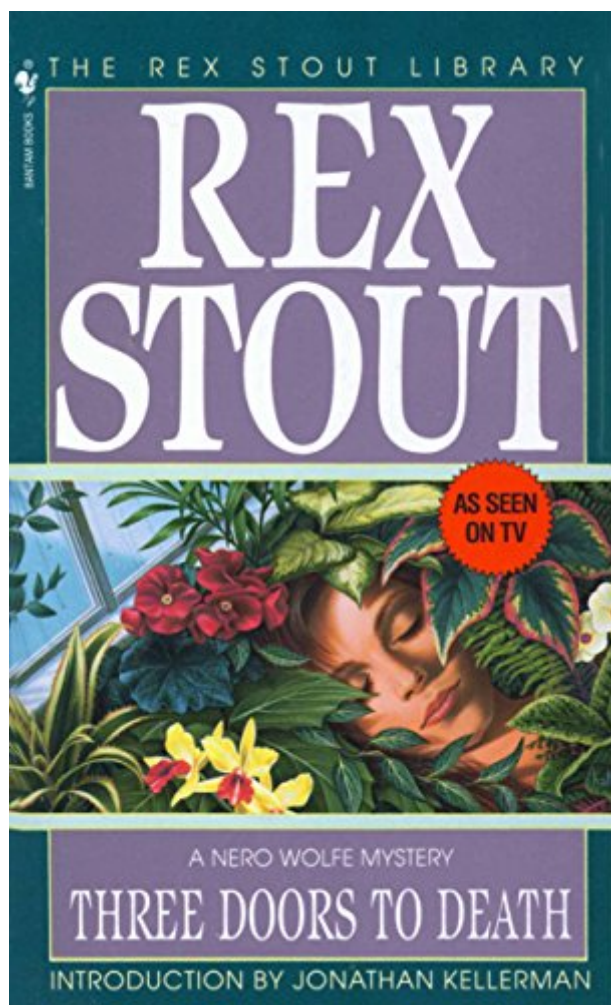


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Three Doors To Death (A Nero Wolfe Mystery Book 16)



Synopsis

Three cases bring perplexing challenges to Nero Wolfe, as a man unsuccessfully attempts suicide just before he is killed, a murder victim's family hides the identity of the killer, and a horticulturist discovers his girlfriend's body.

Book Information

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Lending: Not Enabled

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Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

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Customer Reviews

First of all, Rex Stout is one of my top three fiction writers. I come to this conclusion after reading 17 of his Nero Wolfe mysteries in chronological order. They are so utterly entertaining. Nero Wolfe is interesting, but his assistant, Archie Goodwin, makes the series. This particular book contained three novellas, each of which was fast reading, suspenseful, and fun. Great books!

"Three Doors to Death" is the 16th book in Rex Stout's "Nero Wolfe" series. Note that it's not a novel. It's three short stories ("Man Alive," "Omit Flowers," and "Door to Death") of about 70 pages each. The book, itself, was first published in 1950, while the short stories were first published in 1947, 1948, and 1949, respectively. Since this is the 16th book in the series, I'll assume you know

the drill: the writing is good old Stout/Wolfe writing. No real surprises here. There are a couple of weak points though. In "Omit Flowers," for some reason, it seems as if the police never even bothered to talk to the victim's ex. That doesn't seem likely. And, in "Door to Death," the police arrest, handcuff, and cart away their choice of evil-doer. Yet, they can't even show a likely motive. Again, that seems a bit odd. Anyway, those are fairly minor points and I'm still rating the book at a Very Good 4 stars out of 5.

Firstly, there's the fun of reading a contemporary novel written in a time that makes it now almost like reading an historical novel. Secondly, nobody uses American english better than Rex Stout. As a youngster, he caused me to hit the dictionary and expand my language horizons. Thirdly, Archie is, well, Archie. He's beyond charming, smart and streetwise. He knows when to push and when to retreat. Fourthly, the mysteries are good and if you are really clever, you have a shot at solving it yourself. The key fact is always presented, only the confirming information is held until the big reveal. Stout writes about serious subjects and surrounds them with humorous situations so that one reads with a smile on one's face. Although I did not get completely hooked on any of his other series, there's just no such thing as a bad Nero Wolfe Mystery by Rex Stout.

Always a pleasure to spend time with Wolfe, Archie and the gang!! Wish Rex Stout was still with us building suspense the way only he could.

Excellent read

One of the best of the genre!

I know there's a man doing his best to carry on the series but stories like these make it clear there was only one Rex Stout. Pure gold.

Pure Stout, early ones and twice as good. Keeps one reading till the end and then wanting more. Really enjoy the short stories for a change

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