



Death of a Nurse

Richard Marsten (Pseudonym) , Ed McBain

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The Navy brass is satisfied when a yeoman, the prime suspect in the murder of beautiful, dedicated Navy nurse, dies, but Lieutenant Chuck Masters disagrees. Reissue.

Death of a Nurse Details

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Author : Richard Marsten (Pseudonym) , Ed McBain

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Susan Liston says

A 1955 Ed McBain, full of 50s slang and tough talk and cringy sexism. But the main problem was the plot. The set-up is okay and he is careful to keep you guessing but by the end you have to believe that not one, not two, but three people taunt a murderer about revealing his crimes. While unprotected from him, of course. Because that's what you would do. Sigh.

Tyler Cole says

I liked this book. It was a nice change from the 87th Precinct stories.

Patricia Eichenlaub says

Old timey Ed McBain.

Brian Rogers says

This book, like *Even the Wicked* was one of Evan Hunter's crime books from his OTHER pseudonym than Ed McBain, which were later re-issued as McBain books when those were at the height of their popularity. The Marsten books are more murder/thrillers than police procedurals and are also more "men's adventure" stories with the gorgeous women falling for our heroes within moments of arrival only to be put into jeopardy or under suspicion later.

Given that, this is fine. It's not great, it's not bad, but it is a look at 1950's culture, especially as regards to women. There are several scenes written from the POV of the heroine and Hunter/McBain/Marsten can do a good job showing how awkward and uncomfortable the casual sexism of the navy (and world) were at the time, but there's also all too much "and then she thought about the curve of her breasts" nonsense in the "I contemplated how my boobs bobbed boobishly" vein that men all too often include for their female characters. (Why do the men never contemplate how their bodies move when they walk? Weird, that.)

If you find this sitting on a shelf and you already like Hunter's style, go ahead. I wouldn't chase it down.

Joel says

More Navy than medical, but an early Ed McBain thriller in which the narration changes between a few different characters against a fairly realistic backdrop, I suppose, of Navy life.

Anita says

well written, easy to read

Rachel says

I pulled this off my Dad's bookshelf. Great mystery writer. Not a crazy plot but a simple who done it done well. Perhaps the very end got a bit contrived, even hokey. But on the whole, quite enjoyable, read in a day fare.

Cindy says

I found this book in a book sale.....it is autographed! I really liked the story but the ending was a bit corny. Still, great find in the bin.
