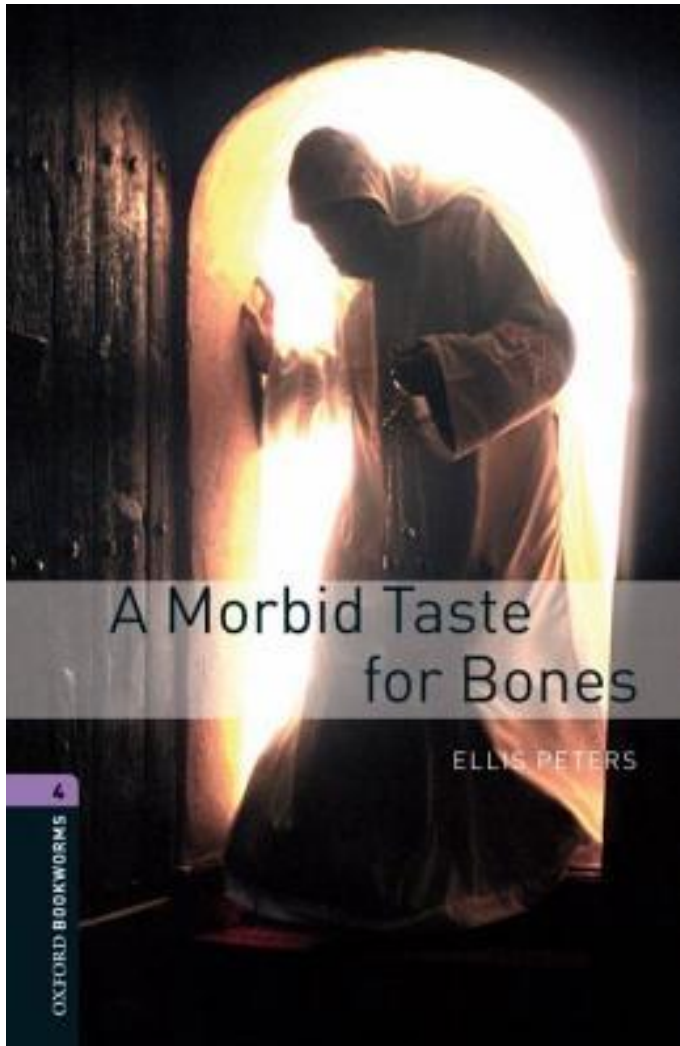

Ellis Peters

A Morbid Taste for Bones (Chronicles of Brother Cadfael #1)



Title: A Morbid Taste for Bones (Chronicles of Brother Cadfael #1)

Author: Ellis Peters

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Description

Murder in the twelfth century is no different from murder today. There is still a dead body, though this time with an arrow through the heart instead of a bullet. There is still a need to bury the dead, to comfort the living - and to catch the murderer. When Brother Cadfael comes to a village in the Welsh hills, he finds himself doing all three of those things. And there is nothing simple about this death. The murdered man's daughter needs Cadfael's help in more ways than one. There are questions about the arrow. And the burial is the strangest thing of all ...

Insightful reviews

PEI Public Library Service: When one of our libraries decided to try a medieval mystery book club, the Chronicles of Brother Cadfael by Ellis Peters was the first series selected. Readers could choose to read any one of the twenty books in the series, but -- after reading one book -- most readers went on to read multiple books in the series. Some of the people planning on attending the book club were long-time fans who owned the entire series of books and had watched the DVDs. The library carries DVDs of the British television drama, Cadfael, starring Derek Jacobi. You can borrow the DVDs here <http://bit.ly/1FbTH29>

Brother Cadfael is the mystery-solving Benedictine monk at the center of each of the novels. The historical setting and time period appears as another character in the series. Among other things, readers learn about methods of travel, farming, clothing, and the inner workings of a Benedictine abbey. They also get an entertaining education about the evolution of the struggle between King Stephen and Empress Maud for control of the throne. After spending decades as a soldier and sailor, Cadfael came later to the monastic life, which means he has worldly skills and attitudes that are not normally found within the confines of a medieval monastery. These skills put him in unique and interesting situations. Even after reading a single book in the series, the reader feels that Cadfael is a fully-developed person. In each book, readers learn more details about Cadfael: his past, his relationships, and his attitudes. Like Louise Penny's Chief Inspector Armand Gamache series, the evolution of the characters in the Brother Cadfael books has the same appeal. Cadfael books are a cozy and delightful read.

Borrow the first book in the series: <http://bit.ly/1zFQJwN>

Willow : This book is actually quite good.

