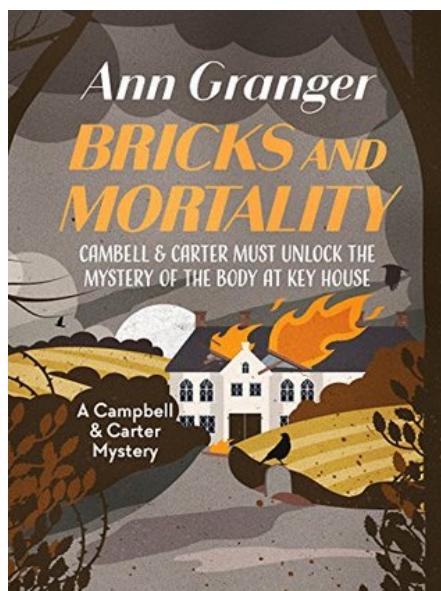




Bricks and Mortality

Ann Granger

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Can Campbell and Carter unlock the mystery of the Key House murder?

A body is discovered inside of the smouldering ruins of Key House. The crumbling Cotswold manor has long been empty, but rumor has it that the owner, Gervase Crown, was seen lurking around just before the fire. Inspector **Jess Campbell** and Superintendent **Ian Carter** pin Gervase as a prime suspect, but was he the murderer, or the target? It seems that his sudden reappearance has stirred up animosity long thought forgotten.

Bricks and Mortality is the third instalment to the Campbell and Carter Mysteries, ideal for fans of the **Midsomer Murders**, **T E Kinsey** and **Faith Martin**.

Praise for Ann Granger:

'**Entertaining and lifelike characters**. And there is a satisfying and unexpected twist on the last page'
Mystery People

'The characters...are drawn with a telling eye for their human foibles and frailties. **Granger is bang up to date**' *Oxford Times*

'Characterisation, as ever with Granger, is sharp and astringent' *The Times*

Bricks and Mortality Details

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Author : Ann Granger

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From Reader Review Bricks and Mortality for online ebook

Plum-crazy says

A reasonable enough read but this series always seems a little lack- lustre to me. It's missing both the charm of the Mitchell & Markby series & the likeable relationship between the characters.

The storyline is ok but all the characters are a bit two dimensional & there's no chemistry between the Campbell & Carter.

Alice says

I rated this book 4 out of 5 stars because I listened to it, rather than reading it, and I do think audiobooks can change the way we experience a story. I think if I'd read Bricks and Mortality I wouldn't have enjoyed it quite so much.

My audiobooks are company when (seemingly endlessly) walking my dog. I look for something interesting but not over complex, gripping but not scary. I often get interrupted so I need to be able to miss things but still keep up!!! Granger's novel was perfect for this as it felt very anecdotal and followed a small group of characters. On the flip side it does suggest that this isn't the most complex or in depth tale.

Bricks and Mortality is a detective novel set in a small country village, a house sets on fire, a son must return and everyone hates him, or do they?

The two main characters are the police officers, Jess and Carter. They're fairly typical with a little bit of character development in the form of Carter's daughter and Jess' private life. But nothing huge. Jervais, the home owner, gets more development along with his friends and family. I wanted to know more about them though rather than the Northanger Abbey style speculation that we were left with.

The cast of whodunnits are, frankly, infuriating particularly Kit and Murial. But I think this works because the whole village is infuriating and infuriated in equal measure. Granger has perfectly captured small community living and the nutters who live there!

Plot wise it is a simple detective story which was great as an audiobook, but I understand why novel readers were left feeling that something was missing. It didn't have the urgency of more favoured detective novels.

If my local library has any more of Granger's novels as audiobooks I will definitely check them out.

I would recommend this book to fellow dog walkers! (Or anyone who spends a lot of time walking around and needs some entertainment!)

Nrr says

Compelling enough but fizzles out by the end.

