

Sidney Chambers and the Shadow of Death (Grantchester)

By James Runcie

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Sidney Chambers, the Vicar of Grantchester, is a thirty-two year old bachelor. Sidney is an unconventional clergyman and can go where the police cannot.

Together with his roguish friend Inspector Geordie Keating, Sidney inquires into the suspect suicide of a Cambridge solicitor, a scandalous jewellery theft at a New Year's Eve dinner party, the unexplained death of a well-known jazz promoter and a shocking art forgery, the disclosure of which puts a close friend in danger. Sidney discovers that being a detective, like being a clergyman, means that you are never off duty . . .

Sidney Chambers will be played by James Norton (Death Comes to Pemberley), and Robson Green (Reckless) will take on the role of Geordie Keating. Other cast members include Morven Christie (Twenty Twelve) as the beautiful heiress Amanda Kendall, while Tessa Peake-Jones (Only Fools and Horses) will play Sidney's housekeeper, and Kacey Ainsworth (Eastenders) is to join them as Geordie's wife.

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Editorial Review

Review

"No detective since Father Brown has been more engaging than Canon Sidney Chambers. Perfect company in bed." ?Salley Vickers

"Inspector Morse would appear to have a rival." ?*Scotland on Sunday*

"A charmingly effective tale of detection . . . evoking oodles of churchy village atmosphere, circa 1953, provides a satisfyingly old-fashioned read." ?*The Times*

"The clerical milieu is well rendered as an affectionate eye is cast over post-war England--a perfect accompaniment to a sunny afternoon, a hammock and a glass of Pimm's." ?Laura Wilson, *Guardian*

"James Runcie has written the coziest of cozy murder mysteries. Taken individually, each of these clerical whodunits poses a clever puzzle for armchair detectives. Viewed as a collective study of British life as it was lived when Elizabeth II first ascended the throne, these stories present a consistently charming and occasionally cutting commentary on a postwar landscape full of industry, promise and concrete." ?*New York Times Book Review*

"An undiluted pleasure." ?*Scotsman*

"Full of witty phrases to delight the reader . . . This entertaining first volume about Canon Chambers will have Runcie's readers longing for the next." ?Peggy Woodford, *Church Times*

"An evocation of a more genteel era . . . Chambers turns out to be a winning clergyman-sleuth, and Runcie's literary authority is repeatedly demonstrated in the construction of his elegant tales. In fact, it is the plotting that really distinguishes this collection, and will make many more readers more than ready to follow the God-fearing hero from the coronation of Elizabeth II in 1953 to the wedding of Charles and Diana in 1981 . . . there is no denying the winning charm of these artfully fashioned mysteries." ?*Independent*

"Gentle criminal entertainment with a pleasantly old-fashioned feel to it." ?Andrew Taylor, *Spectator*

"The plots are intriguing . . . While the diminutive priest detective created by G. K. Chesterton led the way, Sidney Chambers is set fair to be a worthy successor. In a sceptical age this is quite an achievement. Then again, the author is a son of an archbishop. And who better to portray the sleuth in ecclesiastical clothing?" ?Barry Turner, *Daily Mail*

"At last, an Anglican Father Brown . . . Each tale is beautifully crafted and surprising. I hope for many more volumes." ?A.N. Wilson, *Spectator*

About the Author

James Runcie is an award-winning film-maker and the author of seven novels. *Sidney Chambers and The Shadow of Death*, the first in 'The Grantchester Mysteries' series, was published in 2012, soon followed by *Sidney Chambers and The Perils of the Night*, and *Sidney Chambers and The Problem of Evil*. In October

2014, ITV launched *Grantchester*, a prime-time, six-part series starring James Norton as Sidney Chambers. James Runcie lives in London and Edinburgh.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Wilfred Walker:

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(Grantchester), you could enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its called reading friends.

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