



The Jewel That Was Ours

Colin Dexter



MACMILLAN READERS

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INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

COLIN DEXTER

The Jewel That Was Ours

Retold by Anne Collins



 MACMILLAN

Founding Editor: John Milne

The Macmillan Readers provide a choice of enjoyable reading materials for learners of English. The series is published at six levels – Starter, Beginner, Elementary, Pre-Intermediate, Intermediate and Upper.

Level control

Information, structure and vocabulary are controlled to suit the students' ability at each level.

The number of words at each level:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Starter | about 300 basic words |
| Beginner | about 600 basic words |
| Elementary | about 1100 basic words |
| Pre-Intermediate | about 1400 basic words |
| Intermediate | about 1600 basic words |
| Upper | about 2200 basic words |

Vocabulary

Some difficult words and phrases in this book are important for understanding the story. Some of these words are explained in the story and some are shown in the pictures. From Pre-Intermediate level upwards, words are marked with a number like this: ...³. These words are explained in the Glossary at the end of the book.

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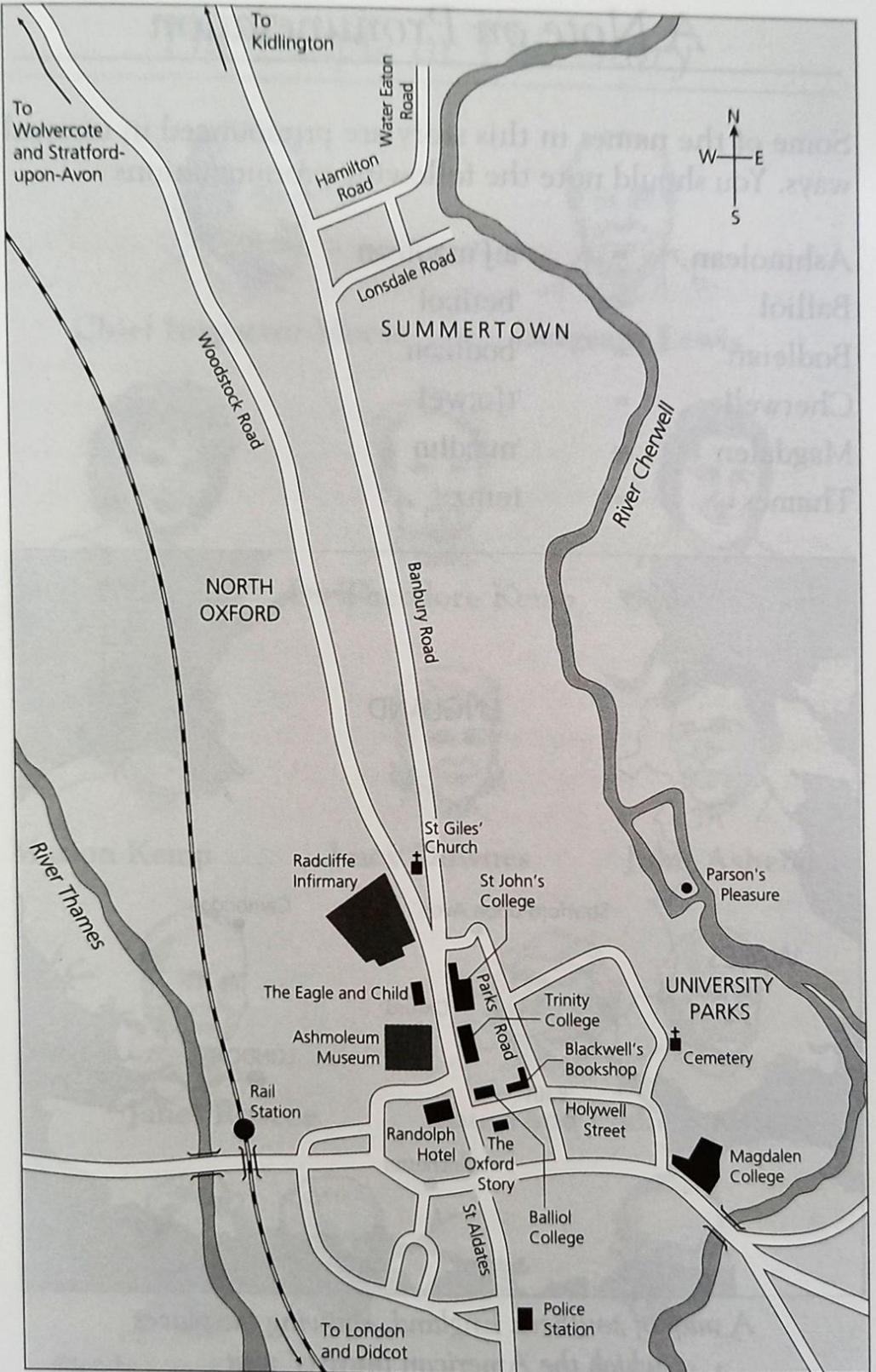
A Note About This Story

