



Death in the Ashes: A Fourth Case from the Notebooks of Pliny the Younger

By Albert A. Bell Jr.

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A few years after the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, where he lost his adoptive father and mentor, Pliny the Younger is asked by his friend Aurelia to help her husband Calpurnius, who has been accused of murder in Naples. He has solved previous crimes, but never before has so much time and distance elapsed before his arrival on the murder scene...nor has he carried so much emotional baggage. With the help of his wisecracking sidekick Tacitus, he now must investigate cunning plots by some descendants of Augustus, which include murders and babies switched at birth. One fortunate circumstance in Pliny's detective activities is that the hardened ash crust makes good impressions of hand- and foot-prints. But now, for the first time, Pliny must swallow his phobias and ghastly memories and face a deadly challenge in the ruins of a buried villa.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Bell knows all roads lead to Rome. Suspenseful and riveting!" -- Kelli Stanley

"Bell has a fine knowledge of Roman life and this intricately constructed mystery features the classes of ancient society and the stresses between them--an intriguing and involving tale from a world long past yet strangely familiar." -- John Maddox Roberts

About the Author

Albert A. Bell, Jr. is a college history professor and novelist living in Michigan. In addition to his Roman series, Bell has written contemporary mysteries, middle-grade novels, and nonfiction. He maintains a website devoted to Pliny the Younger, as well as his author website.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kenneth Vargas:

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