

The Haunted Monastery And The Chinese Maze Murders

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venture into writing suspense novels after the success of *Judge Dee* and his translation of an anonymous Chinese detective novel from the sixteenth century

one of a series of five detective stories set in 7th century China when the judge was also the detective. Judge Dee has three murders to solve and there is an obvious suspect who everyone else wants to put on trial but he is suspicious and manages to track down the real murderer

In the *Haunted Monastery*, Judge Dee and his wives seek refuge from a violent mountain storm and are plunged into a bizarre series of interrelated crimes. Three women have been murdered in the monastery. Judge Dee has seen something impossible, perhaps supernatural, and inexplicable events flash forth in the dark tangle of corridors and the Taoist hell a hall filled with statuary showing realistically the torments of hell

The eight short stories in *Judge Dee at Work* cover a decade during which the judge served in four different provinces of the Tang Empire from the suspected treason of a general in the Chinese army to the murder of a lonely poet in his garden pavilion. The cases here are among the most memorable in the Judge Dee series

This book views the Dutch sinologist Robert van Gulik's Judge Dee mysteries as a hybrid East-West form of detective fiction and uses the concept of transculturation to discuss their hybrid nature with respect to their sources, production and influence. The Judge Dee mysteries authored by Robert van Gulik (1910-1967) were the first detective stories to be set in ancient China. These hybrid narratives combine Chinese historical figures, traditional Chinese crime literature and Chinese history and material culture with ratiocinative methods and psychoanalytic themes familiar from Western detective fiction. This new subject and detective image won a global readership and the book discusses the innovations that van Gulik's Judge Dee mysteries brought to both Chinese *Gong'an* literature and Western detective fiction. Furthermore, it introduces contemporary writers from different countries who specialize in writing detective fiction or *Gong'an* novels set in ancient China. The book will meet the interest of fans of Judge Dee stories throughout the world and will also appeal to both students and researchers of comparative literature, Chinese literature and crime novels studies

In the post-war mid-century, Robert van Gulik produced a series of stories set in imperial China and featuring a Chinese judge. Judge Dee. This book examines the author's unprecedented effort in hybridising two heterogeneous crime writing traditions: traditional Chinese *Gong'an* court case fiction and its Anglo-American counterpart, bringing to light how his fiction draws elements from these two traditions for plots, narrative features, visual images and gender representation, relying on research on various sources and literary traditions. It provides illumination of the historical contexts centring on the cultural interaction and connectedness that occurred during the multidirectional global flows of the Judge Dee texts in both Western and Chinese markets. This study contributes to current scholarship on crime fiction by questioning its predominantly Eurocentric focus and the divisive post-colonial approach often adopted in accessing works concerning foreign peoples and cultures

from 1949 to 1968 author Robert van Gulik wrote 15 novels two novellas and eight short stories featuring Judge Dee a Chinese magistrate and detective from the Tang dynasty in addition to providing the setting for riveting mysteries Dee's world highlighted aspects of traditional Chinese culture through his personal relationships with his wives his lieutenants and the citizens he served with dedication on the emperor's behalf this book gives a synopsis of each Judge Dee story along with commentary on plots characters themes and historical details exploring van Gulik's influence on Chinese and Western detective fiction and on the image of China in popular 20th century American literature this study brings to light a significant contributor to the development of detective fiction

The pleasures of mystery novels and historical fiction double when the two genres meet in a single book this detailed guide is the first to document and describe the diverse writings in the growing body of historical mystery literature organized alphabetically by author name and series title the guide covers the works of approximately 70 authors and contains descriptions of more than 700 works with crime themes whether strictly in the mystery genre or a mainstream literary novel for those who want to read historical mysteries in sequence this is an essential guide and for those seeking background information on historical mysteries to guide their reading or collection development choices this book offers a level of detail that facilitates selection the pleasures of mystery novels and historical fiction double when the two genres meet in a single book this detailed guide is the first to document and describe the diverse writings in the growing body of historical mystery literature its focus is on the best most representative most current and easily accessible publications with an emphasis on series novels most have been released in the past decade with select classic historical mysteries e.g. Christie's *Death Comes as the End* 1945 also cited organized alphabetically by author name and series title the guide covers the works of approximately 70 authors and contains descriptions of more than 700 works with crime themes whether strictly in the mystery genre or a mainstream literary novel for those who want to read historical mysteries in sequence this is an essential guide and for those seeking background information on historical mysteries to guide their reading or collection development choices this book offers a level of detail that facilitates selection each series entry names the scene of the crime identifies the detective and his or her chief associates notes the series premise comments on characteristics features and overall series quality and discusses the critical response individual series titles the cases are then listed and described in series or chronological order additional access to titles is provided through detailed indexes author title series and individual characters and settings time and place academic public and high school librarians will welcome this guide as a valuable reference readers advisory and collection development tool

The Chinese Bell Murders is a Gong'an historical mystery novel written by Robert van Gulik and set in imperial China roughly speaking the Tang dynasty it is a fiction based on the real character of Judge Dee Ti Jen Chieh or Di Renjie a magistrate and statesman of the Tang court who lived roughly 630-700 p this book was originally written by Robert van Gulik sometime between 1953 and 1956 like its predecessor *The Chinese Maze Murders* it was intended for a Japanese or Chinese audience but he later chose to publish it in English as it happened all three editions came out at roughly the same time

Essays taken from Salem Press's *Critical Survey of Mystery and Detective Fiction* published in 1988

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