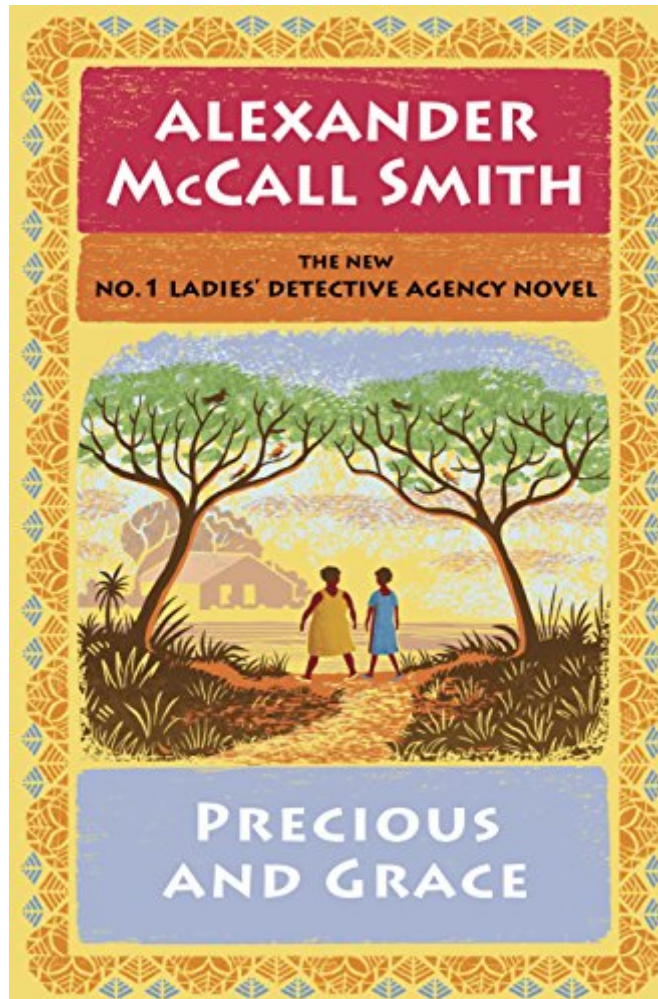


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Precious And Grace: No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency (17) (No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency Series)



Synopsis

In this latest installment of the beloved and best-selling No. 1 Ladiesâ™ Detective Agency series, Precious Ramotswe and Grace Makutsi help a young woman on a quest to find someone from her past. Changes are afoot at the No. 1 Ladiesâ™ Detective Agency, where Mma Makutsi, who has recently been promoted to co-director, has been encouraging Mma Ramotswe to update to more modern office practices. However, an unusual case will require both of them to turn their attention firmly to the past. A young Canadian woman who spent her early childhood in Botswana requests the agencyâ™s help in recovering important pieces of her life there. With only a faded photographâ”and, of course, some good old-fashioned detective skillsâ”to guide them, Precious and Grace set out to locate the house that the woman used to live in and the caretaker who looked after her many years ago. But when the journey takes an unexpected turn, they are forced to consider whether some lost things may be better off unfound. Busy as she is with this challenging investigation, Mma Ramotswe can always be relied on to come to the aid of her friendsâ”who seem to have a special knack for landing in hot water. Mr. Polopetsi, an occasional assistant at the agency, has made an ill-advised business decision that may lead to serious trouble. And next door at Tlokweng Road Speedy Motors, Fanwell, the junior mechanic, has become helplessly attached to a stray dog who proves to be a bigger responsibility than he can handle. With Mma Makutsi by her side, Mma Ramotswe dispenses help and sympathy with the graciousness and warmth for which she is so well known, and everyone is led to surprising insights into the healing power of compassion, forgiveness, and new beginnings. From the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

This is the 17th installment in the long running series about Precious Ramotswe and her No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency in Botswana. Whenever I start one of these books, the sensation is reminiscent of easing myself into a warm and relaxing bath. Life slows down and my mind turns to idly contemplating subjects as random as whether dogs have souls or the curative power of a cup of tea. The main storyline in Precious and Grace concerns a Canadian woman who spent some of her childhood in Botswana and who comes to the agency hoping to make contact with people that she knew in her childhood. Mma Ramotse and Mma Makutsi have a difference of opinion as to whether the person that they find is the woman's former nursemaid or an imposter. There are also secondary storylines about Mr Polopetsi becoming involved in a pyramid selling scheme and Fanwell from the garage finding a stray dog. In the last couple of books in this series I felt that the sub-plots had been tossed in almost as an afterthought, but this time they were all worked through well and tied back to the central theme. I was genuinely unsure how the main storyline would resolve itself and interested in what was going to happen. It strikes me that this series is a kind of updated Aesop's fables, with gentle moral lessons integrated into the story (in this case the focus is on forgiveness and on righting wrongs), but not in such a way that it becomes preachy - rather, it's a gentle approach that just makes you think. Kind of like yoga for the soul.

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