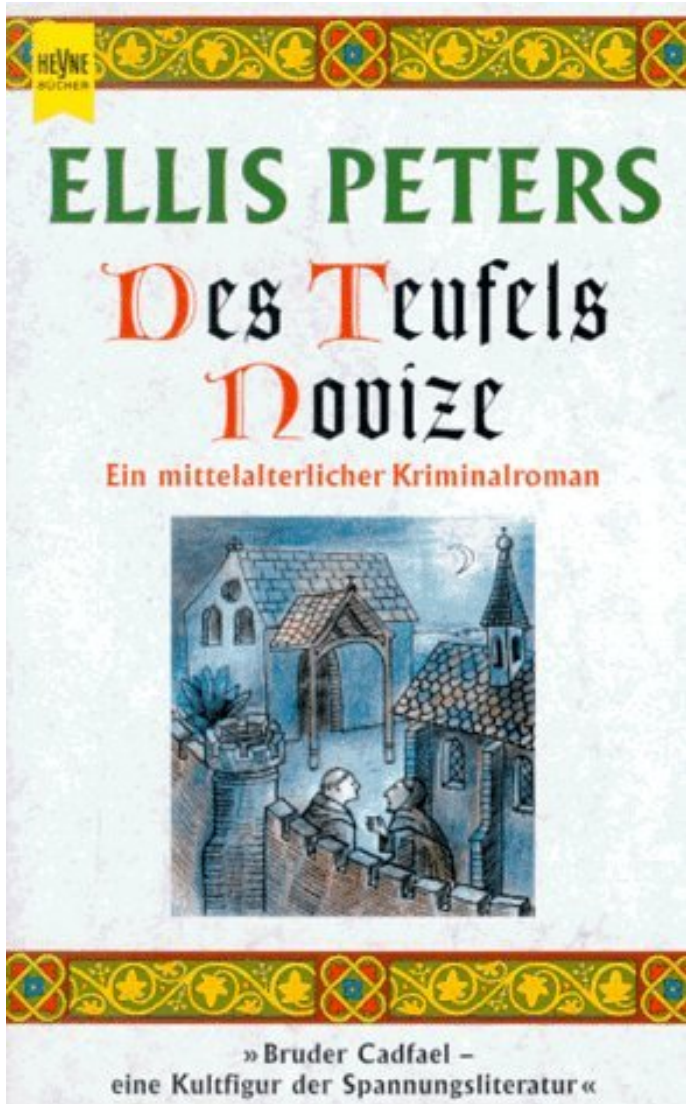

Ellis Peters

Des Teufels Novize (Chronicles of Brother Cadfael #8)



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Author: Ellis Peters

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Description

In the autumn of 1140 the Benedictine monastery at Shrewsbury finds its new novice Meriet Aspley a bit disturbing. The younger son of a prominent family, Meriet is meek and biddable by day, but his sleep is rife with nightmares so violent that they earn him the name of "Devil's Novice". Shunned by the other monks, Aspley attracts the concern of Brother Cadfael. Then a body appears, that of a young priest last seen at the Aspley estate. Can Meriet be involved in the death? As events take a sinister turn, it falls to Brother Cadfael to detect the truth.

Insightful reviews

Ron: A typical offering of the series: missing and dead people, young lovers, misguided authorities and only Cadfael to sort it all out.

Cadfael series: excellent historical fiction. Ellis Peters draws the reader into the twelfth century with modern story telling but holds us there with a richness of detail which evokes a time and place which might as well be fictional. Though the foreground of each chronicle is a murder mystery, behind it a nation and a culture are woven in a wondrous tapestry.

Miriam: Another great book. I was glad to see Brother Mark again; he is one of my favorite supporting characters.

