

[Ebook pdf] The Berry Scene (B-Berry Pleydell)

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Dornford Yates

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#6015296 in Books 2008-09-23Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.07 x .91 x 5.311, .95 #File Name: 1842329669360 pages | File size: 34.Mb

Dornford Yates : The Berry Scene (B-Berry Pleydell) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Berry Scene (B-Berry Pleydell):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Berry SceneBy J R GodwinBook review by Denise GodwinThe Berry scene by Dornford YatesSet between the two World Wars, this recounts the doings of Berry and his close relations who amuse themselves and us with wit and style. No one gets the better of them thanks to intelligent plans and interactions. The twists of the stories are a delight and still in the 21st century provoke chuckles and even laughing

out loud. It will certainly please older readers who remember more leisurely times.

These stories, written in response to huge popular demand, give us classic Berry Pleydell – Yates' finest comic character – at the top of his form. The first story sees Berry capturing a German spy at a village cricket match in 1914, and things get more bizarre from then on. A self-consciously nostalgic work harking back to more decorous days consisting of tense plotting and high farce of the best kind.

About the Author Born Cecil William Mercer into a middle class Victorian family with many Victorian skeletons in the closet, including the conviction for embezzlement from a law firm and subsequent suicide of his great-uncle, Yates' parents somehow scraped together enough money to send him to Harrow. The son of a solicitor, he qualified as a barrister whilst still finding time to contribute stories to the Windsor Magazine. After the first world war he gave up legal work in favour of writing, which had become his great passion, and completed some thirty books. These ranged from light-hearted farce to adventure thrillers. For the former, he created the 'Berry' books which established Yates' reputation as a writer of witty, upper-crust romances. For the latter, he created the character Richard Chandos, who recounts the adventures of Jonah Mansel, a classic gentleman sleuth. As a consequence of his education and experience, Yates' books feature the genteel life, a nostalgic glimpse at Edwardian decadence and a number of swindling solicitors. In his hey day, and as testament to his fine writing, Dornford Yates' work was placed in the bestseller list. Indeed, 'Berry' is one of the great comic creations of twentieth century fiction; the 'Chandos' titles also being successfully adapted for television. Along with Sapper and John Buchan, Yates dominated the adventure book market of the inter war years. Finding the English climate utterly unbearable, Yates chose to live in the French Pyrenees for eighteen years, before moving on to Rhodesia where he died in 1960. 'Mr Yates can be recommended to anyone who thinks the British take themselves too seriously.' - Punch 'We appreciate fine writing when we come across it, and a wit that is ageless united to a courtesy that is extinct' - Cyril Connolly