



The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer

Cathy Ace

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The Women of the WISE Enquiries Agency are back in a witty and intriguing new mystery.

The Anwen Morris Dancers are to play a pivotal role in the imminent nuptials of Henry, eighteenth Duke of Chellingworth. But it looks as though the wedding plans might go awry unless Mavis, Annie, Carol and Christine can help Althea, the Dowager Duchess, by finding a missing Morris man and a set of ancient and valuable artefacts in time for her son's wedding.

Anwen-by-Wye might look like an idyllic Welsh village where family values reign and traditions still mean something in a modern world, but what will the WISE women find when they peer behind the respectable net curtains?

The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer Details

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From Reader Review The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer for online ebook

Carole Jarvis says

Reviewed at The Power of Words: <http://bit.ly/2fRjXJC>

The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer gave me several hours of pure reading pleasure, and Cathy Ace has just become one of my favorite mystery writers. I have long been a fan of stories with British small-village settings and it doesn't get any better than this. Rather than fast-paced action, the well-written narrative is relaxed, filled with interesting historical detail, good characterization, and witty dialogue.

Set in the picturesque village of Anwen-by-Wye in Powys, Wales, The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer is steeped in atmosphere and tradition. According to Dowager Duchess Althea, "Traditions hold fast. Time is allowed to pass us by as we choose. We grasp only at those parts of it we want."

One of those important traditions is the performance of the Morris Dancers at the wedding of the sitting Duke of Chellingworth, Henry Devereaux Twyst. The dancers consist of a troupe of six Morris men and a dancing Morris musician, who lead the bride and groom and most of the inhabitants of the village along a mile of winding pathways as they make their way from St. David's Church to Chellingworth Hall. Some even believe this tradition affects the couple's future fertility. There's only one problem, however – the musician has gone missing – and this is where the four delightful ladies of the WISE Enquiries Agency step in. From age to cultural background, Mavis, Annie, Carol and Christine couldn't be more different, yet they are good with people and at making "discreet" inquiries.

I loved everything about The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer and am eager to read more from Cathy Ace. Highly recommended.

I was provided a free copy of this book through Great Escapes Tours. The opinions expressed in this review are entirely my own.

Kalendra Dee says

On the eve of the Duke of Chellingworth's wedding, one of the Morris dancers who were going to perform at the event goes missing. The Dowager Duchess, Althea, enlists the aid of her friends from the W.I.S.E. Detective Agency to find out the truth about the disappearance.

Joanna says

A fun romp through the countryside!

Patricia says

I thoroughly enjoyed this book not only because I recognized a town I'd visited, but all of the characters were fantastic and fit my idea of a cozy mystery very well. If you love cozy mysteries, this is one I truly recommend!

Sas astro says

This popped up in my local library library collection, having just been to an event to photograph lots of Morris dancers I thought how can I resist? I enjoyed this book, it's light-hearted and entertaining.

Beka says

It took me a tick to remember what happened in the previous book, but this was another very engrossing mystery. I do still love these characters and I think things are just getting better. I do hope Ms. Ace writes some more.

Nathalie S says

The words "Morris Dancer" drew me to this book as an Anglophile and I was not disappointed! Throw in the women of the WISE Enquiries Agency and a wedding and I was hooked!

Damaskcat says

The women of the WISE enquiry agency have moved, lock stock and barrel to Wales, thanks to the generosity of their previous client in providing them with cheap accommodation. Things are going well for them and Henry - the Duke - is about to marry his secretary Stephanie when an important part of the celebrations looks like coming apart. Aubrey Morris - the local handyman and mainstay of the Morris dancing troupe - disappears with all the Morris dancers' regalia.

Althea, the Dowager Duchess, asks WISE to investigate and track down Aubrey so that the Morris dancers can lead the celebrations in a few days time. This is a well written and intriguing mystery and it was nice to catch up with all the WISE women who first made an appearance in 'The Case of the Dotty Dowager.'

I don't think the author has quite sorted out how the four women - Annie, Mavis, Christine and Carol - are to interact with each other as some of their exchanges still seem a little stilted to me. However, they seem to have involved a fairly efficient way of working between them compared with the first book.

