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Posted on 26 February 2017 By Ngaio Marsh

IPdf ? Dead Water ? eBooks or Kindle ePUB free

This book was very good company on a rainy day I was lucky enough to find another pristine paperback at the library published by Felony Mayhem in 2015 on 100% recycled paper, always a good thing Originally published 1963 The book opens perfectly for someone like me with a tug on the heartstrings Marsh was not one to write sentimental themes, but she introduces one of the characters who plays a role in this mystery like this A boy stumbled up the hillside, half blinded by tears He fell and, for a time, choked and sobbed as he lay in the sun but presently blundered on A lark sang overhead Farther up the hill he could hear the multiple chatter of running water The children down by the jetty still chanted after him Warty hog, warty hog, Put your puddies in the bog, Warty Walter, Warty Walter, Wash your warties in the water He makes it up the incline to the spring and plunges his hands in the cold waterfall when a woman asks him what is wrong She tells him to believe and they will be clean Sure enough, young Walter is healed of those warts This is the beginning of a community revolution in a remote island Another character I liked very much is a strong older woman, Emily Pride, who inherits the island from her sister She happens to be a friend of Inspector Alleyn, having been his French tutor when he joined the service Naturally, when things go south Alleyn is called from another interrupted holiday with his family. Good mystery 83 year old Emily Pride owns an island where apparently miracles occur at a spring However, she wants to close it down which the locals are upset about as it has become a gold mine The crazy Miss Cost, drunken Major with a gorgeous wife, Dr Maine and the not so nice father of Wally The murder surprised me but there are enough clues to figure out the murderer My second Ngaio Marsh novel and I am hooked I am also looking forward to watching the movie. Dead Water 1963 by Ngaio Marsh takes us back to the village setting this time a small fishing community at Portcarrow It begins with a scene two years in the past when a young boy by the name of Wally Trehern experiences what seems to be a miraculous cure Plagued by warts all over his hands, he has suffered the jeers and taunts of his schoolmates for years On this occasion he runs away from them to a local spring where he encounters a lady in green who tells him to wash his hands in the spring water and if he believes his warts will be cured The next day his warts have fallen off as if by magic and soon the legend of the green lady and the newly christened Pixie Falls is spread Mrs Fanny Winterbottom, the current owner of the land where the spring is found has no problem with pilgrims coming to the site and the village making what profit they can from the magical waters An entry fee is established, a gift shop is set up, and the local pub inn begins turning a profit for the first time in recent memory And then two years later, Mrs Winterbottom dies and her sister Miss Emily Pride, a French language expert, comes into possession Miss Pride doesn't hold with commercializing people's belief in mystical cures

She sends messages to the village that all commercial enterprises connected to the spring must stop she won't prevent folks from coming to the spring if they want to, but there will be no advertisement and no profiting from it She also announces her intention to visit the area to see what exactly needs to be done to return the spring and surrounding land to its former condition. Well naturally this doesn't go down so well with those who have made a business of the thing and Miss Pride receives threats made of cut up newsprint So, she calls upon the help of one of her former pupils Superintendent Roderick Alleyn He advises her to give up the plan to visit Portcarrow and to conduct her business through an attorney But Miss Pride is a determined woman and believes in facing up to one's obligations She goes anyway and is the victim of an assault from rock throwing and threats Alleyn arrives in the village for the first and, if Miss Pride has her way, only Pixie Falls Festival and is just in time to discover the body of a middle aged woman, knocked out and drowned at the spring Surprisingly enough, it's not Miss Pride who has been murdered, but Elspeth Cost a middle aged woman who has been the driving force in the mystification and veneration of the spring Was she, as it appears, mistaken for Miss Pride and then killed anyway to prevent her from identifying the attacker Or were there reasons for someone to kill Miss Cost Alleyn will have to sort that out in order to identify the killer. This wound up being a middle of the road Marsh book for me I had better memories of it from my first reading 30ish years ago than were realized in this go round The best of the book was Miss Emily Pride even though she is well named and pride almost goes before a fall She is a determined and independent lady and it was nice to see Marsh portray a spinster in a favorable light I did appreciate her principled view of the supposed miracle cures She didn't imply that they were fake, but she absolutely refused to be a party to anyone taking financial advantage of the situation I was also amused by her relationship with Alleyn it was fun to see him so disconcerted by his former French tutor The book turns Alleyn into an action figure of sorts at the dramatic end with the murderer bolting and Alleyn giving chase through a coastal storm and finding himself in danger of life Not the usual drawing room summing up With a fairly good plot I didn't guess the murderer this time and the exciting finish, this comes in at a solid. First posted on my blog My Reader's Block Please request permission before reposting review content Thanks. That's Wally's cottage We're about to climb Wally's Way and that is Wally's mama, another alcoholic, by the by, leering over the back fence His father is ferryman at high tide and general showman in between The whole boiling of them the Barris, the Parson, the Doctor, the Major, the Treherns, Miss Cost herself, with pretty well everybody else in the community stood to lose by Miss Pride's operations Apart from arousing the cornered fury of a hunted male, it's difficult to discover a motive for Miss Cost's murder motive is one of the secondary elements in police investigation The old tag jog trotted through his mind Quis Quid Ubi Quibus Auxilis Cur Quomodo Quando Which might be rendered Who did the deed What was it Where was it done With what Why was it done And how done When was it done The lot.

NGAIO MARSH



DEAD WATER

THEY ARE THE ONLY THINGS LEFT OF A MARSH

It's been a long time since I read any of Ngaio Marsh's books and I had forgotten how good she was. Although I don't think that this is one of her best, it still warrants four stars. As always, her characters are really well drawn and the plot is good. The autocratic Miss Price and her dialogue with Alleyn in this story is just marvellous. I am now going to re-read another one. Enjoyed this very much. Loved the fact that Alleyn's former teacher was one of the characters, even if she was very stubborn and set in her attitudes. It showed him in another type of relationship than we sometimes see. Enjoyed also the interaction of Fox with Miss Price, as she is a French teacher and he is perennially trying to learn that language. Liked the ancillary characters, too, than I sometimes do in Marsh's tales. |Pdf ? Dead Water ? A Week Of Death Threats At A Faith Healing Resort Ends In Murder Inspector Roderick Alleyn Is Then Faced With The Most Challenging Case Of His Career What Makes Matters Worse Is The Fact That One Of The Suspects Is His Oldest Friend In Classic Marsh Fashion, The Other Suspect Turns Out To Be None Other Than The Victim Herself Another great mystery that kept me guessing. Wally Trehern, a mentally simple boy in Portcarrow, has been undergoing severe teasing from the other children because his hands are covered with awful, ugly warts. In 1963's *Dead Water* by Ngaio Marsh, running to the local spring in tears, he puts his hands in the water, but he still has the same warts. Then, his eyes full of tears, Wally looks up and sees only what he calls *The Green Lady*. She tells him to plunge his hands back in the water, and the next day Wally shows his hands to his teacher, Jenny Williams, astonishing her by having completely clean hands. His only explanation is that *The Green Lady* and the springs healed him. Read the rest of this review and other fun, geeky articles at Fangirl Nation. Good plot but unfortunately not well written.

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