



Ghostly Murders

Paul Doherty

Download now

Read Online ➔

Ghostly Murders

Paul Doherty

Ghostly Murders Paul Doherty

Pilgrim Poor Parson tells the tale of Brothers Philip and Edmund, who are appointed priests of the small Kentish village of Scawsby, where they quickly decide to build a new church and graveyard for the town. When the two relocate the graves to the new site, some coffins are uncovered empty and others with the remains of townsfolk buried alive. Philip investigates, murders and disappearances occur, and soon both he and his brother are led into a final, shattering climax of evil and peril.

Ghostly Murders Details

Date : Published September 1st 1998 by St Martins Pr (first published 1997)

ISBN : 9780312194185

Author : Paul Doherty

Format : Hardcover 250 pages

Genre : Mystery, Historical, Historical Fiction, Historical Mystery, Medieval, Crime

 [Download Ghostly Murders ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Ghostly Murders ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Ghostly Murders Paul Doherty

From Reader Review Ghostly Murders for online ebook

Benjamin says

This book was pretty disappointing, although I admit I probably went into it expecting too much. This was a selection from my Church's summer book discussion group, so I assumed that someone had selected it from prior reading. In reality, someone found it via amazon.com, and thought it would be worth a read, even though she knew nothing of the author's work.

This book is a silly mystery novel, and not a very good one at that. Two priests come to a town in medieval England, accompanied by a friend who is a master mason. (The author never lets us forget that- for the first few chapters, every time that character is mentioned, he mentions that he is a master mason). The town is cursed, and they try to lift the curse. In the end, the curse is pretty simple to lift, and the treasure is hidden exactly where any reader with a half a brain knew it was as of page 80.

The book is part of a series of books based on the idea that the pilgrims from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales tell mystery stories at night. This gimmick was completely unnecessary in this book. In fact, the pilgrim that tells this tale is not one of Chaucer's pilgrims- the author makes him up- so there is absolutely no reason, independent of book sales, to place it in this series of books. The pilgrims that are actually drawn from Chaucer get painted with a very broad brush, and it seems that their actions are based on what the author read about them in the Cliff's Notes summery of the prolog of Canterbury Tales (the Miller farts a lot- that's the only distinguishing thing about him). If you are a fan of Chaucer and you are thinking that these might be fun based on your love of Chaucer, think again.

Bryan says

Good ghost story and mystery. He needs to finish this series.

Hristina Ivanova says

Though it was a very quick read I really enjoyed reading it. Another example of Paul Doherty's enourmous knowledge of the history of medieval England.

Karen L. says

Based on the Canterbury Tales the author tells a medieval mystery story through a priest. I would actually term this a supernatural historical fiction. I want to read more P.C. Doherty.

Tarmia says

Doherty continues to entertain and inform through this interestingly constructed series based on the The Canterbury Tales. Each book is delicately interwoven, but the story, individually, is just as easily accessible

as a stand-alone read. By carefully constructing the characters, Doherty adds to his already developed skill of scene setting and of world building. The historical facts are well presented and the exaggerations or fabrications are seamlessly incorporated. This was another solid addition to the series and I cannot wait to continue reading of the pilgrim's tales. They are dark and delicious, drawing you in with every detail. Descriptive and adventurous, Ghostly Murders is a creative combination of the classic medieval ghost story with modern twists and turns that leave you wanting more.

Becca says

I think I might have liked it better if I'd have started in the beginning of the series instead of starting with this book. Other than that, the only thing I can really think to say is maybe don't read this alone on a stormy night...unless that's your thing. A quick, fun read. :-)

Hugo says

Los historiadores leerán este tipo de novelas??
Deben ser muy sólidos sus conocimientos para no enredarse con estas historias de ficción.
Me entretuve.
Eso sí, tuve que anotar muchas palabras para buscar su significado.

Alyson says

Another great medeavil mystery

Dianne Linden says

Read it for a change of pace and because I love Canterbury Tales. I enjoyed it once I got into it. There were a lot of characters to assimilate at first. Now I see it's a series, so that was probably part of the problem. Nothing like starting half way through.

