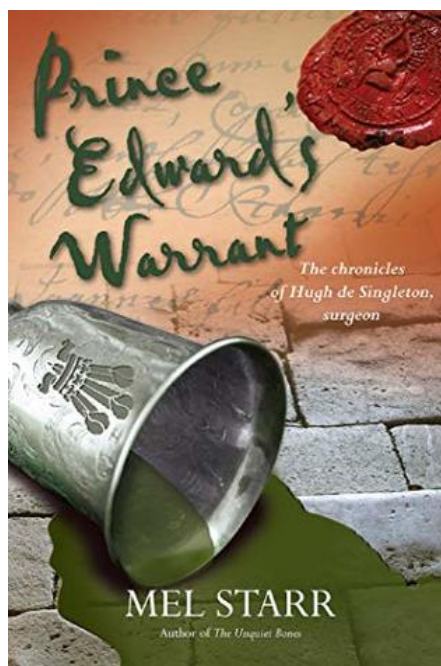




Prince Edward's Warrant

Melvin R. Starr

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Master Hugh won the Black Prince's favour when he helped ease the prince's illness. Now, in the autumn of 1372, the prince is suffering a relapse and sends to Bampton for Master Hugh to attend him. While at dinner in Kennington Palace, Sir Giles, the knight who escorted Hugh to London, is stricken and dies. Poison! Sir Giles is not popular, and there are many who would gladly see the fellow done away with... except for Prince Edward. The Black Prince feels a debt to the slain man because of his heroic behaviour at the Battle of Crecy, where the knight stood firm with the prince when the fight seemed of uncertain outcome. Despite caring little for Sir Giles, Master Hugh must once again place himself in jeopardy and seek to uncover the perpetrator of the crime...

Prince Edward's Warrant Details

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From Reader Review Prince Edward's Warrant for online ebook

Wytzia Raspe says

When you are a fan of the Cadfael mysteries this might be the book for you as well. We are still in medieval England but a century after the Cadfael settings. Master Hugh is a surgeon who is summoned to the court of the crown prince of England, the man we now know as 'the black prince'. Prince Edward is not feeling well. His intestines are troubling him again and master Hugh has cured him before. However during the first evening meal at court the knight who accompanied Hugh to court drops dead. It is soon clear the man was poisoned. The prince gives master Hugh the task to go and find the murderer.

The murder mystery is not the biggest appeal of this novel but the worldbuilding is. I had the feeling I was watching a movie about 14th century London. The writer weaves all kind of historical, medical and theological details in the story and also uses a lot of contemporary words. You can almost see the houses in a street in London been built over the street and thus blocking the sunlight, the traffic jams on London bridge or the different food people dining in the manor house were given depending on their status and thus seating. I also was surprised of the difference between a surgeon and a physician in those days. It is like reading a history lesson disguised as a well written mystery.

It is part of a series but this novel was the first I read of that series and it works well as a stand alone story. Though I would advice people to read the series in a chronological order as sometimes older events are mentioned.

Judy Lesley says

Many thanks to NetGalley and Lion Hudson Ltd. for a digital galley of this novel.

I have enjoyed the Mel Starr novels featuring Master Hugh de Singleton in the past and liked this one too. I like the personality Starr has given Master Hugh and all the interesting facts I learn when I read one of these mystery novels regarding medicine practiced in 1372, especially the difference between a physician and a surgeon. What bothered me a lot was the plot hole so big a horse and cart could have been driven through it. Naturally that plot hole cannot be spoken of because it would be an immense spoiler. There is a Glossary at the beginning of the story explaining the meaning of words from this period of history so you can easily enjoy this novel even if it is your first time experimenting with the time period. This is story number eleven in the Hugh de Singleton, surgeon, series and there is a pleasant surprise at the end which will be appreciated by fans who have followed the stories so far.

So - Edward of Woodstock, Duke of Cornwall and Prince of Wales, is suffering once again from the physical malady he had when he first met Hugh de Singleton at Limoges. Master Hugh was able to ease his suffering at that time so he wants Hugh to come to Kennington Palace London to take over his treatment again. It seems the Prince has lost confidence in his physician. On his first night at the Palace Hugh sees Sir Giles Cheyne, who accompanied Hugh from Bampton to London, fall over dead during the evening meal. Prince Edward felt a bond of friendship with Sir Giles and he gives Hugh a Royal Warrant to investigate the crime and bring the criminal to justice. In fact, you might say the Prince enjoyed himself more than most folk would have expected.

Susan says

Edward, Prince of Wales in 1372 suffers a relapse of his illness and summons Hugh de Singleton to help again. While at dinner at Kennington Palace, the knight who collected Hugh, Sir Giles Cheyne, dies. Edward instructs Hugh to discover the culprit.

This is the first of the series that I have read and can easily be read as a standalone story.

I enjoyed the mystery set in this interesting time-period, the writing and the well-drawn out characters, and would like to read more of the series.

A NetGalley Book

patricia tiffany says

Great series

Love this character and the stories are always intriguing. This one did not disappoint and I look forward to the next one!
