde The book catches your attention from the beginning and does not let it go until its end. The mixture of good described picturesque landscapes, psychological emotions of the suspects and pure human feelings moves you from where you are to the British coast. The main story of crime is subtly combined with some inspiring love emotions. And the good ending always leaves you with a smile.

Kurzbeschreibung When the body of a theology student is found on a desolate stretch of coast in East Anglia, his wealthy father demands that Scotland Yard should re-examine the verdict of accidental death. Commander Adam Dalgliesh agrees to pay a visit to the young man's theological college, St Anselm's, a place he knew as a boy, expecting no more than a nostalgic return to old haunts and a straightforward examination of the evidence. Instead he finds himself embroiled in intrigue, secrets and mystery as the college is torn apart by a sacrilegious and horrifying murder . . . Award-winning P.D. James (author of *Death Comes to Pemberley* and *Children of Men*) masterfully

explores an isolated and beleaguered community coping with the evil and disruption of murder. In 2003, this novel was adapted for BBC television and starred Martin Shaw, Hugh Fraser and Robert Hardy. Set on the wild coast of East Anglia, this number one bestseller is the fourteenth Adam Dalgliesh novel and a thrilling work of crime fiction possessing all of the qualities which distinguish P. D. James as a novelist..deDespite challenges from Ruth Rendell and (more recently) Minette Walters, P.D. James's position as Britain's Queen of Crime remains largely unassailable. Although a certain reaction has set in to her reputation (and there are those who claim her poetry-loving copper Adam Dalgliesh doesn't correspond to any of his counterparts in the real world), her detractors can scarcely deny her astonishing literary gifts. More than any other writer, she has elevated the detective story into the realms of literature, with the psychology of the characters treated in the most complex and authoritative fashion. Her plots, too, are full of intriguing detail and studded with brilliantly observed character studies. Who cares if Dalgliesh belongs more in the pages of a book than poking around a graffiti-scrawled council estate? As a policeman, he is considerably more plausible than Doyle's Holmes, and that's never stopped us loving the Baker Street sleuth. *Death in Holy Orders* represents something of a challenge from James to her critics, taking on all the contentious elements and rigorously reinvigorating them. She had admitted that she was finding it increasingly difficult to find new plots for Dalgliesh, and the locale here (a theological college on a lonely stretch of the East Anglian coast) turns out to be an inspired choice. We're presented with the enclosed setting so beloved of golden age detective writers, and James is able to incorporate her theological interests seamlessly into the plot (but never in any doctrinaire way; the nonbeliever is never uncomfortable). The body of a student at the college is found on the shore, suffocated by a fall of sand. Dalgliesh is called upon to reexamine the verdict of accidental death (which the student's father would not accept). Having visited the College of St. Anselm in his boyhood, he finds the investigation has a strong nostalgic aspect for him. But that is soon overtaken by the realization that he has encountered the most horrific case of his career, and another visitor to the college dies a horrible death. As an exploration of evil--and as a piece of highly distinctive crime writing--this is James at her nonpareil best. Dalgliesh, too, is rendered with new dimensions of psychological complexity. --Barry Forshaw, .co.ukPressestimmenP. D. James in top form . . . Murder at its very best.The Boston Globe"Death in Holy Orders is among her most remarkable and accomplished Dalgliesh novels.The Philadelphia InquirerAn elegant work about hope, death, and the alternately redemptive and destructive nature of love.Miami Herald