Cheri Edwards says

Another great book in the series.....ooooo it's a toss up between 'A tournament of Murders' and this one. I kind of like this one a smidge better, but I really like the surprise last part of 'A Tournament..'. So the 2 books are very much tied as being the best in the series....imo.

Althea Ann says

I've read 2 or 3 other books in this "Canterbury Tales" series of medieval mysteries by Doherty. They all

feature dark doings and a question of "is it or is it not supernatural?" In this installment, as the group of pilgrims sits in an abandoned village, emptied by the Black Death years earlier, the Poor Priest tells his tale - years before, when he came to the village of Scawsby, he felt that something was not right with the town. Did the secret lie within the town's legends - that, a generation ago, a fleeing group of Templars was ambushed by the villagers, and their precious treasure stolen? The village church seems cursed, and ghostly horsemen are seen on the borders of the marches that surround the town...
Not bad...

Chad says

This is an excellent book. I've read the second and the fourth in the series so far and have really enjoyed them. This one in particular is a great mystery with many twists and turns.

Pryotra says

Honestly, I loved this story. It's much more of a ghost story than a mystery, but there are still some pretty good twists, and an interesting view of the Templars.

Simon Mcleish says

Originally published on my blog here in October 1998.

I rather like the idea behind this series of Doherty's, very different from the Hugh Corbett mysteries or the Brother Athelstan books he writes as Paul Harding. The characters are the pilgrims of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, and the idea is that in the evenings, resting from the day's journey, each pilgrim in turn told a murder story to match the tales told during the day and recorded by Chaucer. The stories so far (I believe this is the fourth) all have much the same format, third person narratives which turn out to be thinly disguised autobiographical accounts interspersed with comments from the other pilgrims. Each individual story is much longer than the ones in the Canterbury Tales, and they connect together several of the pilgrims (so that the final number of books in the series will be fewer than twenty-four, the number of Chaucer's tales).

Ghostly Murders is the tale of the poor priest, and it brings in the cook and the ploughman. It is extremely unusual among modern historical novels dealing with the Middle Ages in that it includes supernatural events which do not admit of rational explanation - visions of ghostly horsemen, physical attacks by spectres. Naturally, just about everyone in the fourteenth century would believe in such phenomena, but it is almost a convention of historical writing to allow a get-out for the modern sceptic.

The plot also involves a theme to which just about all writers of novels depicting the fourteenth century - and indeed many others - eventually turn: the downfall of the Templars in 1308. The overnight destruction of the richest and most powerful order of fighting monks (so rich and powerful as to amount to virtually a separate state within Europe) by Philip IV of France, and the acquiescence in its destruction by the Pope and other monarchs including Edward II of England is an irresistibly romantic mystery, with questions such as how justified were the accusations made against them? How complete was the destruction? Why did they just fold up and let it happen to the? (An interesting novel to read if you want to know more about the bizarre theories devised to answer these questions is Umberto Eco's Foucault's Pendulum; Lawrence Durrell's Avignon

Quintet looks at the issue from a rather different angle.)

Clearly (and this is one of the few clear aspects of the event), the destruction of the Templars was less swift and less complete in England than in France. The premise of Doherty's novel is that a group of Templars were fleeing from their London headquarters with treasure, when they were lured into the Kentish marshes and killed from a distance with longbows. Over the next generation, the priests of the nearest village have a tendency to feel they are fighting the forces of evil, and to see spirits of both the knights and those who attacked them; then to become obsessed with the treasure and die raving. The novel deals with two men, brothers and priests, sent by the Bishop of Rochester to the village.

Ghostly Murders is an interesting ghost story, not particularly a mystery. Doherty manages his usual authentic feel, the characters not falling into anachronistic Freudian psychoanalysis as is only too common in this sort of novel. It is not written with the genius of Chaucer, so the various storytellers are rather similar to one another - strangely enough, their recitations fall into the same literary style - but it is entertaining.

Janet says

I have to admit, I had a hard time turning the lights out to go to sleep after this one. Doherty keeps you on the edge of your seat, waiting to find out if it's a curse or something more pragmatic. The further you get in this series, the more it's revealed that several of the pilgrims have prior connections to one another. I'm having a hard time remember who is who, and who knows who.