Colin Dexter is one of Britain's most famous writers of detective stories. He has lived and worked in Oxford for many years. He has written thirteen novels about Inspector Morse and Sergeant Lewis. All of these novels, and many other stories about Morse, have been filmed for television, and these films have been seen in many countries.

In these stories, Morse and Lewis are members of the Thames Valley Police. There are many police forces in Britain. Each force works in a large area of the country. The Thames Valley Police is a real police force, and Oxford is one of the largest cities in its area. The headquarters of the police force is in a small town a few kilometres north of Oxford, but there is also a large police station in a street called St Aldate's, in the centre of Oxford. In this story Morse and Lewis work in both these places.

Morse and Lewis are not real policemen, and the events in this story never really happened. But most of the places in this story are real places. The Randolph Hotel is a real hotel. The University of Oxford is made up of many colleges, some large and some small. The ones which are mentioned in this story – St John's College, Balliol College, Trinity College and Magdalen College, are all real colleges. The University also has a famous library – the Bodleian Library – and a famous museum, the Ashmolean Museum. The library is named after a man called Bodley and the museum is named after a man called Ashmole. The chief of each department in the library or the museum is called the Keeper of that department. One of the people in this story is a Keeper at the Ashmolean Museum.

Two rivers run through Oxford, the Thames and the Cherwell. The Cherwell runs through the area of North Oxford. This is an area of expensive houses where many of the teachers in the university live.

