



Day of Vengeance

Jeanne M. Dams

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The new compelling mystery featuring Anglophile Dorothy Martin and her husband, retired policeman Alan Nesbitt . . .

Dorothy Martin's husband, Alan Nesbitt, is heavily involved in the complex and lengthy process of choosing a new bishop for Sherebury Cathedral. The very day that the short list is announced publicly, one of the candidates is found murdered in his own church. With a long list of possible suspects, including Alan himself, Dorothy and Alan start to delve into the history of the victim, hoping to find some clue to a motive for murder.

Then a second candidate is found dead, and the case becomes very complicated indeed. Who is murdering England's clergymen and why . . . ?

Day of Vengeance Details

Date : Published September 1st 2014 by Severn House Digital

ISBN :

Author : Jeanne M. Dams

Format : Kindle Edition 224 pages

Genre : Mystery, Cozy Mystery, European Literature, British Literature, Fiction

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From Reader Review Day of Vengeance for online ebook

Grey853 says

I only give it a two because I like the main characters. Solving the mystery itself requires far too many church details and sermons. The whole thing is seeped in religion, which I found hard going.

Still, I do like the relationship between the two leads.

Lorraine says

I enjoyed the fact that Dorothy and Alan are back in familiar territory again.

Judith says

Murder while choosing a bishop...lots of twists and turns. Jeanne M. Dams is one of my favourite modern murder/mystery writers!

Diane says

My least favorite of a beloved series.

Elizabeth Grieve says

I'm afraid this was not for me. While I enjoy a whodunnit I didn't care for the volume of detail regarding church sermons etc, although of course it corresponds to the setting.

Review of an advance digital copy from the publisher.

Diane says

#15 (Dorothy Martin Mystery) Dorothy and Alan are on the Appointments Commission to hire a new Bishop for Sherebury Cathedral. When one of the Men on the short list is murdered they need to investigate.

Jeanne Bracken says

I usually like Jeanne M. Dams' books, but this one was a disappointment. I had some trouble "getting into" the story, which doesn't seem quite as charming as her others. Her husband is on a committee to choose a

new bishop for their cathedral, and one of the four contenders is murdered. Think: nefarious doings in the Church of England. Dams' books often have a lot about the C of E and its cathedrals or parish churches, so this is not a departure in that way. The mystery is not as compelling for me, since I didn't get to "know" the deceased until late in the book. Dams' amateur sleuth Dorothy Martin, American ex-pat, and her retired chief inspector husband Alan Nesbitt go haring off around the countryside meeting up with the various red herrings, although Dorothy (when she is on her own) is on flimsy "need to know" basis. No fem jep here (stupid female putting herself in jeopardy, as in "don't open that door.....don't go down those cellar stairs.....don't go into the barn...) and she isn't butting heads with the authorities. My main complaint is that the solution comes from so far out in left field that I had to page back to find the murderer even mentioned, and I found half of a paragraph. That's not playing fair with the reader, IMHO. I prefer Dams' Hilda Johanssen series set in the American midwest, although there have been few of them and no new titles in the past 3 or 4 years. With the current book, after all the hand-wringing about finding a new bishop, the finale doesn't say who was selected. Sheesh!

Wendy says

Not as good as the rest of the series. Too involved with the religious side of things for me. Wasn't necessary to sit through mass for each bishop candidate. Moved a little slowly

Jan says

I like this series, & this entry was interesting but a little heavy on samples of the preaching done by bishop candidates. The ending as a shocker that I didn't see coming. Basically a good book, & well worth the read.

Karen C says

I liked it because I like all of her books, but I felt this one went on a little too long.

Damaskcat says

Dorothy Martin - ex-pat American living in a cathedral city in England - often finds herself mixed up in real life murder mysteries. This time she becomes involved through her husband, Alan Nesbitt, retired Chief Constable of Belleshire who is a member of the appointments committee which is in the process of selecting a new Bishop. One of the candidates is murdered - and loyalties and feuds are brought into the light of day during the course of the investigation.

I have read several of the books in this entertaining series and this is the latest book - number fifteen in the series. Dorothy and her husband together with their many friends and acquaintances need to find out precisely who is responsible for the death and with members of the appointments commission under suspicion - not to speak of other candidates for the bishopric the investigation needs to be conducted fast and with tact and diplomacy.

I thought the background to this story was interesting as were the references to some of the classics of

detective fiction. You may either love or hate Dorothy but it is always interesting to see what she makes of English society and customs. This is an interesting cosy mystery with plenty of suspects and plenty of clues and anyone who enjoys their crime novels without on the page violence and bad language will enjoy this series which can be read in any order. I received a free copy of this book for review purposes.

Belinda says

Cliffhanger to the end if a little politically biased

I didn't guess who did it. It had to be revealed at the end. While the clues were technically there, it was never obvious to me who did the deed. So, well done on the mystery bit! The only thing I didn't appreciate was the sanctimonious, biased position thrust upon the reader regarding church policy on gay marriage. Then again, no one's perfect - yes, even dear Dorothy Martin can be judgmental of those with views differing to hers!

Jane Irish Nelson says

Fascinating look at the process involved in choosing a new bishop in the Anglican church. Since Alan is on the committee who selected the shortlist of four from all the candidates, when one of them is killed — in the cathedral where he serves as dean — naturally Alan and Dorothy become involved in the investigation. Was the culprit a member of the selection committee or perhaps one of the other candidates? Or did the murderer have a more personal reason? Alan and Dorothy visit the other candidates in their home churches, both to see which of them would be a good fit at Sherebury, and to learn more about them. The results are both diverse and intriguing, but seem to help resolve the murder. But then a young friend, who is helping with the investigation disappears, raising the stakes. Wonderful book. Highly recommended.

Carol says

Oh, Jeanne. You may have given me a new series to read. This was my first Dorothy Martin book and I liked it. It was very chummy, focused on the characters, glossing over any violence. I love a protagonist who loves her pets, reading mystery novels and England. This particular book focused on the Church of England and gave plenty of detail on the roles and services. If I had one complaint, it would be that the mystery resolved itself too quickly, too late. I mean, I was 15 pages from the end and they still hadn't wrapped it up, then all of a sudden, a new theory and person comes out of nowhere and it's all sewn up neat quick.

Cindy says

Dorothy Martin finds herself investigating the death of the dean of a cathedral with her husband, retired chief constable Alan Nesbitt. I love cozy mysteries, and I love this series, but the 15th book in the series missed the mark for me. In this series, I have enjoyed exploring England through the eyes of Dorothy, an American living in a picturesque village in England. Day of Vengeance follows a death within the Church of England, and I found the the background details of the church overwhelmed the mystery.
