



Summer of the Dragon

By Elizabeth Peters

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A good salary and an all-expenses-paid summer spent at a sprawling Arizona ranch is too good a deal for fledgling anthropologist D.J. Abbott to turn down. What does it matter that her rich new employer/benefactor, Hank Hunnicutt, is a certified oddball who is presently funding all manner of off-beat projects, from alien conspiracy studies to a hunt for dragon bones? There's even talk of treasure buried in the nearby mountains, but D.J. isn't going to allow loose speculation -- or the considerable charms of handsome professional treasure hunter Jesse Franklin -- to sidetrack her. Until Hunnicutt suffers a mysterious accident and then vanishes, leaving the weirdos gathered at his spread to eye each other with frightened suspicion. But on a high desert search for the missing millionaire, D.J. is learning things that may not be healthy for her to know. For the game someone is playing here goes far beyond the rational universe -- and it could leave D.J. legitimately dead.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

The setting of this novel is fascinating: the desert of the American Southwest, with all of the mystery surrounding the Anasazi and other ancient peoples. D.J. Abbott, a self-deprecating, overeating graduate student, is spending the summer working for Hank Hunnicutt, an eccentric multimillionaire who dabbles in many pursuits, including Southwestern history and archaeology. Hank surrounds himself with a variety of personalities including many pseudoscientists. It is this group of characters that D.J. derisively describes in the first half of the novel. The second half gets more interesting with a kidnapping and an attempt at solving the crime, with the action moving out into the desert. Reader Grace Conlin captures the sardonic tone of the narrator. The author does not interweave the archaeological background of the area into the story as much as she does in her works set in Egypt (e.g., *Crocodile on the Sandbank*, Audio Reviews, LJ 6/1/91), but her fans will enjoy this work. Catherine Swenson, Norwich Univ., Northfield, VT
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Review

"(Peters) keeps the reader coming back for more." -- *San Francisco Chronicle*

"No one is better at juggling torches while dancing on a high wire than Elizabeth Peters." -- *Chicago Tribune*

"This author never fails to entertain." -- *Cleveland Plain Dealer*

About the Author

Elizabeth Peters earned her Ph.D. in Egyptology from the University of Chicago's famed Oriental Institute. She was named Grand Master at the inaugural Anthony Awards in 1986 and Grand Master by the Mystery Writers of America in 1998. In 2003, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Malice Domestic Convention. She lives in a historic farmhouse in western Maryland.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Karen Plum:

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