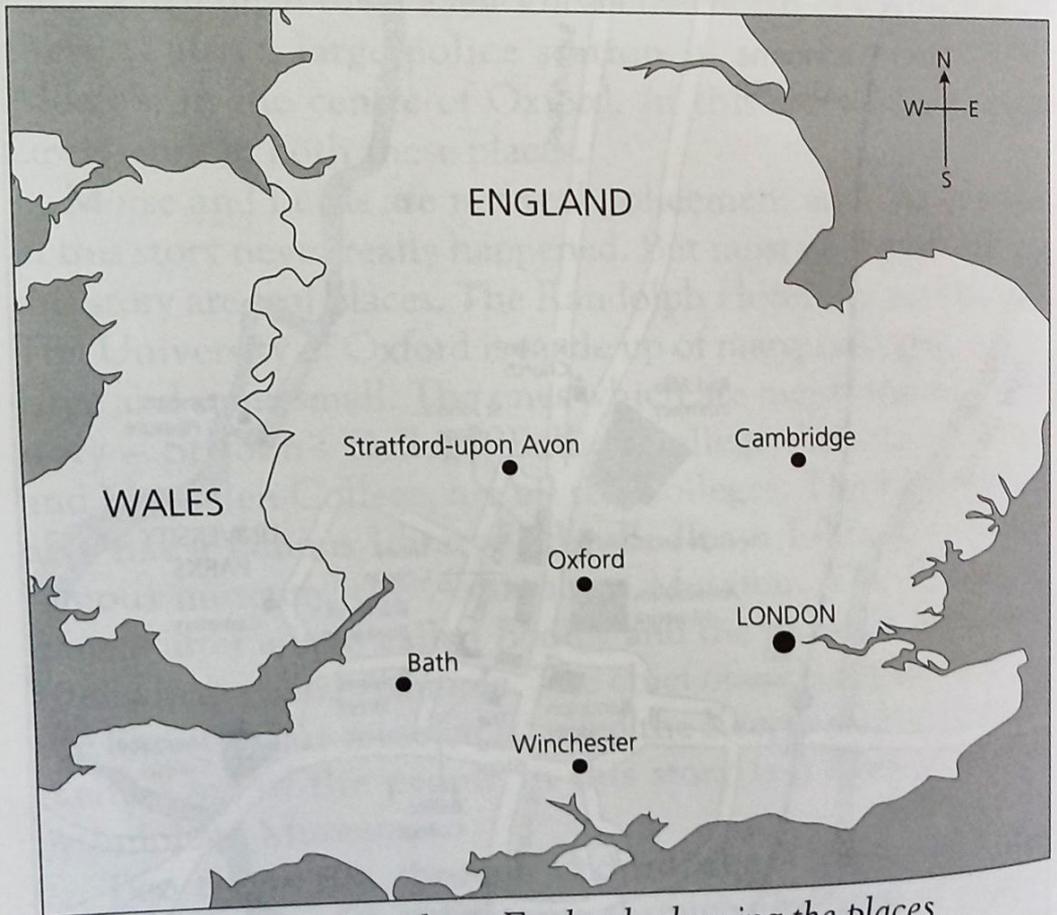


A Map of Oxford

A Note on Pronunciation

Some of the names in this story are pronounced in unusual ways. You should note the following pronunciations –

| | | |
|-----------|---|-------------|
| Ashmolean | = | æʃ'məʊli:ən |
| Balliol | = | 'berli:əl |
| Bodleian | = | 'bɒdli:ən |
| Cherwell | = | 'tʃɑ:wəl |
| Magdalen | = | 'mɑ:dli:n |
| Thames | = | temz |



A map of southern England, showing the places which the American tourists' visit

The People in This Story



Chief Inspector Morse



Sergeant Lewis



Sheila Williams



Dr Theodore Kemp



Cedric Downes



Marion Kemp



Lucy Downes



John Ashenden



Janet Roscoe



Laura and Eddie Stratton



Shirley and Howard Brown



Phil Aldrich

The Americans Arrive

It was early one Wednesday evening, at the end of October 1990. In the bedroom of a house in North Oxford, a man and a woman were thinking their own thoughts. They had spent the afternoon there, making love together. The man's name was Dr Theodore Kemp, the woman was Mrs Sheila Williams, and they were both lecturers² at Oxford University.

Outside, it was dark and heavy rain was falling. The rain beat against the window of the room. Sheila was standing by the window looking out at the wet street. In the rain, the street looked shiny and black.

Sheila turned her head and looked at Theodore Kemp, who was still lying in the bed. 'He's probably thinking about his wife, or about some other woman,' she thought sadly. 'I should tell him to get out of my bed and out of my life. But I can't do it. My husband has left me and I don't want to lose Theodore too.'

Kemp's dark moustache and beard formed a neat circle round his mouth. 'But his mouth is too small,' thought Sheila, 'and he's so arrogant – he thinks that he's very special and very clever.'

'I must go!' Kemp said suddenly. He sat up in the bed, swung his legs to the floor and picked up his shirt.

'Can we see each other tomorrow?' Sheila asked softly.

'Perhaps for a short time in the afternoon,' the man replied. 'But you know we'll be very busy with our group of Americans tomorrow evening. And then —'

'And then you must go home, of course.'

'Yes, of course! You know why. I have to go back to Marion.'

Sheila nodded. Kemp always had to go home to his wife.

Kemp dressed quickly, kissed Sheila lightly on the back of her neck and left the room. A moment later, she heard the sound of the street door closing. Feeling miserable, she watched the top of Kemp's black umbrella as he walked away down the street.

Kemp walked quickly through the rain to his flat, which was just a few minutes away. He was thinking that he ought to end his affair³ with Sheila Williams. She was demanding more and more of his time. Also, she drank too much alcohol and she was putting on weight. And there *were* other women that he was interested in – one woman in particular.

The following afternoon, a large, modern coach was approaching Oxford. The coach, which had come from Cambridge, contained a group of twenty-seven American tourists – nineteen women and eight men – who were the members of a tour group. The tour was called 'The Historic England Tour'.

The tour leader, John Ashenden, was sitting at the front of the coach. Ashenden's job was to look after the group, and to make sure that they had no problems at any of the hotels where they stayed. He also gave them information about interesting places and events in the historic towns and cities on the tour – London, Cambridge, Oxford, Stratford-upon-Avon⁴, Bath and Winchester.

The tourists liked to sit in the same seats on the coach each day. As usual, Phil Aldrich, a small elderly man from California, was sitting by himself on the back seat. At the front of the coach, in the seat opposite Ashenden, was Mrs Janet Roscoe. Mrs Roscoe, a lady in her seventies, was also from California. She was the most difficult member of the group. She complained about everything – she was always looking for problems.

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