Rog Harrison says

I have enjoyed many of Ann Granger's books and I enjoyed an earlier book in this series but somehow I found this one a bit unsatisfying. After the murderer had been identified and some loose ends tied this book carried on for a few more chapters exploring the relationships between some of the characters and I could not help feeling that this did not add anything to the story. Still it is an entertaining read up to the capture of the murderer.

C.G. says

Better Than The First Two

When this book started out, I thought, "you've got to be kidding me... ANOTHER broken down, empty house and dysfunctional family?!" But it went uphill from there, and Granger kept me guessing about who did it, right up to the end (I suspected someone else entirely), and there was even a hint of a happy ending. Bringing a little romance into it also make it a little different from the first two books in the series, so even though it ties in with characters we've met previously, I'd still recommend this one before the other two. We've moved from 2 stars to 3. We'll see what book #4 holds...

Linda says

Finished the series... wish there were more!

Gary Van Cott says

Typical of this series and the previous Mitchell & Markby series. It is harder to see where the personal lives of the main characters are headed in this series then the earlier one and the author is not a young woman (age about 74 when this was published). Her next book is not part of this series.

This book has not been published in the US so I had to order it from the UK.

Toni McKilligan says

Yet another good old-fashioned British mystery. In the third installment, we get to know Carter a little better. Glimpses into his personal life introduce us to his 10-year-old daughter, who seems more like a four or five year old than ten. I'm guessing the author doesn't have a lot of experience with children in general and 10-year-olds in particular. But that's neither here nor there. The bad boy is not the bad guy and that makes me happy. Oh, oh. Spoiler alert! I'll say no more.

Alissa says

After reading book 2, (which was amazeballs by the way) I couldn't wait for the next installment of my now favorite CID officers Campbell and Carter. But alas... this one was just okay. Although this one had more interaction between the MC's, the mystery was weak. Even I guessed "whodunit" by 50%. Now that's not to say it was all bad. I've come to expect first class secondary character writing and in that I was not disappointed.

3 stars

Ivonne Rovira says

I love this book, but not as much as Rack, Ruin and Murder. The relationship between the immature Gervase Crown and one of the characters (no spoilers!) just didn't seem believable; however, it remains a four-star read.

Susan in Perthshire says

I can't remember reading any of this author's books before but I liked the look of the cover and the premise! I enjoyed it - but by the time I got to the end, it was a bit ... "is that it?" I found several of the main characters interesting and was keen to find out what happened with them: - Gervase, Kit, Jess and Petra but Carter remained a mystery and I wondered what his role was. Many of the characters were such stereotypical caricatures as to be unbelievable! I mean Alfie and the Solicitor? Poorly developed characters. Also, the introduction of the child Millie was IMHO a mistake. She behaved like a toddler rather than a 10 year old! However I liked it enough to try others of this writer and I am going to look at what others have said - to help me make a choice!

Page says

An easy read, but I was annoyed by how early I picked out whodunit and by the unnecessary romantic subplots. I won't be rushing off to find more by this author, though I am sure there are many readers who will love her style.

Diane Anderson says

Have not read anything by this author previously, although there seems to be a lot to choose from!! It was a "nice" read and I even chuckled out loud a couple of times, but it certainly isn't a gripping read, by any means. The big discrepancy is Muriel's dog. It behaves more like a Jack Russell terrier than a Pug. I have NEVER seen a Pug with that much energy, ferocity and all-out exertion as Hamlet seems to possess. [as a dog show/dog sport enthusiast I have seen quite a few of these dogs in my day]

Karen Keane says

A decent read, a gentle murder mystery, not what I usually read, I like something a bit grittier. I didn't feel a huge amount of chemistry between the two main characters but liked them both well enough. I had second-guessed half way through who the murderer was so that came as no surprise. I would read another in this series if I felt the need for another gentle read.

Deb says

I enjoyed this third installment in the Carter and Campbell series. I like how the relationships among the different characters are developing. In this book, when an empty manor house burns down, a body is discovered in the ruins. The long absent owner of the home returns to many questions, and the locals are none too happy he's home. While the ending wasn't too surprising, it made sense.
