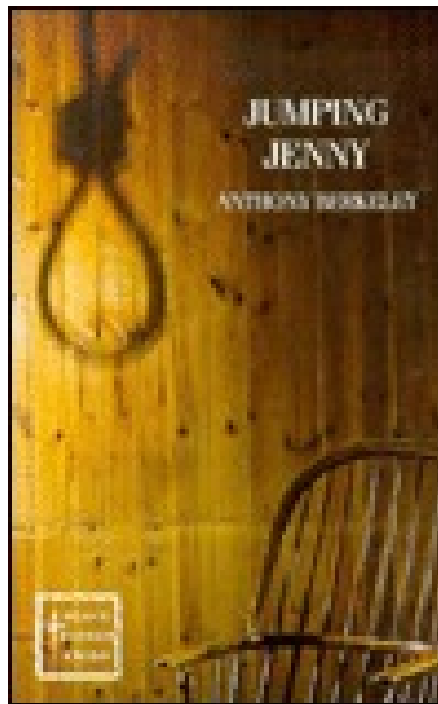




Jumping Jenny

Anthony Berkeley

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When a murder is committed at a party given in honour of a famous writer-detective, the guests impersonate famous murderers and the victim is found hanging from a fake gallows erected as a joke. '

Jumping Jenny Details

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From Reader Review *Jumping Jenny* for online ebook

Paola Castro says

Es un libro que me gustó, a pesar de lo distante que está de las características o cualidades que busco en la novela policiaca. Aquí, desde el principio nos desvelan el crimen y el autor (incluso no lo narran en primera persona) y el detective en lugar de ponerse a investigar cómo es debido, intenta por todos los medios posibles hacer que resulte pausable un suicidio ?. En fin, que lo leía y me gustaba, pero estaba: meh. Cosa que cambio apenas llegué a la última página, es que vale la pena solo por la última página.

Jessi says

Roger Sheringham is at a party where everyone is dressed up as killers. This turns out to be an unfortunate coincidence when one of the guests dies. She is the sister-in-law of the host, a most annoying woman. All evening long she created scenes, talked about suicide, and accused almost every male (except her husband) of flirting with her. So when it appears that she has actually committed suicide (by using one of the nooses from three dummies, one jumping jenny and two jumping jacks), Roger Sheringham knows it isn't what it looks like. But, he's not inclined to help the police figure that out, so he suppresses the clue. Unfortunately (or fortunately), another guest sees him and puts it back to rights. And then... every guest seems to be trying to cover up the murder. A nice twist on the classic murder mystery.

I heard about this book from Classic Mysteries and quite enjoyed it. Even if points did drag on a bit.

Riccardo Mainetti says

Il romanzo "L'ultima tappa" di Anthony Berkeley è un giallo da leggere senza saltare ad affrettate conclusioni.

Per un commento più dettagliato a questo splendido giallo andate a leggere, se vi va, il mio articolo pubblicato sul blog di Passione Lettura all'indirizzo: <http://www.passionelettura.it/2013/06...>

Avviso però che nell'articolo si trovano delle "rivelazioni" per cui chi volesse gustarsi senza anticipazioni questo splendido giallo dovrà rifuggire dalla lettura del mio articolo.

Sergio Donato says

Se non avessi avuto così tante aspettative avrebbe meritato 4 stelle, invece se ne prende 3 perché troppo spesso mi sento lontano dal pensiero comune, e allora la stella che manca è quella della felicità.

Troppo concentrato sull'incastro. Diventa un gioco appassionante, però la narrativa è anche altro. Deve esserlo.

Irfan Nurhadi says

Anthony Berkeley memang salah satu penulis fiksi detektif yg layak diacungi jempol.

Premis cerita yg ia suguhkan sering kali tidak biasa. The Poisoned Chocolate Case, misalnya, berpremiskan sebuah "klub detektif" di mana tiap anggotanya mencoba memecahkan sebuah kasus sesuai dengan perspektif dan metode masing2 (penulis novel detektif, penulis novel romance, kriminolog). Contoh lainnya ialah, Trial and Error, yang menceritakan usaha seorang pembunuh untuk membebaskan orang lain yg dijerat tuduhan atas pembunuhan yang telah ia lakukan! See, the premise is interesting! A twist in a typical detective story. An unorthodox detective story cloaked by the orthodox formula of its time.

