



The Missing Chapter

By Robert Goldsborough

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Nero Wolfe and Archie Goodwin return to investigate the suspicious apparent suicide of an irritable writer who was hired to continue a popular mystery series, in a case full of jealousy, ambition, and deadly extortion.

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The Missing Chapter By Robert Goldsborough Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Life imitates art imitates life. In his seventh Nero Wolfe/Archie Goodwin caper, the writer responsible for continuing the noted series after the death of originator Rex Stout plots a case around the corpse of an author who has continued a mystery series after the original writer's demise. A publisher hires Wolfe and Goodwin to investigate the death, labeled a suicide, of Charles Childress, an ill-tempered author who had recently angered several people, including his agent, his editor and the possibly corrupt reviewer who had lambasted the latest Childress novel. Yet for all that, Childress also had a pretty fiancee, a loyal friend in a fellow author and the devotion of many fans. Goldsborough carefully draws Wolfe and company into the '90s (computers figure in the plot and hold records of Wolfe's beloved orchids), yet the corpulent sleuth still abandons himself to Fritz Brenner's high-fat meals. As always, Archie does the legwork, which in this instance takes him to rural Indiana, Childress's home state, to unearth secrets that Wolfe pieces together in an assured and effective conclusion. Goldsborough (*Fade to Black*) may not recruit new fans to the anachronistic and bulky Wolfe, but he's likely to satisfy the old Rex Stout faithful.

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From Booklist

Goldsborough's seventh Nero Wolfe novel is both a very clever mystery and a sort of insider's joke on the whole idea of one author continuing a mystery series after the original author dies. Charles Childress was the author chosen to continue the Orville Barnstable mystery series after the originator died. When Childress is found dead in his Greenwich Village apartment, the police say suicide. His publisher and editor, Horace Vinson, disagrees and hires his Hugeness, Nero Wolfe, to investigate. Among the suspects questioned by leg man Archie Goodwin are a fired agent, an angry editor, and a snippy critic. Goldsborough, as the "continuator" of Rex Stout's Wolfe series, delights in poking fun at the continuation phenomenon--the readers who delight in pointing out small errors of trivial detail in the continuator's work; the cacophony of critical voices, some hailing Childress as a worthy successor, some denouncing him as a greedy vulture; the editors who tinker needlessly; the publishers who exploit Childress in order to boost sales of the dead author's reprints. The publishing details ring true, and--as always--Goldsborough does a masterly job with the Wolfe legacy. Here's a continuator with no reason to kill himself or to be killed. *Wes Lukowsky*

From Kirkus Reviews

Good news for everybody who's railed against Goldsborough's pallid Nero Wolfe pastiches (*Silver Spire*, 1992, etc.): this time Wolfe is investigating the death of a continuator of a venerable detective series. The posthumous air is thick with accusations: just before his death, Charles Childress had fired his agent, Franklin Ott, and had his editor, Keith Billings, canned; Childress's fiance, Debra Mitchell, and cozy fellow-writer Patricia Royce accuse each other of murder; and as Archie Goodwin learns on an amusing trip to Childress's ancestral home in Mercer, Indiana, he was involved with another woman who had reason to kill him too. With such obvious motives and such banal suspects, there's no need for any more strenuous detective work than usual; the high point of this installment may be watching the elevator in the old brownstone getting replaced. Formulaic plotting aside, this is as good as Goldsborough gets. The missing chapter, though, matters less than the missing author: Rex Stout. -- *Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Goldie Oleary:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be up-date about what going on or data even knowledge to make them keep up with the era that is certainly always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will update themselves by reading books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know what kind you should start with. This The Missing Chapter is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, because book serves what you want and need in this era.

James Anderson:

Now a day individuals who Living in the era just where everything reachable by match the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not involve people to be aware of each facts they get. How people have to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the solution is reading a book. Reading a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information particularly this The Missing Chapter book as this book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred percent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

Virginia Gauvin:

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Christine Smith:

The book untitled The Missing Chapter contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains the woman idea with easy means. The language is very clear and understandable all the people, so do certainly not worry, you can easy to read the idea. The book was authored by famous author. The author provides you in the new period of time of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can read more your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can start their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice read.

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