

# Black As He Painted Inspector Roderick Alleyn 28: A Riveting Mystery Unfolds

Inspector Roderick Alleyn has captivated readers with his astute mind and unyielding determination in solving crimes. In the 28th installment of the series, "Black As He Painted," author Ngaio Marsh takes us on a thrilling journey filled with suspense, intrigue, and a complex web of deceit. Join Inspector Alleyn as he unravels a mysterious murder that leaves everyone puzzled, and see how his unconventional methods ultimately lead to the truth.

As the story begins, we are introduced to the idyllic village of South Mardian. Set against the backdrop of picturesque landscapes, the seemingly peaceful community harbors a dark secret. Wealthy businessman George Surridge is found dead in his study, an apparent victim of suicide. However, something about the crime scene doesn't quite add up, and Inspector Alleyn senses foul play.

Alleyn's sharp instincts push him to dig deeper, questioning everyone who had contact with Surridge in the days leading up to his death. The Inspector quickly discovers that Surridge was not as beloved by the community as he seemed. As he delves into the enigmatic past of the victim, a tangled web of jealousy, rivalry, and hidden motives begins to unravel.



## Black As He's Painted: Inspector Roderick Alleyn

#28 by Ngaio Marsh (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 781 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

X-Ray : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 264 pages  
Lending : Enabled



The author skillfully intertwines the personal lives of the suspects with the main plotline, creating a rich tapestry of characters. From the eccentric artist to the enigmatic widow, each person in South Mardian is hiding something. Marsh's vivid descriptions paint a clear picture of the village inhabitants, allowing the readers to step into their shoes and navigate the complex dynamics of the community.

One of the standout elements in "Black As He Painted" is the recreation of the art world. Surridge was an influential figure in the art scene, and his connections provide an intriguing layer to the mystery. As Inspector Alleyn explores the shady dealings within the art industry, he encounters forgeries, thefts, and passionate artists willing to go to great lengths to protect their reputation.

Throughout the book, Marsh expertly plants clues and red herrings, keeping readers on their toes until the very end. Every page holds a new twist, with suspense building with each discovery Alleyn makes. The pacing is spot-on, allowing for moments of breath-catching tension and introspective investigation.

While Inspector Alleyn is undoubtedly the star of the series, Marsh doesn't neglect the supporting cast. Alleyn's trusted sidekick, Detective Sergeant Fox, provides wit and levity to the story, counterbalancing Alleyn's seriousness. Their dynamic partnership showcases a deep camaraderie, as they work together to unravel the mysteries of Black As He Painted.

As the investigation progresses, Inspector Alleyn uncovers a hidden world of illicit affairs, family secrets, and greed. The stakes are raised, and the sense of urgency propels readers forward, eager to uncover the truth behind Surridge's death. Marsh masterfully weaves together the intricate plot threads, culminating in a thrilling climax that will leave readers astonished.

With "Black As He Painted," Ngaio Marsh proves once again why Inspector Roderick Alleyn is a beloved character in the mystery genre. The attention to detail, well-developed characters, and intricate plotting make this book a must-read for fans, and a perfect for newcomers to the series.

So, if you're craving a suspenseful and captivating read, look no further than "Black As He Painted." Allow yourself to be immersed in a world of mystery, deception, and humanity, as Inspector Alleyn uncovers the truth behind a seemingly perfect crime. Get ready for an unforgettable journey that will keep you guessing until the very last page.



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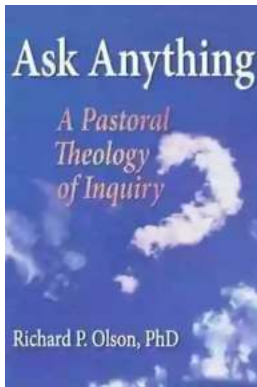
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A visiting dignitary in London asks for security—and gets extra help from a clever feline—in a novel starring “the nonpareil among criminal investigators” (The New York Times).

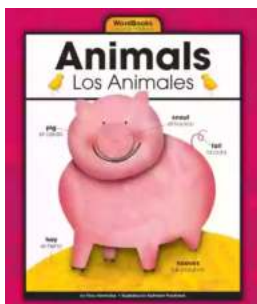
Superintendent Alleyn’s old school chum, nicknamed the “Boomer,” has become the president of the newly emerged African nation of Ng’ombwana, newly emerged in the wake of colonialism. Old school ties being what they are, his friend—making an official visit to London—insists that Alleyn handle his security, rather than Her Majesty’s Special Branch. The Special Branch is not best pleased about this, as the Boomer is known to have some very deadly enemies, and the threats only increase when the Ng’ombwanan ambassador is killed. Happily for the Boomer, not only is Alleyn up to the task, but he is assisted by a rescued cat who proves extremely adept at finding clues . . .

“The brilliant Ngaio Marsh ranks with Agatha Christie and Dorothy Sayers.” — Times Literary Supplement



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