

SPOILER

Dorothy Sayers, Whose Body?

Sir Julian Freke is a brilliant doctor at a research hospital who has been waiting for years to kill Levy, who married a woman Freke loved. When a body of an unknown vagrant arrives for dissection who looks rather like Levy, Freke sees his chance. He kills Levy, switches the bodies and begins dissection to render facial recognition impossible. He has no use for the vagrant now, so he pretties him up to throw off the police, and deposits him in a nearby tub since the bathroom window was open. Wimsey puts a surprising number of threads together, making sense of a dozen strange facts that had rendered the whole situation even more puzzling than it first appeared. One of these is that Levy apparently slept in his own bed that night and left his house naked—in reality it was Freke who dropped off Levy's clothes and lay in his bed for a while to confuse the police. The reader is faced also with the provocative fact that Freke has a disturbing (to Wimsey) view of morality, as a physicality in the brain that serves a temporal purpose and could be removed through surgery or evolution. It is reading Freke's books on psychiatry that arouses Lord Peter's suspicions, surmising that what one believes about morality may very well have something to do with how moral one is!

