

Chapter 1 : The Winter Ghosts by Kate Mosse

The Winter Ghosts is a quick read, which is good because it will distract you from the lack of story it has. Mosse Freddie is haunted by the memory of his brother George, who lost his life during World War I.

I am the last. The others have slipped away into darkness. Around me now, at the end of my days, only an echo in the still air of the memory of those who once I loved. The story is simple but fascinating. We find ourselves in when our hero, Freddie, visits a special bookseller. One night, he decides to attend the feast of St. Etienne, a day that carries special connotations for the residents of the village, and he meets an alluring young woman. The events that follow are stunning and exciting. How to contain in a single, inadequate review the wealth that is hidden in this beautiful, haunting tale? Mosse uses so many ingredients to create a marvellous novel. First of all, the richness of the natural environment that becomes a character in itself. The Spanish slopes become a symbol of light while the French side of the legendary mountains symbolize the darkness that has fallen over the lives of the residents. Even the shops and the streets are tokens of a weird, heavy feeling of sadness. The snow, the wind that carries voices through the storm, the caves, the fire, the sound of laughter and weeping. Beautiful, haunting real-life photos make the reading experience even more immediate and realistic. But I fear the forgetting. The living and the dead. Mosse writes about suffering and memory with the focus on the male character. I found this extremely refreshing since we have been used to experience similar stories through the eyes of female characters. Here, she decides to place a young man at the centre of the action and this is masterfully done. The primary question that is asked is what happens when we are faced with an untimely, tragic death? How do we go on? We remember our loved ones with fondness but what happens when we feel inadequate compared to them? What are the consequences when the shadows of the dead oppress the living? How does one feel when the possibility of death becomes an immediate certainty? There are questions that cannot be easily answered if at all and Mosse communicates her themes through History. She returns to France and the persecutions of the Cathars to create a haunting tale through clear, immediate, poetic writing. Beautiful descriptions, rounded characters and interactions that should be taught on every Creative Writing class. Freddie and Fabrissa are the main characters. Freddie is a deeply engaging, sympathetic character. His dilemmas, his thoughts and fears can be related to our war-mongering society of today. He is a dreamer because the reality his parents created for him is deeply unjust. Fabrissa is the jewel of the story. The story of the Cathars has always been one of my favourite moments in Medieval History and the way Mosse brings it to focus in this novel is exceptional. One of the major beliefs of the Cathars was the duality of the nature and life as an eternal rebirth and transformation. Everything is repeated, a conviction similar to the Gnostic beliefs. Think of the image of a snake that bites its own tail. What evidence could be more tragic than the two Worlds Wars that reaped mankind apart? This is a ghost story, a love story, a Historical Fiction novel of the finest kind. And my thoughts insisted on spiralling back to the dead sleeping in the cold earth. Shattered bones and mud and blood. The headstones and the graves, the wild and untended places between.

The Winter Ghosts by English author Kate Mosse, published in it was based on The Cave, a novella she wrote earlier that year as part of the Quick Reads initiative.

