

IGNOU Books, IGNOU Result, IGNOU Solved Assignment, IGNOU

[Home](#)

[The Warren Court and American Politics](#)

[John Marshall and the Heroic Age of the Supreme Court](#)

[Out of Order: Stories from the History of the Supreme Court](#)

[I Dissent: Great Opposing Opinions in Landmark Supreme Court Cases](#)

[Justice Lewis F. Powell: A Biography](#)

[Lazy B: Growing Up on a Cattle Ranch in the American Southwest](#)

[Of Power and Right: Hugo Black, William O. Douglas, and America's Constitutional Revolution](#)

[Simple Justice: The History of Brown v. Board of Education and Black America's Struggle for Equality](#)

[John Marshall: The Man Who Made the Supreme Court](#)

[Judicious Choices: The New Politics of Supreme Court Confirmations](#)

[Hugo Black: A Biography](#)

[The Confirmation Mess: Cleaning Up The Federal Appointments Process](#)

[Making Constitutional Law: Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court, 1961-1991](#)

[The Life and Times of William Howard Taft, Vol 1](#)

[Deciding to Leave: The Politics of Retirement from the United States Supreme Court](#)

[Unexampled Courage: The Blinding of Sgt. Isaac Woodard and the Awakening of President Harry S. Truman and Judge J. Waties Waring](#)

Posted on 07 March 2018 By Ngaio Marsh

@E-pub ? Swing Brother Swing ? eBook or E-pub free

Ngai Marsh enters the post war years in 1949 s *Swing, Brother, Swing*, titled *A Wreath for Rivera* in America and still published under that name on my version of the audiobook *Lord George Pastern*, renowned for extreme eccentricity, seems to have finally lost his sanity when he practically builds up a murder case against himself *Lord Pastern* has gotten into jazz and playing the drums convincing *Breezy Bellair* to let him do a special piece with *Bellair s* famous jazz band They do a musical number in which they intend to use a revolver and blanks However, neither *Lord Pastern* nor *Carlos Rivera*, the villainous accordionist star of the band who has given an ultimatum to *George s* step daughter, *Felicite*, to announce their engagement, can agree on who will pretend to fall over dead At the time of the performance, *Rivera* unexpectedly falls over despite the group s decision to do the other routine When *Bellair* bends over the musician as part of the act, he looks concerned and gets the ushers to carry *Rivera* out, only for the man to die before the doctor in the audience can reach him. Read the rest of this review and other fun, geeky articles at *Fangirl Nation* All build up, then fizzle. There s this crazy cast of to me rather annoying and unlikable characters the family of rich eccentrics, lounge musicians, drug dealers, magazine columnists and then once we get the relationships and plot all worked out, it s over Disappointing I felt bad for the one pleasant character, having to put up with selfish jerks, and gropey creeps and murder and then not even getting a denouement And I know Marsh stereotypes of Italians and Latins is par for the time, but it gets a tad irksome of you read than one mystery with an Italian Spanish Latin American character in a row. @E-pub ì *Swing Brother Swing* P *Red Hot Jazz Meets Cold Blooded Murder* When *Lord Pastern* *Bagott* Takes Up With The Hot Music Of *Breezy Bellair* And His Boys, His Disapproving Wife *Cecile* Has Than Usual To Be Unhappy About The Band S Devastatingly Handsome But Roguish Accordionist, *Carlos Rivera*, Has Taken A Rather Intense And Mutual Interest In Her Precious Daughter *Felicite* So When A Bit Of Strange Business Goes Awry And Actually Kills Him, It S Lucky That Inspector *Roderick Alleyn* Is In The Audience Now *Alleyn* Must Follow A Confusing Score That Features A Chorus Of Family And Friends Desperate To Hide The Truth And Perhaps Shelter A Murderer In Their Midst This one was just okay I read it with the *Reading the Detectives* group, and I got the feeling nobody was thrilled with it. Another dysfunctional family is at the center of the action an eccentric peer, *Lord Pastern*, his estranged wife, her stepdaughter, and a couple cousins I don t mind the dysfunctional family the last book we read had that in spades, but at least there was humor and some sympathetic characters I couldn t find one likable character here well, maybe *Carlisle*, the cousin who gets caught in the middle of the family drama. *Lord Pastern* is an obnoxious ass he s been through several extreme phases, from nudism to yoga to free love, and has now

