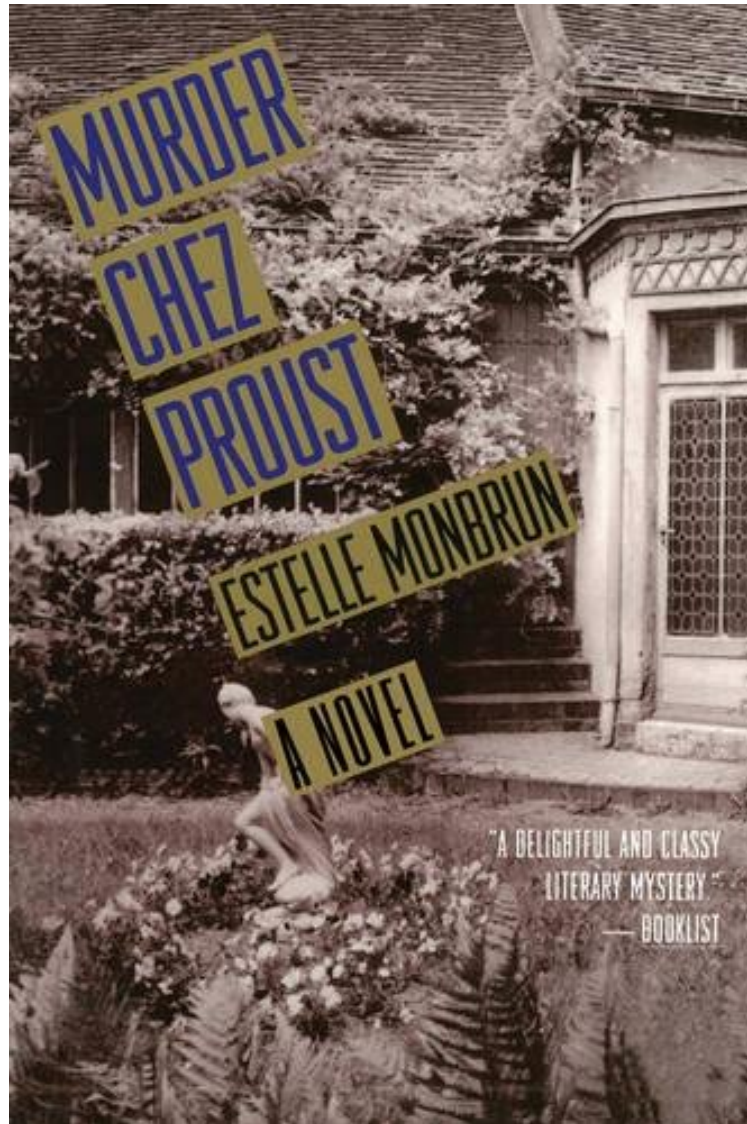


[Mobile book] Murder chez Proust: A Mystery

## Murder chez Proust: A Mystery

*Estelle Monbrun*

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#5922196 in Books Arcade Publishing 2013-07-09 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.25 x 5.50 x 5.50l, .65 #File Name: 1611458129240 pages | File size: 59.Mb

**Estelle Monbrun : Murder chez Proust: A Mystery** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Murder chez Proust: A Mystery:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Didn't hold my interest By Pboyer A bit old fashioned in style, but lots of potential. Maybe I was just tired! Certainly a different milieu, and one the author seems to know. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Gloria Salcedo Subtle way of introducing reader to MARCEL PROUST. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Clever, Witty, Ingenious Mystery By Alfred H. Jones Estelle Monbrun knows how to grab a reader and then hold him or her with vivid characters and a narrative that

builds momentum that won't let you go until the end.

When Adeline Bertrand-Verdon, the haughty, conniving president of the Proust Association, is murdered, Inspector Jean-Pierre Foucheroux is called on to lead the investigation. Soon Inspector Foucheroux is overwhelmed by a seemingly endless list of suspects: from her assistant to her colleagues, her fiancé to her lover, almost everyone Adeline knew had motive to kill her. Meanwhile, Gisele Dambert, the beautiful assistant with the royal blue eyes and more than a hint of mystery, is on her own search for the lost Proust notes that would allow her to finally enter the glittering world of the literary elite. This clever, satirical novel presents a dazzling array of sharp, unscrupulous professors and scholars in the image-obsessed world of academia. An assortment of suspects—the professor who plagiarizes his students' work, the manipulative director—bring intrigue and drama to the novel. Suspense and withering commentary on the morally questionable intellectual elite combine to form a clever mix of whodunit and satire.

From Publishers Weekly In her first foray into murder, published last year in France, Monbrun sets up a cozy-like bland background from which she launches some pointed barbs at the ambitions of literary scholars. Unscrupulous Proustian Adeline Bertrand-Verdon has her plans for greatness ended by a fatal blow to the head during her late-night visit to the real-life home of Remembrance of Things Past's Aunt Leonie. A woman who inspired both devotion and loathing, Bertrand-Verdon leaves behind a gaggle of suspects?most of whom, much to the annoyance of police inspector Jean-Pierre Foucheroux and detective Leila Djemani, are largely concerned with protecting their reputations. Meanwhile, relentlessly insecure graduate student Gisele Dambert, whose tendency to lose things long ago extended to her common sense, is tracking down the misplaced Proust notebooks that could make her reputation?and destroy others'. Throughout, Monbrun is most effective when targeting academic self-promotion or exploring Aunt Leonie's drab little house as literary shrine (an object less interesting in reality than in in art?or recollection). Not quite so convincing are attempts at deeper meaning, e.g., Foucheroux's model of reading, and the cobbling of same to a routine mystery. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Much as the people living in a small French village immortalized by Marcel Proust complain about the haughty Parisian and arrogant American academics who come to pay homage to the author, they do like their money, and so they are not at all pleased when Adeline Bertrand-Verdon, the impossibly manipulative president of the Proust Association, is found dead, murdered in one of Proust's favorite haunts. By sheer coincidence, Inspector Foucheroux, a wise if melancholy gentleman, is attending the Proust conference on behalf of his temporarily bedridden sister. He quickly takes charge of the investigation and sends for his unusual and uncanny partner, Leila Djemani. Everyone associated with the Proustian fanatics--from Adeline's lover to her fiancé; her attractive but mysterious secretary, Gisele; Gisele's overly ambitious doctoral adviser; and the conniving and nasty director of the Center for Postmodern Manuscripts--has a motive, a case of the jitters, and a flimsy alibi. Monbrun, a Proust expert with a saucy sense of humor, has concocted a delightful and classy literary mystery. Donna Seaman "'A delightful and classy literary mystery.'" (Booklist) "'Monbrun takes malicious glee in dissecting the shabby ethics of her literary cronies [and in] attaching Proustian themes to the duplicitous intellectuals she satirizes with such impertinent wit.'" (New York Times) "'No Proustian credentials are required to enjoy this suave debut.'" (Kirkus s)