The translator is named Saurat and he is curious how Freddie received an Occitan document since it is rare. Freddie recounts his story, which began 5 years ago. Click here to see the rest of this review In December, Freddie, originally from London, is on a journey of recovery since he lost his beloved brother, George, in the world war and was recently released from a sanatorium. He begins his trip in Ariege and he makes his way around various towns. He visits a cemetery and the anguish he feels for losing George is still raw, despite so many years passing. His parents have passed and Freddie knew that George was the glue that kept them together. As he passes through the valleys, he stops in one of them and feels a forbidding presence. He recalls a lecture at prep school about religious battles that occurred centuries ago in Southern France. He then hears a feminine voice in the mountains. On the way, he is caught in a blizzard and his vehicle is damaged and nearly toppled over a cliff. After saving himself, he hears the voices again and sees a glimpse of a woman. Afterwards, he makes his way towards the village of Nulle after being pointed in the direction by hunters. He feels a blanket of sadness around the village but ignores it. He finds refuge in an inn that is quickly dying and owned by the Galy family. He is given a room for the night and told there will be people to help with his car in the morning. Madame Galy invites him to the fete de la transhumance, a festival that happens twice a year at night to mark the migration of men and flock to Spain and back. Madame Galy puts a festive tunic, map and medicine out for him and after she leaves, Freddie decides to join. He realizes that George has always been the star of his life and Freddie had been attempting to mimic his mannerisms. Freddie leaves and is confused by the map, taking unsure turns. He makes it to the village square and enters the town hall. Freddie notices that the clothing is very old fashioned then is seated by Guillaume Marty next to a beautiful woman who wears blue. He begins talking to the woman, Fabrissa, next to him, being instantly attracted to her. She asks about George and Freddie wonders how she knew. So he tells her about the day a soldier informed them George was MIA. After he finishes, two soldiers break into the town hall and attack people. Freddie is confused if this is real. He escapes with Fabrissa to the valley. There she recounts her story. When she was younger, the village was a peaceful place until soldiers attacked the nearby settlements. Most of the inhabitants fled to the caves. Eventually, some villagers were careless and the soldiers found them. They closed the cave entrance with stones, trapping them. When she finishes her story, the night has ended. Freddie believes the soldiers were German. She tells him to find her and disappears. Freddie is woken up by Madame Galy. Later in the day, he gets a fever and Madame Galy cares for him subtly. When he is better, the Breillac family comes to the inn to assist with his car. He is obsessed with finding Fabrissa. Freddie insists on going with them and on the way, casually questions about Fabrissa and the celebrations. After they come to the car, the Breillacs tamper with it and Freddie wonders away. He inspects the mountains and Guillaume tells him it could take 4 to 5 days for a proper mechanic to fix it. Freddie questions Guillaume about the caves and if it was possible for people to hide. The family then decides to wait for someone to arrive from another town to tow it. Freddie says he will stay back and Micheal warns of the ghosts in the mountains. After Breillacs leave, Freddie explores the valley and ends up near the caves. He hears the voice and it gets louder as he nears a particular spot. He comes across a blocked entrance and picks some stones away. Inside, he finds evidence of a settlement and finally, withered bodies. A piece of paper is found on the floor and Freddie tucks it away. As he goes deeper, he begins seeing ghosts. He then sees blue fabric and concludes that the body belongs to Fabrissa. He is saddened and passes out. Weeks later, he is in the hospital and Madame Galy, who tells him about her dead son and that every family in the village lost a son, visits him. On Christmas Eve, Guillaume visits to give him the paper from the caves. It was Guillaume that saved Freddie and says that a figure in blue guided him but he is uncomfortable with the idea of ghosts. Micheal sent his thanks to Freddie as the caves had been cleared and bodies given a proper burial. Life returned to Nulle since the spirits were appeased and tourism has increased. The people who died were prosecuted by the Catholic Church for being followers of Catharism. In present

time, Freddie has become a confident, working man. Freddie visits Nulle frequently since it is a second home to him and keeps the note. Best part of story, including ending: It was difficult to warm up to it since it was a steam of consciousness for the first pages. It become interesting after Freddie enters the inn. Best scene in story: The chemistry between Fabrissa and Freddie during the celebrations was well written and intriguing. Opinion about the main character:

Chapter 3 : The Winter Ghosts, by Kate Mosse – review | Books | The Guardian

The Winter Ghosts belongs to the same tradition and seems to be inspired by Algernon Blackwood's "Ancient Sorceries" as a model. I agree with the reviewers who complained that this book is very slow to get started, but it is a pleasure to read a ghost story based on the classic formula, and it is worth recalling that a good many of Blackwood's.