become obsessed with jazz music he seems to relish dragging his aristocratic wife through embarrassing situations, and they have been living apart wise of her, I thought At the beginning of this book, they are back together and he s taken up with a rather sleazy band leader who will let the peer perform with his band after a cheesy, incomprehensible performance, one of the musicians lies dead, seemingly shot through the heart in front of the audience. Once Inspector Alleyn who happened to be in the audience and Fox begin investigating, things improved I do like their chemistry, and enjoy watching Fox work his magic interviewing the servants We get an all too brief glimpse of Troy, and the happy news that Fox is to be a godfather I hope to see of her in our next Alleyn mystery next month I will definitely continue with this series, and look forward to reading the earlier mysteries I missed I prefer reading series in order to follow character development, but each book in the Inspector Alleyn series can be read as a stand alone. Disappointing This one sort of encapsulates a lot of what is sometimes wrong with these for me. Fox and Alleyn are their usual charming selves, but there s too little of them, and they show up to late And everyone else who is involved in the mystery is annoying. Basically, this centres around a ridiculously eccentric English Peer His family friends get called together, because his step daughter is about to make an unfortunate engagement, and he s decided to take up with a Jazz Swing band Then at the concert, the daughter s almost fiance though they had just broken it off is killed, apparently by the crazy Peer. The mystery itself is actually not that bad It s just that everyone involved is kind of annoying and hateful The dead almost fiance is the worst constantly jealous, and making threats, and just, whatever I have never understood the attraction to that type The step daughter Felicity is self centred, and overly emotional, and just kind of obnoxious Her mother is really rigid The Peer himself is crazy pants view spoiler while being super manipulative behind the scenes via a secret advice column, that both his wife and daughter write into, P.S Drugs also play an important part hide spoiler A Wreath for Rivera 1st pub as Swing Brother Swing 1949 by Ngaio Marsh finds Lord Pastern Bagott, the very model of eccentric British aristocracy taking up jazz drumming or becoming a tympanist, according to Marsh His eccentric nature has reminded Curtis at the Passing Tramp of real life eccentric Lord Berners and he Curtis makes a good case for Marsh using Lord Berners as a model Lord Pastern to use the abbreviated form has in the past been involved with Indian yogis, VooDoo, and nudism to name a few of his eclectic pursuits He has forced his wife to share her home with members of an esoteric Central European sect She has, by turns, indulged him initially , threatened to divorce him, generally lived separately, and recently reunited with him She found that once the Central Europeans vacated Duke s Gate where she had lived apart from Lord Pastern that she could not endure the quiet So, when her husband decided to bang away at drums, she welcomed the noise and him to Duke s Gate. His latest passion is to perform with an actual jazz band and he convinces Breezy Bellairs to let him join Breezy Bellairs Boys for a feature number at the Metronome club He s even written a little song and devised a pretty little skit to go along

with the number He'll bang away at the drums and then Carlos Rivera, Breezy's star piano accordionist, will come out and get shot with blanks. It will be a real show stopper. Of course, Rivera is a quite unsuitable young man who has gotten entangled with Lord Pastern's step daughter Felicité and Lady Pastern wants the relationship quashed at all costs. When somebody loads the gun with something deadly than blanks, she gets her wish in spades. Naturally, it winds up that all sorts of people might have wanted Rivera out of the way. He was putting pressure on Breezy. Other members of the band were a bit fed up with him. He flirted incessantly with Lord Pastern's niece Carlisle much to Felicité's annoyance intended as well as to Ned Edward Manx's who has just discovered that he loves Lisle. But who hated or feared him enough to kill. Luckily, Inspector Roderick Alleyn is in the audience when Lord Pastern's Hot Guy number produces one very cold corpse. He and Fox will have to wade through musicians' jealousies, a trace of drug dealing, a hint of blackmail, and a side issue of the real identity of a famous agony columnist before they collar the murderer. I think what I enjoyed most about this was the eccentricity. It may seem a bit over the top viewing it from today but Lord Pastern's mad fads, Lady Pastern's holding on to her aristocratic roots in the post war era, the silliness of the Hot Guy number as proposed not how it transpired all create a certain atmosphere that could only take place in this book. I was glad that despite the fact that I know I must have read this back in the mists of time when I was making my way through every Marsh book my hometown library had on offer, I remembered nothing of the plot. So although I spotted one portion of the solution view spoiler the use of the duplicate gun hide spoiler. A highly enjoyable, riveting mystery, right up there with *Night at the Vulcan* as one of my favourite Marsh novels. I had almost given up on finding another book of hers that so perfectly balanced an interesting ensemble of characters, a puzzling mystery and slight romance until I picked this up. The characters here are probably the highlight, as well as Alleyn's constant presence. The mystery here is also very much a focus, unlike some of Marsh's other novels where it's almost an afterthought. Marsh has an effortless talent for setting the scene and revealing her characters' personalities and physical description without making an infodump. The complex relationships between the characters are very cleverly revealed through the dialogue in a few scenes. The growth of the relationship between Carlisle and Edward is particularly interesting as it unfolds, almost accidentally. My only complaint is that unlike *Night at the Vulcan*, this story did not have as satisfying an ending as I thought it ought to. Alleyn succeeds in his unmasking, but closure regarding Edward and Carlisle, as well as a resolving of misunderstandings between them, Felicité and Lord and Lady Pastern would have been highly preferred. What we have is only a hint that at least Edward would make up with Carlisle, but little else.