I like the way the Dowager has taken on a new lease of life now she has found a friend in Mavis and has taken an interest in enquiry work. Overall I enjoyed reading this second book in the series and I look forward to reading more of them. I received a free copy of the book from NetGalley for review.

Clare O'Beara says

This tale set in Wales isn't intended to be too heavy, and some of the customs taken so seriously by the locals even come across as tongue in cheek. A wedding is at stake; the local lord is marrying a younger lady and is amiably going along with traditions. But the Morris dancers can't perform if their missing leader doesn't reappear, and he has taken the valuable, antique dance props with him.

I can't see the ladies of the detective agency having enough work to keep them busy, in a town where everyone knows everyone. So I'm taking their situation as humour. They are a determined mix of types and origins, from the corners of Britain and Ireland, with one lady of immigrant parents and one lady about to become a parent. As I had not read an earlier book I found the chapter in which they discuss the earlier adventure, its characters and everyone's love lives to be immaterial; feel free to skip on to the current events.

Tradition and superstition are visited and turn out to hold the keys to on-going problems. Can the wedding be saved? You'll have fun finding out and if you get the chance to go to a wedding in Wales, you'll enjoy the day.

Carol says

This was a fun book. I hope there is another in the series.

Jane says

Enjoying this series enough to read all of 'em.

Nicole says

The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer is the second installment in the WISE Enquiries Agency Series by author Cathy Ace. The ladies of the WISE Enquiry Agency are back, and Althea, the Dowager Duchess of Chellingworth (an absolute hoot, who loves quoting Monty Python!!!), is now an honorary member. Carol, Christine, Mavis and Annie have moved to Anwen-by-Wye, and are getting ready to attend the marriage of Henry, Duke of Chellingworth and his fiance, when one of the local Morris Dancers goes missing and they must locate him before the wedding. There are mysteries within the mystery, and once again Cathy Ace has delivered a lovely story, very enjoyable and well-written with no violence or bad language - just a nice cozy mystery. A+

Cathy says

I had never heard of this author, but the title grabbed me while reading Library Journal. As a former Morris

Dancer I just had to read this book. I was not disappointed. The characters were the best thing about this book. From their personalities and descriptions I could form images in my mind. I love the setting as I also lived in Wales for a time and the description of the small village and their characters were true to life.

The story itself was interesting, but it lacked some pizzazz. It was a fun read, though.

Kristina says

The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer by Cathy Ace is the second book in The WISE Enquiries Agency Mystery series. Henry Twyst, the Eighteenth Earl of Chellingworth is getting married to Stephanie Timbers. This is the first marriage of a sitting duke in over a hundred years. The village (and Henry's mother) want the couple to incorporate as many of the Welsh traditions into their wedding as possible. One of those traditions is the Anwen Morris Dancers. The Morris Dancers lead the bridal couple from the church to the hall for the reception (it is supposed to enhance fertility). But when Aubrey Morris (the musician) goes missing (along with the instruments), Althea (the Dowager) asks the ladies at The WISE Enquiries Agency to investigate. Will they be able to find Aubrey before the wedding? Annie, Christine, Carol, and Mavis have their work cut out for them on this case.

I was disappointed in The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer. It sounded like such an interesting book, but I was bored to tears. The book had a very slow pace that makes the reader want to fall asleep (or skip to the end). A lot of information is repeated a few times throughout the book (like the writer needed filler). The writer then added a stolen wedding gown and drama from Henry's sister, Clementine (it was just idiotic and a wee bit over the top). I am afraid that I did not enjoy The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer. I give The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer 2.75 out of 5 stars (it was okay or satisfactory). This book was just not my cup of tea (get it). I do not believe I will be reading any more books in The WISE Enquiries Agency Mystery series.

I received a complimentary copy of The Case of the Missing Morris Dancer from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Mark says

Its more 2.5 .More of a book about the relationships of the characters . Maybe I was expecting a nice murder mystery and its not really that. If you enjoyed the first book you will enjoy the same characters just not a plot.
