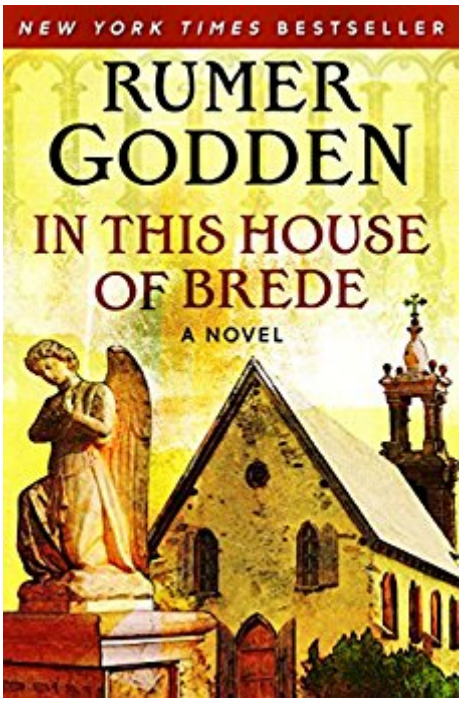
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In This House Of Brede: A Novel



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Synopsis

The poignant, New York TimesÃ¢â ¬â œbestselling novel of the spiritual and personal lives of nuns cloistered in a Benedictine monastery as change begins to rock the Catholic Church. Ã Â For most of her adult life, Philippa Talbot has been a successful British professional. Now in her forties, the World War IIÃ¢â ¬â œwidow has made a startling decision: SheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s giving up her civil service career and elite social standing to join a convent as a postulant Roman Catholic nun. Ã Â In Sussex in the south of England, Philippa begins her new life inside Brede Abbey, a venerable, 130-year-old Benedictine monastery. Taking her place among a diverse group of extraordinary women, young and old, she is welcomed into the surprisingly rich and complex world of the devout, whom faith, fate, and circumstance have led there. From their personal stories, both uplifting and heartbreaking, Philippa draws great strength in the weeks, months, and years that follow, as the confidence, conflicts, and poignant humanity of her fellow sisters serve to validate her love and sacred purpose. Ã Â But a time of great upheaval in the hierarchy of the Catholic Church approaches as the winds of change blow at gale force. And for the financially troubled Brede and the acolytes within, it will take no less than a miracle to weather the storm. Ã Â Author Rumer Godden spent three years living in close proximity to Stanbrook Abbey in Worcestershire communing with the Benedictine nuns in preparation for the writing of this beloved bestseller. The result is an honest and unforgettable novel of love, sacrifice, and devotion, a major literary achievement from the acclaimed author of Black Narcissus and The River.This ebook features an illustrated biography of the author including rare images from the Rumer Godden Literary Estate. Ã Â

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have loved this book since I was 10. I have probably read it a dozen times or more over the years. I can’t put my finger on it, but it somehow it speaks to me. Even though I rarely read fiction. Very happy there’s finally a Kindle version, and very few typos!

I am 78;I read this book a half century ago. It is still a moving,lyrical and honest story.

I enjoyed the opportunity to observe life in a monastery. In some places I felt the transitions were too swift, or could havebeen better explained.

Loved it

An enjoyable book by one of my all-time favorite authors.

An everlasting favorite.

I saw the TV production over 40 years ago, that starred Diana Rigg, and never forgot it. The book was even better. I highly recommend it.

The great novelist Rumer Godden is hard to characterize. She wrote children’s books, novels set in India, and novels about the life of cloistered religious, which are astonishing for their detail and arcane knowledge--that which only someone who had spent time in a convent or monastery would know (how did she come by this information? Turns out she lived for three years at the gate of an English abbey and thus, per conversations and observation, obtained insider, detailed knowledge of life behind the cloister gates.)This book is said to be better than some autobiographies of former

nuns. I believe it. The story is very complex and the main character shifts from one character to another: the Lady Abbess, who dies soon after the story, her successor who finds out her former Abbess' dark secret, a novice who leaves a heartbroken suitor behind, a group of Japanese girls sent to found a sister house, and many others. The sisters torment each other, achieve mastery of great arts, suffer, and struggle with their spiritual life in the most interesting and complex situations. One story builds on another--making this one of those novels hard to put down.

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