



Gaudy Night (The Lord Peter Wimsey Mysteries Book 12)

By Dorothy L. Sayers



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Back at Oxford for her reunion, Harriet Vane, Lord Peter's beloved, finds herself in mortal danger

Since she graduated from Oxford's Shrewsbury College, Harriet Vane has found fame by writing novels about ingenious murders. She also won infamy when she was accused of committing a murder herself. It took a timely intervention from the debonair Lord Peter Wimsey to save her from the gallows, and since then she has devoted her spare time to resisting his attempts to marry her. Putting aside her lingering shame from the trial, Harriet returns to Oxford for her college reunion with her head held high—only to find that her life is in danger once again.

The first poison-pen letter calls her a “dirty murderess,” and those that follow are no kinder. As the threats become more frightening, she calls on Lord Peter for help. Among the dons of Oxford lurks a killer, but it will take more than a superior education to match Lord Peter and the daring Harriet.

Gaudy Night is the 12th book in the Lord Peter Wimsey Mysteries, but you may enjoy the series by reading the books in any order.

This ebook features an illustrated biography of Dorothy L. Sayers including rare images from the Marion E. Wade Center at Wheaton College.



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Editorial Review

Review

“So excitingly good in its field, so brilliantly planned and so excellently written, that even the weariest able minds and the jumpiest nerves should react pleasingly to it.” —*The New York Times*

“A royal performance.” —*The Spectator*

“Very skillful writing. Miss Sayers has done herself a real tour de force, and done it with ease and grace.” —*Saturday Review*

From the Back Cover

When Harriet Vane attends her Oxford reunion, known as the Gaudy, the prim academic setting is haunted by a rash of bizarre pranks: scrawled obscenities, burnt effigies, and poison-pen letters, including one that says, "Ask your boyfriend with the title if he likes arsenic in his soup." Some of the notes threaten murder; all are perfectly ghastly; yet in spite of their scurrilous nature, all are perfectly worded. And Harriet finds herself ensnared in a nightmare of romance and terror, with only the tiniest shreds of clues to challenge her powers of detection, and those of her paramour, Lord Peter Wimsey.

About the Author

Dorothy L. Sayers (1893–1957) was a British playwright, scholar, and acclaimed author of mysteries, best known for her books starring the gentleman sleuth Lord Peter Wimsey. While working as an advertising copywriter, Sayers began writing *Whose Body?* (1923), the first Wimsey mystery, followed by ten sequels and several short stories. Sayers set the Wimsey novels between the two World Wars, giving them a realistic tone by incorporating details from contemporary issues such as advertising, women's education, and veterans' health. Sayers also wrote theological essays and criticism during and after World War II, and in 1949 published the first volume of a translation of Dante's *Divine Comedy*. Although she considered this translation to be her best work, it is for her elegantly constructed detective fiction that Sayers remains best remembered.

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