Anne: I'm giving this one 5 stars because not only is it an interesting twisty mystery with all of the good Peters tropes (spunky girl who knows what she wants and gets it, novices who enters the abbey for the wrong reason, Chekhov's good-natured young man, and just a soupçon of medieval political maneuvering), but also because I got a little emotional at the end. The interesting thing about reading this series in no particular order is that you know the outcomes for certain characters but not how they got there. In this book, the titular novice goes to St. Giles Hospital to work with Brother Mark, who is basically the best, and who featured prominently in *The Summer of the Danes*. Brother Mark wants to be a priest, and I already know from later books that he does become a priest, so it was sort of poignant to read that Meriet's father offers to pay his seminary fees, out of gratitude. You go, Brother Mark!

Gleodream: every body wishes a bit convenience reading, now and then.

Kathryn: 1st Recorded Reading: July 2003 Once back Brother Cadfael saves the day, solves homicide so much foul (is there the other kind?) and furthers the process deserving younger love. he's fortunate that Abbot Radulfus doesn't make him remain on the Abbey like many of the different monks, in any other case it's going to need to be another person fixing all of the murders in and round Shrewsbury. he's additionally fortunate that, because the abbey herbalist, he has an remoted workshop (still in the Abbey precincts, to be sure) the place a variety of characters come to consult with him whereas Cadfael minds the brews and such that he makes out of his herbs. (For these now not wishing to learn further, although I do take care to not supply out any spoilers, i'm going to be aware that I did take pleasure in studying this book, notwithstanding i used to be a bit of unsatisfyed with the ending; Ellis Peters didn't finally end up

the entire lose ends this time.)In the overdue fall of the 12 months of Our Lord 1140, all is calm in Shrewsbury and in Shropshire (despite the civil warfare among King Stephen and the Empress Matilda); and alertness is made to the Abbey through landowners to simply accept their sons into the Abbey. One software is rejected (the son is 4 years old; and whereas there's provision within the Benedictine Rule for elevating younger children, and certainly such has continuously been performed during this specific Abbey, it really is decided that maybe the Benedictine Abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul at Shrewsbury should still wait till a given individual is of age ahead of accepting an software to affix the Order. the opposite software contains a tender guy in his past due teens, and that program is accepted. So Meriet Aspley, the more youthful son of nation nobleman Leoric Aspley, enters the order as a novice, and instantly requests that he develop into a full-fledged monk immediately; Abbot Radulfus notes that normally, a 12 months of being a amateur is required, yet that the time could be shortened whether it is chanced on suitable. yet Meriet seems to be a bothered soul, and has nightmares concerning screaming out in his sleep; the opposite beginners start to whisper that Meriet is possessed, and is 'the devil's novice'. Brother Cafael has spotted that, even supposing Meriet insists he desires to turn into a monk once possible, he rather doesn't appear to have the disposition to be a monk, and wonders why Meriet would select of his personal loose will to take this course. by means of the Abbot's leave, he visits the Aspey family, and meets Meriet's elder brother Nigel (the favorite son), Nigel's fiance Roswitha, stunningly appealing (and she is aware it), Roswitha's brother Janyn, an easygoing guy and Nigel's most sensible friend; and finally, Leoric's ward Isouda, a tender heiress to 2 neighboring manors. Leoric, a stiff and upright guy of inflexible morals, refuses to debate Meriet's choice. He insists that if his son is set to turn into a monk, Leoric don't have him back. Nor can he recommend any cause of Meriet's selection within the first place. Soon in a while the compulsory useless physique makes its mute appearance, and Brother Cadfael units himself to who killed the man, and why; he additionally divines that there are secrets and techniques inside of secrets, and, being Brother Cadfael, via the tip of the e-book he has exposed all. I did get pleasure from this book; and i'm curious to determine why the writer observed healthy to depart one dangling thread that didn't get tied up well into the standard package. possibly the subsequent booklet within the sequence (which i'll be reading, or re-reading, of course) will resolve things.

Kathy: this is often the 3rd one less than my belt now and i'm primed for locating a few fresh paperbacks at my library the next day because the sequence is, of course, previous as are the books. This was once learn out of order since it used to be fresh condition. This was once my favourite of the three, and the genuine humanity of the nature Cadfael shines through. i used to be completely satisfied to fulfill up with Hugh and his wife, brought within the moment book, and wish their presence maintains during the series. Time will tell.

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