A former member of the clergy is also reported to haunt the church, though his appearance is not date related. The headless phantom of Saint Juthware is reported to walk towards the church with her head in her hands. She was beheaded by her step-brother, tricked into doing so by his mother. The inn was also haunted by a female shadow which vanished as soon as it was seen. The Lady Coleraine is seen once a year, screaming as she jumps from a balcony trying to escape the possessive nature of her husband. A couple walking past one night witnessed a party occurring on site, complete with people dressed in eighteenth century garb - they realised something was strange, as there was no sound, and the figures appeared to glide. Once a year the villagers turn a large stone over that stands by an oak. It is said that if they fail to do so, disaster and ill-fortune will strike the region - one legend says the last time the village forgot to rotate the stone was just before the Second World War began. Some believe the Devil himself is trapped under the stone. Mr Baker was a farmer who was murdered on the hill in His ghost returns on the anniversary of the crime, possibly driving a horse and carriage. A phantom bell begins to toll as the sun sets here, slowly growing louder until midnight comes and a small army of men pass through the area. Jane Seymour returns every 12 October the date she gave birth to her son , while Anne Boleyn, dressed in blue, is said to walk the passageways of the palace. A photograph taken in December reportedly showing a ghostly hooded figure opening a fire escape has been dismissed as a hoax. Built on the site of a nunnery, the hospital is now visited by a gliding figure that is thought to come from the former building. Bedworth Warwickshire - Newdigate Pit no longer operational Type: One witness spotted the miner wearing a long black coat with the collar raised. Pyecombe Sussex - General area of village Type: Cries for help are said to come from the area where the village smith was once based. Long since exorcised, the phantom of Old Coles would drive his coach through the village and use the local river to cool his horses. A guard at the castle once fell asleep while on duty, and was thrown from the battlements as punishment. Once a year, his footsteps are heard as he walks around to make amends for his inappropriate actions. A ghostly woman can also be heard as she moves around on a staircase, and is accompanied by the smell of wild flowers. Youlgreave Derbyshire - Youlgreave Hall Type: A certain night in November reoccurring Further Comments: Once a year a ghostly Cavalier and a phantom Roundhead meet and fight. It is not known who wins. Loch Monar Highland - Waters of the loch Type: If entered on certain days of the year, the waters of this Loch would heal the sick on the proviso that the Loch was entered three times at midnight and the water then sipped, before a coin was thrown in. The sick would then have to leave the site before the sun came up. Marham Norfolk - Vinegar Hill Type: November reoccurring Further Comments: She was reported by a group of monks, and was subsequently bricked up alive behind a wall. She now walks the hill, gliding silently along. A former owner of a house along here, Mr Goddard returned after his garden was split in half and a new property built on the site. He makes his presence known by opening locked doors, moving items around rooms, and shorting out electrical items. Wearing long black leather boots and coat with a wide brimmed hat, this phantom man is said to swagger towards the Prince of Wales pub but vanishes just prior to arriving. Beenham Berkshire - Private residence Type: October and November reoccurring Further Comments: One resident reported that around this time of year strange things would happen - wind chimes in the bathroom would be vigorously shaken, lights flick on, and a young man has been spotted in a former bedroom. Once a year in November, late at night reoccurring Further Comments: Bricked up alive for a long forgotten sin, this misty monk emerges from the wall behind the bar in this ancient building that once was a priory. Somerleyton Norfolk - Exact location not known Type: Somerleyton was once the hunting area of a giant, who is said to briefly appear on the evening of 17 July. The giant once stumbled across a plot to murder him, so struck first and killed the would-be assassin. Warminster Wiltshire - Cley Hill Type: Several witnesses have reported seeing large burning fires on the hills, with figures dancing around them, talking and singing loudly in an

unrecognised language. When investigated, there is never any evidence of the fire or figures. A legend says the hill was created by the Devil, who threw down a pile of dirt on the spot after being led to believe that it would take him several years to reach Devizes. Stockton Warwickshire - Blue Lias public house Type: Weeks leading up to Christmas reoccurring , last seen November Further Comments: A popular local story tells of the Phantom Coach of Enfield, flying two metres off the ground where the road once lay. Seen a couple of times in the twentieth century, the ghostly passengers are said to be quite clear and distinct. A 14 year old boy cycling close to Albany Park School claimed to have passed through the apparition. Records 1 - 24 of

Chapter 4 : The winter ghosts (eAudiobook,) [calendrierdelascience.com]

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Chapter 5 : The Winter Ghosts by Kate Mosse: review - Telegraph

About The Winter Ghosts. From the New York Times bestselling author of Sepulchre and Labyrinth-a compelling story of love, ghosts and remembrance.. World War I robbed England and France of an entire generation of friends, lovers and futures.

Chapter 6 : The Winter Ghosts (ebook) by Kate Mosse |

The Winter Ghosts is a slow story, but it is the type of story that should be. The descriptions of regional France and the thoughts and feelings of the main character, Frederick, are beautifully told, with great detail and atmosphere.

Chapter 7 : The Winter Ghosts: calendrierdelascience.com: Kate Mosse: Books

"A sad tale's best for winter." â€”The Winter's Tale (II.i), by William Shakespeare At face value, Kate Mosse's The Winter Ghosts, has something of the simplicity of a snowflake.

Chapter 8 : Detailed Review Summary of The Winter Ghosts by Kate Mosse

The information about The Winter Ghosts shown above was first featured in "The BookBrowse Review" - BookBrowse's online-magazine that keeps our members abreast of notable and high-profile books publishing in the coming weeks.

Chapter 9 : The Winter Ghosts (Audiobook) by Kate Mosse | calendrierdelascience.com

A young man swims across the rivers and lakes of Britain to a soundtrack of assorted nationalistic music. As he passes people on the banksides including children,lovers and a tramp their.