Jumping Jenny sendiri diawali dengan sebuah pesta yg dihadiri oleh Roger Sheringham. Pesta akhir pekan yg di-host oleh Ronald Stratton ini bertemakan "murderer/victim of murder" di mana para tamu dianjurkan untuk memakai kostum yg menampilkan penampilan para pembunuh / korban mereka (seperti Jack the Ripper dll). Tak hanya kostum, namun dekorasi rumah pun disesuaikan dengan tema tersebut. Bahkan pada atap terbuka rumah didirikan juga tiga tiang gantungan lengkap dengan tiga pembunuh (dummy of course), dua laki2 dan satu perempuan, yg tergantung. Spoiler alert, pada akhir pesta, salah satu dummy tersebut digantikan posisinya oleh salah seorang tamu yg hadir!

Sisi whodunit/howdunit tidak ditonjolkan dalam Jumping Jenny ini, karena pada salah satu bab adegan pembunuhannya diceritakan sangat jelas sekali. Oh, kalau begitu novel ini menonjolkan sisi howcatchem? Tidak juga. Mengapa? Karena kematian korban digambarkan sebagai pribadi yg tidak begitu baik dan kematiannya malah menimbulkan manfaat yg baik bagi keluarganya ketimbang saat sang korban masih hidup. Percaya saja, pembaca pun pasti akan merasa puas atas kematian korban yg satu ini.

Kita lanjutkan. Jadi apa yg ditonjolkan dalam novel ini? Cover up. Yes, you read that right. Roger Sheringham juga merasa bahwa kematian korban merupakan suatu hal yg baik and whoever did the murder, had done something good, for everyone's sake.

Awalnya kematian korban nampak seperti sebuah peristiwa bunuh diri biasa. Bahkan pada saat pesta, korban membicarakan keinginan bunuh diri pada setiap tamu yg ia ajak bicara, termasuk Roger. Namun timing yg sangat kebetulan tersebut membuat Roger curiga, ia pun kembali memeriksa TKP, yaitu atap rumah. Kali ini roger menyadari bahwa kematian korban bukanlah bunuh diri, tapi pembunuhan!

Meskipun Roger tahu bahwa ia lebih baik mengangkat tangan dari kasus ini (lebih baik jika polisi menutup kasus sebagai peristiwa bunuh diri), namun wataknya membuat Roger tetap menyelidiki siapa yg telah melakukan pembunuhan, hanya untuk memenuhi rasa ingin tahunya itu. Roger pun mulai dengan berkonsultasi (dengan cara sesubtil mungkin) kepada salah satu tamu, Colin, yg juga seorang penulis cerita detektif.

Tanpa Roger sangka sebelumnya, di akhir konsultasi tersebut, Colin ternyata sudah tahu bahwa yg terjadi adalah pembunuhan. Parahnya lagi, Colin menunjukan fakta bahwa Roger sendirilah yg merupakan kandidat utama sebagai tersangka. Colin benar! Dan Roger menyadari hal itu! Penyelidikan yg ia lakukan sebelumnya memang membuat dirinya terlihat sebagai tersangka utama! Tapi ia tidak melakukan pembunuhan itu!

Roger dengan putus asa meyakinkan Colin akan ketidakbersalahannya, hanya saja Colin tidak sepenuhnya percaya (tapi ia berjanji tidak akan membuka mulut kepada polisi). Cerita pun dilanjutkan dengan usaha Roger untuk membuktikan ketidakbersalahannya pada Colin, dan mencari penjelasan lain atas kematian korban berikut siapa yg bertanggung jawab atas hal tersebut.

