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## **U4HXA6 - JOHN VILLEGAS**

DEATH IN A WHITE TIEThe season has begun. Débutantes and chaperones are planning their gala dinners - and the blackmailer is planning strategies to stalk his next victim. But Chief Detective Inspector Roderick Alleyn knows that something is up and has already planted his friend Lord Gospell at the dinner. But someone else has got there first...OVERTURE TO DEATHIt was planned as an act of charity: a new piano for the parish hall, and an amusing evening's entertainment to finance the gift. But all is doomed when Miss Campanula sits down to play. A chord is struck, a shot rings out, and Miss Campanula is dead.it seems to be a case of sinister infatuation for Roderick Alleyn...DEATH AT THE BARA mid-summer evening - darts night at The Plume of Feathers, a traditional Devonshire public house. A distinguished painter, a celebrated actor, a woman graduate, a plump lady from County Clare and a local farmer all play their parts in a fatal experiment which calls for the investigative expertise of Inspector Alleyn...

The tenth volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries.

A new edition of a classic mystery follows Scotland Yard's Troy Alleyn, on a cruise through England with his wife, as he tries to unmask "Jampot," a murderous forger disguised as a fellow passenger, before he strikes again. Reprint.

When wealthy spinster Idris Campanula turns up dead at Chip-ping's troubled charity production, Inspector Roderick Alleyn realizes she may not have been the intended victim and sets the stage for a repeat performance. Reprint.

Commemorating 75 years since the Empress of Crime's first book, the first volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries.

Commemorating 75 years since the Empress of Crime's first book, the sixth volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries.

Commemorating 75 years since the Empress of Crime's first book, the fourth volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries

A spring may have healing properties—but the controversy over it may have harmful results—in a witty mystery by a Mystery Writers of America Grand Master. The elderly Emily Pride is perfectly pleased to have inherited an island, even if her starchy pragmatism is ever-so-faintly appalled by the island's "Pixie Falls" spring and its reported miraculous healing properties. Really, the locals' attempts to capitalize on the "miracles" are entirely too tacky—Ye Olde Gift Shoppe, the neon signs . . .not on Miss Emily's watch, thank you. Of course, the locals are not exactly thrilled to give up their trade. Pixie Falls may be merely be known for healing warts, it's true, but you take your shillings where you can find them. Could their frustration have bubbled up into murderous rage? Inspector Alleyn will have to sort it out. And this time, it's personal. "It's time to start comparing Christie to Marsh instead of the other way around." —New York Magazine "A peerless practitioner of the slightly surreal, English-village comedy-mystery." —Kirkus Reviews "The nonpareil among criminal investigators." —The New York Times

Commemorating 75 years since the Empress of Crime's first book,

the first volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries.

A mystery with "atmosphere, humor . . .and a group of characters, English, Maori, and New Zealander, who are fascinating and completely credible." —The New York Times During World War II, Colonel Claire—a tremendously nice fellow and a disastrously bad businessman—runs a mud-baths resort in rural New Zealand. But the place is on the brink of being taken over by a local blowhard who may be a Nazi spy. Inspector Alleyn has been sent in to sort things out—and don a disguise in order to blend in the resort's motley cast of characters—in this classic tale of detection from the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master. "It's time to start comparing Christie to Marsh instead of the other way around." —New York Magazine

Commemorating 75 years since the Empress of Crime's first book, the seventh volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries

In a mystery originally published in 1934, Scotland Yard's Inspector Roderick Alleyn arrives at Sir Hubert Handesley's country house party only to discover a real corpse has appeared during the guests' parlor game of "Murder." Reprint.

Roderick Alleyn is back in this unique crime novel begun by Ngaio Marsh during the Second World War and now completed by Stella Duffy in a way that has delighted reviewers and critics alike.

