



Dead Man's Chest (Phryne Fisher Mysteries)

By Kerry Greenwood

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Dot unfolded the note. "He says that his married couple will look after the divine Miss Fisher...I'll leave out a bit...their name is Johnson and they seem very reliable." Phryne got the door open at last. She stepped into the hall. "I think he was mistaken about that," she commented.

Traveling at high speed in her beloved Hispano-Suiza accompanied by her maid and trusted companion Dot, her two adoptive daughters Jane and Ruth, and their dog Molly, The Hon. Miss Phryne Fisher is off to Queenscliff. She'd promised everyone a nice holiday by the sea with absolutely no murders, but when they arrive at their rented accommodation that doesn't seem likely at all.

An empty house, a gang of teenage louts, a fisherboy saved, and the mystery of a missing butler and his wife seem to lead inexorably toward a hunt for buried treasure by the sea. But what information might the curious Surrealists be able to contribute? Phryne knows to what depths people will sink for greed, but with a glass of champagne in one hand and a pearl-handled Beretta in the other, no one is getting past her.

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Editorial Review

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After some rather harrowing adventures (Murder on a Midsummer Night, 2009) Phryne Fisher, the Australian flapper and PI, is determined to enjoy a quiet vacation. After packing maid Dot, adopted daughters Jane and Ruth, and cat Molly into her Hispano Suiza, Phryne drives to Queenscliff, only to discover that the rental house is missing its butler and housekeeper. Then, despite her desire for a murder-free vacation, she takes on an investigation after the missing housekeeper's beloved dog shows up on her backstep, filthy and hungry, and the local coppers prove to be no help. Phryne's determination to get it all wrapped up before boyfriend Lin Chung joins her makes for a fast-paced story. Greenwood weaves in a local legend involving pirates and missing treasure, and Phryne makes friends with some wacky surrealists in this very enjoyable eighteenth series entry. A major new character is introduced as Phryne welcomes into the family a young man who proves a willing and capable assistant investigator. The limited cast of characters (most of Phryne's regulars stay in Melbourne) makes this a good choice for series newcomers. --Jessica Moyer

Review

Even on holiday, Phryne Fisher can't escape a mystery.~~~Phryne (Murder on a Midsummer Night, 2009, etc.) handsomely demonstrates once more that even a compulsion to explore every mystery that comes her way needn't interfere with her appetite for life. (*Kirkus*)

About the Author

Kerry Greenwood is the author of more than 40 novels and six non-fiction books. Among her many honors, Ms. Greenwood has received the Ned Kelly Lifetime Achievement Award from the Crime Writers' Association of Australia. When she is not writing she is an advocate in Magistrates' Courts for the Legal Aid Commission. She is not married, has no children and lives with a registered Wizard.

Users Review

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Johnnie Santiago:

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