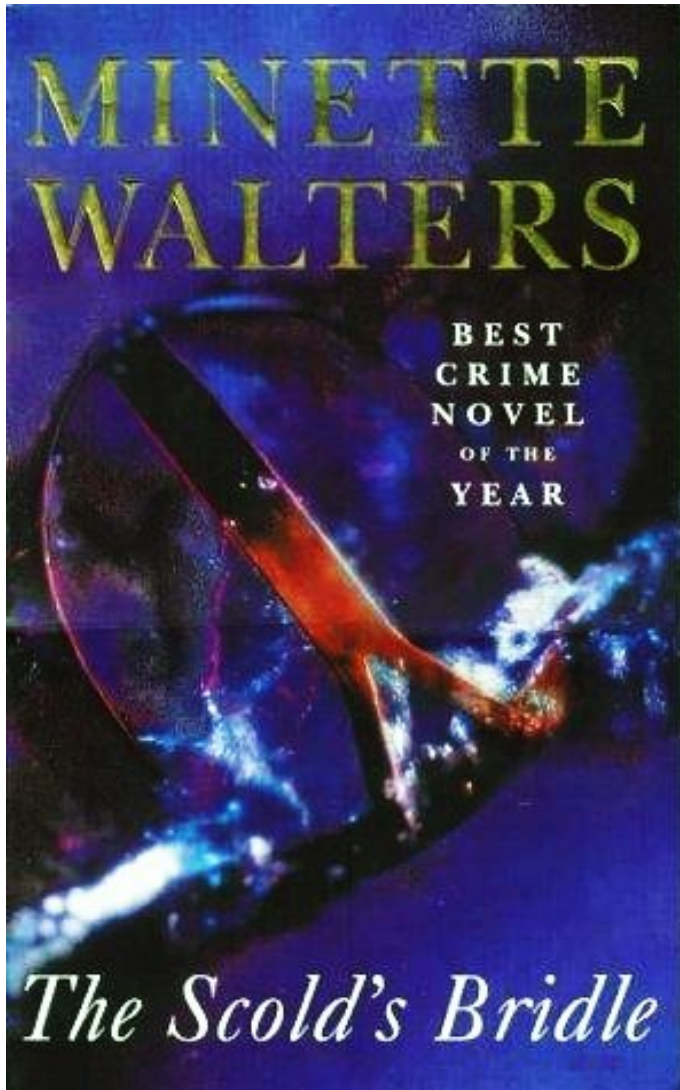

Minette Walters

The Scold's Bridle



Title: The Scold's Bridle

Author: Minette Walters

Format:

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Description

Few tears fall when rich, spiteful old Mathilda Gillespie's bloody corpse is found in her bathtub, her wrists slit and the ancient scold's bridle clamped on her head. It seems Mathilda's favorite heirloom was also an instrument of torture from the Middle Ages, an iron cage used to gag yapping women. Among the Dorset villagers, only Sarah Blakeney, Mathilda's doctor for her final year, seems even mildly disturbed that the miserable nag has been muzzled forever.

But suicide starts to look like homicide, and Sarah's sorrow seems a bit contrived when the bombshell drops that Mathilda has disinherited her daughter and granddaughter, leaving her entire fortune to Sarah. Now the object of vicious gossip and the police's prime suspect in a brutal murder, Sarah must prove her innocence by delving into Mathilda's past to unmask the real killer.

Insightful reviews

Farshana Sihab: Minette Walters is really becoming a fav author of mine. I love the way she brings forth convoluted psychology in all her characters. Its so hard to sympathize with any single character in her stories. Mathilda is so twisted that one wonders if shes sane herself. Most authors in this genre go for a central protagonist with a series of novels which i find difficult to read mainly coz some may carry references from previous incidents which you might miss out if not read in the order it is released. Minette Walters scores in this that her protagonists are not always from law enforcement even thou there's help from a cop. I hope she continues in this vein.

Absorbing read!

Kaethe: better than ice house

Kate: "BITTER HARRIDAN ...

"Few tears fall when rich, spiteful old Mathilda Gillespie's bloody corpse is found in her bathtub, her wrists slit and the ancient scold's bridle clamped on her head. It seems Mathilda's favorite heirloom was also an instrument of torture from the Middle Ages, an iron cage used to gag yapping women. Among the Dorset villagers, only Sarah Blakeney, Mathilda's doctor for her final year, seems even mildly disturbed that the miserable nag has been muzzled forever.