A suspicious inheritance comes to the rescue of a cash-strapped aristocratic family: "Entertaining and devious . . . Plenty of red herrings." —Kirkus Reviews The upper-crust Lamprey family exemplifies charm, wit, and a chronic lack of funds. Their only source of

hope is the wealthy but unpleasant Lord Wutherwood, and the Lampreys may perhaps be forgiven for doing a little jig when his Lordship is killed and the resulting inheritance saves their bacon. Inspector Roderick Alleyn wouldn't dream of judging the Lampreys' joy. But he would like to figure out whether they murdered their benefactor . . . Also published under the title *Death of a Peer* "It's time to start comparing Christie to Marsh instead of the other way around." —New York Magazine "A mystery novelist of world renown." —The New York Times

Superintendent Roderick Alleyn of Scotland Yard visits the Channel Islands after a riding accident leads to charges of premeditated murder

Three Inspector Alleyn novels plus a bonus story "Death on the air."

A high-society homicide is the talk of the London season . . . "Marsh's writing is a pleasure." —The Seattle Times It's debutante season in London, and that means giggles and tea-dances, white dresses and inappropriate romances . . . and much too much champagne. And, apparently, a blackmailer, which is where Inspector Roderick Alleyn comes in. The social whirl is decidedly not Alleyn's environment, so he brings in an assistant in the form of Lord "Bunchy" Gospell, everybody's favorite uncle. Bunchy is more than lovable; he's also got some serious sleuthing skills. But before he can unmask the blackmailer, a murder is announced. And everyone suddenly stops giggling . . . "It's time to start comparing Christie to Marsh instead of the other way around." —New York Magazine "[Her] writing style and vivid characters and settings made her a mystery novelist of world renown." —The New York Times

This tale of an actress's dramatic demise, and a police detective trying to sniff out a killer, is "one of Ngaio Marsh's best yarns" (Kirkus Reviews). Mary Bellamy is the sweetheart of the London stage—everyone simply adores darling Mary. So her fans and friends are heartbroken when somehow Mary manages to spritz herself not with her favorite perfume but with a deadly insecticide meant to be sprayed on the azaleas. What Inspector Alleyn smells is something fishy, especially since everything he learns about lovely, fragile Mary suggests that in fact she was a rather vicious battleax. And with a bit more investigation, he quickly starts smelling something different: a rat . . . "It's time to start comparing Christie to Marsh instead of the other way around." —New

York Magazine "[Her] writing style and vivid characters and settings made her a mystery novelist of world renown." —The New York Times

From the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master, this tale of death at the Dolphin Theatre has "wit, charm, and oodles of atmosphere" (Kirkus Reviews). Among theater folk, "the Scottish play" is considered unlucky, so much so that tradition requires anyone who utters its proper name backstage to leave the building, spin around, spit, curse, and then request permission to re-enter. As director Peregrine Jay directs a production of Shakespeare's great work at the Dolphin Theater, misfortune does indeed abound, including some ugly practical jokes—and a grisly death for the leading man. It's up to Roderick Alleyn to find out who has blood on their hands . . . "No playwright could devise a better curtain." —Los Angeles Times "As always she writes most elegantly." —Daily Telegraph "The doyenne of traditional mystery writers." —The New York Times

A murdered body is discovered on a farm, packed in a bale of wool—and Roderick Alleyn must find a wild, woolly killer.

When a member of a wealthy cult, the House of the Sacred Flame, dies "accidentally" after drinking the ritual wine during a ceremony, Inspector Roderick Alleyn must discover who dosed the wine with the fatal prussic acid. Reprint.

The new play at the Unicorn is the event of the year until the final act leaves an actor dead, and Inspector Alleyn must uncover the killer who wrote murder into the playbill—one of two people who had access to the prop box. Reprint.

One of Ngaio Marsh's most ingenious novels.

Governess-turned-detective Miss Silver investigates a deadly conspiratorial ring Charles Moray has come home to England to collect his inheritance. After four years wandering the jungles of India and South America, the hardy young man returns to the manor of his birth, where generations of Morays have lived and died. Strangely, he finds the house unlocked, and sees a light on in one of its abandoned rooms. Eavesdropping, he learns of a conspiracy to commit a fearsome crime. Never one for the heroic, Charles's first instinct is to let the police settle it. But then he hears her voice. Margaret, his long lost love, is part of the gang. To unravel their diabolical plot, he contacts Miss Maud Silver, a onetime governess who applies reason to solve crimes and face the dangers of London's underworld.