First sentence: From Lady Pastern and Bagott to her niece by marriage, Miss Carlisle Wayne. Premise: plot Carlisle Wayne has been invited to visit by her aunt and uncle, Lord and Lady Pastern and Bagott. Her eccentric uncle will be performing in a band, a jazz band, and it will be an experience. Whether it will be fun or a disaster remains

to be seen Also coming to witness the spectacle is Edward Manx, a family cousin Lord and Lady Pastern would love for their daughter, Felicite, to marry Edward Anyone would be preferable to her current love interest, Carlos Rivera That love affair is a bit rocky Or else Felicite wouldn't be writing the advice column of a local newspaper Lord Pastern's BIG debut does not quite go according to plan The plan includes the firing of a gun and playacting In actuality, a murder is committed in front of an audience Will Roderick Alleyn and his team be able to solve the crime My thoughts I definitely enjoyed this one It is the third I've read in the series I've also read *A Man Lay Dead* and *The Final Curtain* I couldn't help wanting a little however I was intrigued by Carlisle I felt teased by Marsh Was Carlisle in love with Edward Was Edward in love with Carlisle Had they been seeing each other How close had they gotten Was she jealous when her cousin started flirting with Edward seemingly out of the blue Did they work out their misunderstanding Did they end up together I NEED TO KNOW As for the solving of the crime, I had two suspects in mind I don't know that the clues definitely led to just one firm suspect In fact, most of the clues were only given to readers AFTER the case had been solved The detectives had an excuse for that but it was mighty convenient for the author. I absolutely love British mysteries True, they are not realistic an exercise in cerebration than realistic criminal investigation It is a sort of magic trick literary sleight of hand We try to guess without success whodunit and we are delighted when in the last chapter, the detective tells us how the trick was performed. Ngaio Marsh is one of queens of British crime fiction, up there with the likes of Agatha Christie, Dorothy Sayers and P.D. James And she writes much of the same type of mystery A murder takes place in a closed setting, with just the right amount of suspects to make it interesting and a victim against whom everybody has a grudge I confess that, being a diehard Christie fan, I neglected most of the other mystery writers during my youth, and am just now discovering Ms Marsh *A Wreath for Rivera* is the classic British Crime story at its best There is the eccentric peer, who wants to play drums in the jazz band and is the prime suspect the sleazy Mexican piano accordionist in the same band who wants to marry his stepdaughter but unfortunately ends up on the slab the French wife of the Lord who wants to protect her flighty daughter from the villainous libertine and the obligatory love triangle The action is played out during a single night and day, and the novel sizzles ahead It's an incredibly fast read. I had a complaint against an earlier novel by Ngaio Marsh that I saw the solution coming, so I felt let down, even though the story was good Well, here she has redeemed herself The thing was staring me in the face, but the red herrings were so good that slowly the eye was taken away from the hand the classical trick of magicians So in the end when all was revealed, I was kicking myself for not seeing it in fact, I had considered the possibility in the beginning, but discarded it as the story progressed. I confess this is not much of a review, but I cannot go further without revealing secrets And I have not mastered the method hiding spoilers in between.

