



Speedy Death (Mrs. Bradley)

By Gladys Mitchell

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Guests have gathered to dine at Alastair Bing's elegant country manor, but only one guest—a murderer—is aware of the dead body in an upstairs bathtub. With renowned explorer Mr. Everard Mountjoy noticeably absent from the dining table, the rest of the party searches for him, and soon discovers the explorer's drowned corpse. The murder is mystifying, not in the least because the body in the bath is clearly a woman's! As danger and theories unravel, psychoanalyst Mrs. Beatrice Lestranger Bradley observes and interprets all, from shrieks in the night to drowning attempts to poisoning. It's clear that Mrs. Bradley has a basilisk eye for detail. But can she uncover a motive for murder?

Rediscover the notorious detective Mrs. Bradley in her original starring role. This definitive mystery is the first in Gladys Mitchell's sixty-six book series featuring this most unusual and brilliant heroine.

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Editorial Review

Review

"She is one of the Big Three women detective writers" —*Observer*

"Begins like a parody of a country house murder. But you soon see that the author means the jokes, and also develops both a tricky mystery and a quite solid argument about crime and its disruption of society. Then she brings it all to a head in a very remarkable conclusion. From the start, Mitchell was outstanding." —*Glasgow Herald*

"A crime writer who, in her day, ranked with Christie and Sayers" —*Daily Mail*

"Extremely well constructed story of murder and detection...Mrs Bradley is the prize piece" —*Daily News*

"Gladys Mitchell can always be relied upon for a packed and meaty novel, and an intelligent one at that" —*Guardian*

About the Author

Gladys Mitchell was born in the village of Cowley, Oxford, in April 1901. She was educated at the Rothschild School in Brentford, the Green School in Isleworth, and at Goldsmiths and University Colleges in London. For many years Miss Mitchell taught history and English, swimming, and games. She retired from this work in 1950 but became so bored without the constant stimulus and irritation of teaching that she accepted a post at the Matthew Arnold School in Staines, where she taught English and history, wrote the annual school play, and coached hurdling. She was a member of the Detection Club, the PEN, the Middlesex Education Society, and the British Olympic Association. Her father's family are Scots, and a Scottish influence has appeared in some of her books.

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