Photo Finish's dead diva, the soprano Isabella Sommita, was so widely loathed that the problem is less a lack of plausible suspects than an embarrassment of options. Though the grand country-house - and with it, the country-house murder - was history by 1980, when Photo Finish was originally published, Dame Ngaio got around the problem by setting the story on a lavish island estate, cut off from the mainland by a sudden storm. Happily, Inspector Alleyn is among the guests, and can take charge in the coppers' absence. The penultimate book in the series, Photo Finish is also one of only four books set in Marsh's native New Zealand.

Vacationing in Rome, Inspector Roderick Alleyn investigates when a member of his tour group is mysteriously murdered

A Shakespearean actor shuffles off his mortal coil in this "skillfully wrought" country-house mystery (The New York Times). Sir Henry Ancred, a celebrated Shakespearean actor, has arranged to have his portrait painted by Agatha Troy, wife of Inspector Roderick Alleyn. But when Ancred is killed at his own birthday party, leaving behind a family full of suspects, Troy's work ends and Inspector Alleyn's begins . . . "It's time to start comparing Christie to Marsh instead of the other way around." —New York Magazine "A peerless practitioner of the slightly surreal, English-village comedy-mystery." —Kirkus Reviews

Inspector Roderick Alleyn finds his vacation cut short when a famous producer ends up killed by a wine bottle, leading Alleyn to investigate the actors of a theater company, as well as the dead man's wife. Reprint.

The final volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries.

Winner of Britain's coveted Duncan Lawrie Dagger Award, Ann Cleeves introduces a dazzling new suspense series to U.S. mystery readers. Raven Black begins on New Year's Eve with a lonely outcast named Magnus Tait, who stays home waiting for visitors who never come. But the next morning the body of a murdered teenage girl is discovered nearby, and suspicion falls on Magnus. Inspector Jimmy Perez enters an investigative maze that leads deeper into the past of the Shetland Islands than anyone wants to go.

The eighth volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries.

Commemorating 75 years since the Empress of Crime's first book,

the third volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries.

The ninth volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries.

This tale of murder at a snowed-in country house is a “constant puzzle to the end . . . alive with wit” (The New York Times). The unspeakably wealthy (and generally unspeakable) Jonathan Royal has decided to throw a party and, just for fun, has studded the guest list with people who loathe one another. When a blizzard imprisons them all in Royal’s country house, murder ensues, and there are nearly as many suspects as there are potential victims. Eventually, Inspector Alleyn makes his way through the snow to

put things right, in this classic whodunit by the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master. “A smooth yarn.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

A collection of short mystery stories by New Zealand's premier mystery writer. Also included are the author's essays about her major character, Detective-Inspector Roderic Alleyn.

A classic Ngaio Marsh novel reissued in B-format.

The second book to feature Scotland Yard investigator Adam Dalgliesh, *A Mind To Murder* is a “superbly satisfying mystery” (Chicago Daily News) from bestselling author P.D. James. On the surface, the Steen Psychiatric Clinic is one of the most reputable insti-

tutions in London. But when the administrative head is found dead with a chisel in her heart, that distinguished facade begins to crumble as the truth emerges. Superintendent Adam Dalgliesh of Scotland Yard is called in to investigate and quickly finds himself caught in a whirlwind of psychiatry, drugs, and deceit. Now he must analyze the deep-seated anxieties and thwarted desires of patients and staff alike to determine which of their unresolved conflicts has resulted in murder and stop a cunning killer before the next blow.

Commemorating 75 years since the *Empress of Crime*'s first book, the second volume in a set of omnibus editions presenting the complete run of 32 Inspector Alleyn mysteries.