Ngaiio
MARSH

*A Wreath
for Rivera*



*"It's time to start comparing Christie to Marsh instead
of the other way around." —New York magazine*

enjoy the Chief Inspector Alleyn mysteries very much The series, by Ngaio Marsh is right there with other classic mystery series like those by Agatha Christie, Dorothy L Sayers and Elizabeth Daly, amongst others I've read 7 or 8 of the Alleyn books and they get better with each new story A Wreath for Rivera, also written under the title Swing Brother Swing is the 15th Alleyn story I'm reading it out of sequence as I've followed them in order for the most part, but it doesn't take away any of the enjoyment by reading this one now. There are some details of Alleyn's private life with Agatha Troy that seem to have progressed but they don't play major parts in the story We have here the story of the family of the Marquis of Pastern and Baggott, a strange and eccentric individual, heading to watch him play in a jazz band one of his whims There is a murder that takes place one which Alleyn actually witnesses as he and Troy are also at the club The murder investigation, lead by Alleyn and his resolute and steady team his right hand man, Detective Inspector Fox and the others, is a methodical process and enjoyable to follow Alleyn is the main character but Ngaio Marsh also provides a voice to Carlisle Lisle Wayne, Lord Pastern's niece, who I liked very much It's a quirky story the dialogue between Alleyn and Fox is excellent They are obviously well used to each other and have an excellent rapport Lord Pastern is definitely eccentric and his family also have unique characteristics The mystery is interesting, but at times, not as important as the development of the story, the investigation and the interactions between the characters The ending was ultimately satisfying and I liked how it was resolved As always, I enjoy this series very much and look forward to my next one 3.5 stars

New Post

Justice James Iredell

Dark Bargain: Slavery, Profits, and the Struggle for the Constitution

Race and the Supreme Court: Defining Equality

Justice for All: Earl Warren and the Nation He Made

Supreme Court Decisions

The Supreme Court in United States History: Volume Two, 1821-1855

John Jay: Founding Father

My Own Words

Fair Labor Lawyer: The Remarkable Life of New Deal Attorney and Supreme Court Advocate Bessie Margolin

The Supreme Court in United States History: Volume Three: 1856-1918

Salmon P. Chase: A Biography

The Warren Court In Historical And Political Perspective

Newsworthy: The Supreme Court Battle over Privacy and Press Freedom

American Original: The Life and Constitution of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia

The Warren Court and American Politics

Recent Post

The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court

The Brethren: Inside the Supreme Court

My Beloved World

Becoming Justice Blackmun: Harry Blackmun's Supreme Court Journey

Justice Brennan: Liberal Champion

Scorpions: The Battles and Triumphs of FDR's Great Supreme Court Justices

Supreme Power: Franklin Roosevelt vs. the Supreme Court

Louis D. Brandeis

The Partisan: The Life of William Rehnquist

A People's History of the Supreme Court: The Men and Women Whose Cases and Decisions Have Shaped Our Constitution

The Great Dissent: How Oliver Wendell Holmes Changed His Mind--and Changed the History of Free Speech in America

Five Chiefs: A Supreme Court Memoir

The Supreme Court

The Supreme Court: A C-SPAN Book, Featuring the Justices in their Own Words

Gideon's Trumpet: How One Man, a Poor Prisoner, Took His Case to the Supreme Court--And Changed the Law of the United States

The Day Freedom Died: The Colfax Massacre, the Supreme Court and the Betrayal of Reconstruction

What Kind of Nation: Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall, and the Epic Struggle to Create a United States

David Hackett Souter: Traditional Republican on the Rehnquist Court

The Man Who Once Was Whizzer White: A Portrait Of Justice Byron R White

The Forgotten Memoir of John Knox: A Year in the Life of a Supreme Court Clerk in FDR's Washington

FDR and Chief Justice Hughes: The President, the Supreme Court, and the Epic Battle Over the New Deal

The Majesty of the Law: Reflections of a Supreme Court Justice

The Rehnquist Choice: The Untold Story of the Nixon Appointment That Redefined the Supreme Court

The Memoirs of Chief Justice Earl Warren

Sonia Sotomayor: The True American Dream

The Supreme Court in United States History: Volume One: 1789-1821

Justice James Iredell

© 2020 - IGNOU Books, IGNOU Result, IGNOU Solved Assignment, IGNOU | Powered by
WordPress.org