

The Cask

By Freeman Wills Crofts

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When a cask breaks open in a busy London shipping yard, the discovery of its contents leads to a puzzling case for Inspector Burnley of Scotland Yard. As the Inspector begins to trace the mysterious movements of the cask, his investigative procedures bring him to Paris and onto the path of a meticulously plotted murder, one step at a time.

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Editorial Review

About the Author
Born in 1879, Freeman Wills Crofts was an Irish engineer and one of the preeminent writers of Golden Age detective fiction. Educated in Belfast, he was apprenticed at eighteen to his uncle, who was chief engineer of the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway. Marrying in 1912, he was to hold various positions in railway engineering before becoming Chief Assistant Engineer, and it was during an illness-induced absence from work that he wrote his first novel, The Cask (1920), which became an international success. Considered a classic of the detective genre, it was followed by a steady production of more than thirty novels, most of which featured the meticulous Inspector French of Scotland Yard. An influential and key pioneer of the genre, Crofts became an early member of the legendary Detection Club in London along with Agatha Christie, Anthony Berkeley and other established mystery writers. He also wrote numerous plays for the BBC, dozens of short stories, a number of true crime works, and a religious book. Known for tight plots and scrupulous attention to detail, his work set new standards in detective fiction plotting. In 1939, the author was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. In retirement from engineering he continued to write and pursued music, carpentry, gardening and travel. He died in 1957.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Ronquillo:

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity for spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a walk, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or even read a book entitled The Cask? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time along with your favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have different opinion?

Nichelle Shive:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of information. Even you love The Cask, you can enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout people. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Christina Webb:

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