"... OR TRAGIC VICTIM?

"But suicide starts to look like homicide, and Sarah's sorrow seems a bit contrived when the bombshell drops that Mathilda has disinherited her daughter and granddaughter, leaving her entire fortune to Sarah.

"Now an object of vicious gossip and the police's prime suspect in a brutal murder, Sarah must prove her innocence by delving into Mathilda's past to unmask the real killer. What she finds beneath the sleepy village facade is a grisly potpourri of blackmail, butchery, and perversion.

"In the grand tradition of Ruth Rendell and P.D. James ..."
~~back cover

Another very convoluted plot, difficult to follow. Clever outcome, I must admit. The middle of the book sagged horribly, with a great deal of proselytizing and soapbox haranguing, which I didn't much care for. This was the first book I read by this author, and it hasn't left me with a burning desire to read more.

sabisteb: Fontwell, UK. Zwei Tage liegt die Fünfundsechzigjährige Mathilda Gillespie tot in der Badewanne, als sie endlich mit einer Schandmaske auf dem Gesicht gefunden wird. Mathilde conflict schwer krank und hatte starke Schmerzen. Hat sie sich selber umgebracht und ihren Tod so in Szene gesetzt? Ihre Hausärztin Dr. Sarah Blakeney, glaubt nicht an Selbstmord zumal Mathilda Sarah vor kurzem als Alleinerbin ihres Vermögens eingesetzt hatte und keiner einen Vorteil davon gehabt hätte, sie zu töten. Obwohl die Hausärztin die Hauptverdächtige ist, werden alle Verwandten und Bekannten aufs peinlichste befragt und deren Leben durchleuchtet und dabei kommen erschreckende Abgründe im biedereren Kleinstadtleben zu tage. Die Vergangenheit nahezu aller Verdächtigen ist grausam. Eine Mischung aus Mißbrauch, Vergewaltigung, Betrug, Hass, Neid und Mißgunst, der alle irgendwie miteinander verbindet und sie auch wieder trennt. Das a hundred minütige SDR Hörspiel aus dem Jahr 1997 von Walter Adler basiert auf dem gleichnamigen Kriminalroman von Minette Walters. Während das Hörspiel die ersten 2/3 durchaus zu fesseln vermag und die Ermittlungen sauber, solide und intestine nachzuvollziehen sind, steigert sich das pace gegen Ende, wirkt gehetzt und die Auflösung wie ein Deus Ex Machina. Das Motiv und die Motivation werden nicht sauber ausgearbeitet und so bleibt diese Hörspiel, leider unbefriedigend. Möglicherweise wurde einfach ungeschickt gekürzt, aber bei a hundred Minuten hätte guy durchaus noch 10 Minuten mehr investieren können, um das sauberer aufzulösen. Die Sprecher sind alle durchweg sehr gut, wenn auch außer Rufus Beck kaum eine wirklich großer, bekannter Sprecher dabei ist und selbst Rufus Beck bemerkt guy kaum, denn seine Stimme ist so wandlungsfähig, dass guy ihn nicht sofort als ihn selber erkennt. Keiner klingt abgelesen und die Emotionen sind sehr intestine ausgespielt. Fazit: Sehr intestine produziertes Hörspiel mit best Sprechern. Leider wurde die Handlung schlecht gekürzt und die Auflösung der Ermittlung ist daher unbefriedigend.

Han Le flueff: I learn this e-book in excessive school, and used it for an English ebook report. the tale has constantly stayed with me; for me it's a classic, one of many first "who dunnits" I ever learn and loved. using the scold's bridle within the suicide/murder is simply so splendidly unique and the writer had me guessing on the perpetrator until eventually the very end. hugely recommend.

Linda: New to this author, this is the 3rd I've got learn and am a fan. one other nice Minette Walters stand by myself mystery- And a scold's bridle, really? A murder, really reliable writing, more than a couple of Shakespearean references (clues?), a wide forged of interesting, quirky characters, tireless detective paintings by way of a kindhearted Sergeant

Cooper, twists and surprises and until eventually the very end- who-dun-it?? Again-delicious!

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