

Lady Novelists and their Gentlemen Detectives

The Lady Novelists			
	Dorothy L. Sayers	(Edith) Ngaio (ny-o) Marsh	Margery Allingham
Born	1893 June 13 Oxford, UK	1895 April 23 Christchurch, NZ	1904 May 20 Ealing, London, UK
Died	1957 Dec 17 Witham, Essex, UK	1982 Feb 18 Christchurch, NZ	1966 June 30 Colchester, UK
Age at death/ cause	64 heart attack	86 natural causes	62 breast cancer
Other works	poet, playwright, essayist, non-fiction writer, translator, and Christian humanist; student of classical and modern languages	theatre director; painter	author of novels, short stories, novellas, radio plays, young adult fiction, and magazine serials; also wrote 3 mysteries under the name of Maxwell March
Royal Recognition	Never awarded a ladyship	Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire, 1966.	Never awarded a ladyship
The Gentleman Detectives			
Detective	Lord Peter Whimsey	Roderick Alleyn (Lord Roderick, but never goes by his title)	Albert Campion (First name Rudolph; last name unknown; disinherited by his family; possibly the son of a viscount)
First gentleman detective novel	<i>Whose Body?</i>	<i>A Man Lay Dead</i>	<i>The Crime at Black Dudley</i>
First novel?	yes	yes	no
Year published	1923	1934	1929
Age when first gentleman detective novel published	30	39	25
Last gentleman detective novel	<i>Tallboys</i> (short story)	<i>Light Thickens</i>	<i>The Mind Readers</i>
Year published	1942	1982	1965
Age when last detective novel published	49	Posthumously	61
# of gentleman detective novels (there are also short stories)	11 (with additional ones commissioned by the Sayers estate)	32	21 (with additional ones finished or created by other writers after her death)

Lady Novelists and their Gentlemen Detectives

	Lord Peter Whimsey	Roderick Alleyn	Albert Campion
Education	Eton Balliol College, Oxford; first-class degree in history	Private school unknown Oxford, degree unknown	Rugby St. Ignatius College (fictitious), Cambridge; unknown if he graduated
World War service	Enlisted early in World War I Major, Rifle Brigade and Intelligence Officer Buried in a shell hole near Caudry in 1918; invalided out with shell shock World War II, worked for the Foreign Office.	Served 3 years during World War I - details never mentioned For the television series they played with the character's age and put him in France in World War II with the The Special Operations Executive's (SOE).	Military service unknown. Would have been 14 when World War I started; 19 when it ended. Likely never served. In World War II, served in an intelligence capacity, but not sure if he was actually in the military.
Spouse	Harriet Vane (Oxford degree earned, but never awarded), writer	Agatha Troy, RA artist	Lady Armanda Fitton auto and airplane mechanic
Children	son, Bredon Delagardie Peter son, Roger son, Paul 2 children, ages and gender not known	son, Ricky	son, Rupert
Sidekick	Mervyn Bunter, gentleman's gentleman	Detective Inspector Fox, affectionately called "Br'er Fox"	Magersfontein Lugg, ex-burgler, ex-con, and aspiring gentleman's gentleman
Police Contact	Charles Parker (also Peter's brother-in- law)	Detective Inspector Fox	Inspector Stanislaus Oates Inspector Charles Luke Both of whom were eventually promoted. Luke was nominated for the Police Metal for bravery.
If I were going to read only one book in the series, which would it be?	Toss up between <i>Gaudy Night</i> and <i>Busman's Honeymoon</i>	<i>Death of a Peer/Surfeit of Lampreys</i>	<i>Tiger in the Smoke</i>