I must admit though, I had a hard time getting through it. In fact, I pretty much had to sit myself down and force myself to read through to the end. I've decided that has much more to do with me than the book itself (consequently my high rating). The truth is, I just don't like mysteries, and now I know that even by setting the mystery in a fascinating time period, this doesn't change. When I was younger, I used to read every Agatha Christi 'Poirot' story I could get my hands on, and I think I burned myself out. Most of the time I just don't care about 'whodunit'. This leaves the magnetism of the detective to carry the story, which recently just hasn't been enough.

For people who love mysteries though, I think you will love this. Peters writes very well. She uses dialogue to bring her characters to life, and it's great. I was surprised at how funny this book was. Cadfael is simply a GREAT character. Peters also captures the 1100s with insightful details into monasterial life. I think so many authors forget how powerful and important the church truly was during this time. This same attention to detail was used on the inner workings of a medieval Welsh village too. So many books just make out the villagers out to be ignorant clods, but Ellis is much more generous than that, giving everybody a more rounded feel. Everybody has a different agenda and a different motive, and Cadfael is able to work this out quite clearly and succinctly.

Maybe someday I will be in the mood to read another Cadfael book, but I think I'm going to skip historical mysteries for a while. I do believe this is the *crème de la crème* of historical mysteries though.

Gillian Kevern: Shame on me for not reading this sooner! Thoroughly enjoyed this, my first Brother Cadfael mystery.

Nathan: Enjoyable background candy. I locate myself taking up the speech mannerisms of the books I am reading, and after approximately a dozen Brother Cadfael's I used to be a jogging speaking 12C monk. The mysteries are rather gentle, regardless of that includes murders. Brother Cadfael, the protagonist, isn't installed danger--compare, for example, to Dick Francis the place nearly each publication gains the hero getting crushed up two times (once to teach that he feels pain, and back to teach that he is courageous sufficient to take the thrashing he is aware is coming). Peters does not reuse an identical plot back and again, so there is sort in who will get murdered, how, and the way the villain is uncovered. That said, there is consistently a gorgeous woman and younger guy accused of the homicide (often reckless on the start, yet he matures because the plot continues) ... Peters is nearly writing romance novels. They have been enjoyable, if a bit "moreish" (I'd end one and instantly commence the next). thankfully I started to tire after the tenth, a lot as I quick tire of over-sweet sweet or cake frosting.

Stephen: I freely confess that first I got here to the Brother Cadfael saga via PBS. Later I learn the books that had by no means made it into television shape and am simply now getting round to examining a number of the books which have been favourite tv courses of mine for a few time. it is a degree of the standard of the variations that neither the booklet nor the television application is a disappointment. the broadcast tale is a little more complex however the television convey touches on all the significant plot components or even provides a few elaborations to slot the medium. In print I quite beloved the plot parts during this booklet that handled Brother John, a personality that used to be passed over from the television model for sake of time and clarity. additionally the booklet had extra time to make the neighborhood lordling and his daughter extra absolutely human or even to flesh out a number of of the opposite minor characters. This ebook had a wealth of aspect that marks this because the first in a sequence and that I look ahead to examining the remainder of the adventures that I have loved anticipating years. If, like me you've got kept away from examining those books since you idea you already knew the tales in the back of them, I recommend that you just reconsider. The books (if this is often any example) are richer and extra complicated than their television

diversifications and comprise extra treasures to enjoy.

Bill Rogers: Brother Cadfael is intelligent, practical, level-headed, and a schemer. It happened to me numerous occasions during this ebook that he may make an outstanding supervillain have been he no longer additionally kind-hearted and devoted to good. allow us to thank God for that, simply because definitely that is what Cadfael may do. In this, Cadfael's first chronicle, earlier Robert has been thundering that the Abbey of Saint Peter and Saint Paul at Shrewsbury wishes its personal lifeless saint to usher in the tourists. Or, excuse me, pilgrims. past Robert is nearly (but now not quite) as as regards to a villain as a person during this book. he's an outstanding businessman, a spiritual advertising and marketing director, of the sort came across operating many church buildings and businesses; constantly going out of his method to do the desire of God, which always, no longer coincidentally, results in extra glory and cash for himself. When certainly one of Cadfael's gardening assistants has a handy imaginative and prescient claiming that Saint Winifred, in Wales, needs her bones moved to Shrewsbury, previous Robert and assistants are off like a shot to move dig her up. Cadfael, being Welsh, and in addition being a schemer who desired to pass along, accompanies them as an interpreter. Miracles and homicide ensue. it really is as much as Cadfael, utilizing the unconventional options of good judgment and commentary in an international of superstition and prayer, to find what occurred and who dedicated the crime. yet in an international the place justice is generally outlined as no matter what will not embarrass the King and the Church, is proving who did the crime going to be enough? This booklet was once a short learn and many fun.

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