Saya akui ceritanya sangat menarik. Diawali campur tangan Roger di TKP yg membuatnya terjatuh jaring sendiri. Kesetiaan Colin yg ingin menjauhkan Roger dari kecurigaan polisi yg malah membuat situasi

semakin keruh. Dan konspirasi semua pihak terkait agar polisi menutup kasus sebagai bunuh diri. Twist demi twist bermunculan, dan endingnya pun sangat memuaskan. Memang ceritanya bukan tipikal misteri yg mengungkap pembunuhan seperti biasa. Meskipun begitu, menurut saya, Jumping Jenny sangat menarik untuk diikuti.

4 Stars!

Kate says

For my full review click on the link below:

<https://crossexaminingcrime.wordpress...>

Manuel Figueiredo says

Colecção Vampiro nº 178

Martina Sartor says

Berkeley è uno degli autori di punta della Golden Age, il fondatore con Dorothy Sayers e Agatha Christie, fra gli altri, del Detection Club. Fu un Club pressoché unico nel suo genere, dove i migliori autori di gialli dell'epoca si riunivano periodicamente.

Questo titolo di Berkeley è particolare perché sappiamo fin dal momento dell'omicidio chi è l'assassino, ma...

Ivonne Rovira says

Ena Stratton was an exhibitionist, a trouble-maker who delighted in twisting the truth, a malcontent constantly threatening to kill herself in order to gain attention, a harridan to her worn-down husband, quick to take offense and even quicker to give offense -- in short "a woman who ought to be murdered." When at a party, Mrs. Stratton is found dead, the first thought is suicide.

But writer and criminologist Roger Sheringham, one of the guests at the party, begins to have second thoughts:

The coincidence of it all. Here is a woman whose existence is a source of annoyance, and perhaps a good deal more than annoyance, to several different people, and that for several different reasons. And just at the moment when those people are resenting it perhaps more intensely than ever before, she very obligingly, and most unexpectedly, kills herself. You must admit that the coincidence is far too violent to be stomachied in fiction.

I won't say any more so as to not spoil things for the reader, but let's just say that Roger assumes his usual contrarian manner with regard to Mrs. Stratton's death and the police investigation into it.

As in so many of his books -- in particular, *The Poisoned Chocolates Case*, Berkeley's best-known book, and *Roger Sheringham and The Vane Mystery*, author Anthony Berkeley provides a great deal of suspense while reserving quite a few surprises for the last two chapters. *Jumping Jenny* is one of Berkeley's best works, and I just wish that Berkeley were better known. Mystery lovers don't know what they're missing.

Cindy says

Roger Sheringham goes to a house party with his friend, Robert Stratton. Both men are interested in criminology, and Robert has the idea of making the big party a "murder party" with everyone coming dressed as a murderer or a victim. He even imports a gallows, complete with three hanging figures, two men and one woman, a "Jumping Jenny" from the title. But the party is ruined when the overexcited, hysterical, vindictive wife of Robert's brother, David, is found hanging in place of one of the dummies. And she's really dead.

This one had me guessing. It must be part of an old series, and I felt a slight disadvantage at not knowing more about these characters. Roger is the main detective (private, not police) but I don't really know about him.

The book was written in the 1930's and reflects some of the attitudes of the day. The author, Anthony Berkeley, is one of the founding members of the Detection Club in London, along with Dorothy L. Sayers and others. For some reason, his books have faded from circulation while hers are still fashionable. But if you like "Golden Age" books, you would probably enjoy this one, even if it is a little dated.

Nihal Vrana says

This is an undeservingly lost masterpiece. Except from the inherent boring nature of the setting (middle-high class party and characters in Britain at the turn of the last century) and one bit too high dose of Britishness, this book is pure genius. The way all the standard logical algorithms of crime fiction are turned on their head in a hilarious mixture of luck, incompetence and over-zealousness is just beautiful. Sheringham character showed me again that the most dangerous people in the world are intelligent people who overestimate themselves and think that they are geniuses; they can make such a mess of simple situations by overthinking stuff (very common in politics unfortunately). If you like deconstructive genre work in general this is a book you shouldn't miss; there is a very good kick in the end too; if you are into that.
