

ETC Book Review

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The book that I picked for the book review assignment is "**Something Fresh** by **P.G. Wodehouse**.

1 Introduction

I am not an avid reader, so I wanted to try a book that was fun and lighthearted, and I also thought that a funny and engaging story would make the review more enjoyable to write. While browsing through the library bookshelves, I came across **Something Fresh** by **P.G. Wodehouse**. The title and cover immediately caught my attention, and when I read the "About the Author" section, I felt like this book was the perfect choice, as the author is known for his humor and clever writing. From the title, cover, and "About the Author" section, I expected the book to be fun, light-hearted, and filled with quirky characters.

2 Summary

Something Fresh is a comedy novel that revolves around an ancient Egyptian artifact (scarab) that mysteriously disappears from Lord Emsworth's collection. The tale begins when the scarab goes missing, setting off a chain of events filled with humor and unexpected encounters.

The main characters of the story are:

1. **Ashe Marson** - A struggling writer, who is tired of his boring life in London, and is seeking an adventure. He accepts a mysterious job that leads him to Blandings Castle, where he pretends to be a servant to find the missing scarab, to get some good rewards in return.
2. **Joan Valentine** - A smart young woman who needs money. Joan is a friend of Ashe. Like Ashe, she also disguises herself as a servant at Blandings Castle to search for the missing scarab.
3. **Lord Emsworth** - The absentminded owner of Blandings Castle. He is obsessed with his prized possessions and is completely unaware of the chaos happening around him.

4. **Mr. Peters** - He is a very wealthy man and a collector of rare artifacts. The stolen scarab originally belonged to him.
5. **Freddie Threepwood** - Lord Emsworth's son, engaged to Aline Peters, daughter of Mr. Peters.
6. **Aline Peters** - Mr. Peter's daughter and Freddie's fiancée.

The novel explores the themes of getting out of one's comfort zone, ambition, social class, and all of them wrapped in witty writing.

3 Analysis and Opinion

One of the things that worked well in **Something Fresh** was its light-hearted and witty tone, and the unique way of turning even the simplest situations into hilarious chaos. The setting of Blandings Castle, filled with eccentric characters, also added a lot of flavor to the story.

In my opinion, Ashe Marson stood out the most as a character because of his transformation. At first, he seems stuck in his monotonous boring routine, but as the story progresses, he shows courage and cleverness in critical times.

One of the messages the book tries to convey is that sometimes stepping out of your comfort zone can lead you to the most unexpected and exciting opportunities.

An example of direct speech from the book is when Ashe says, "Life is full of surprises. You never know what's around the corner". An example of indirect speech from the book is when Joan mentioned that she couldn't believe how complicated things had become at the castle.

4 Personal Connection

Something Fresh felt new and refreshing to me, it was a nice shift the from academic material which I consume regularly. The lighthearted humor and quirky characters made it a pretty fun read. One thing that stood out was how the characters stepped out of their comfort zones to chase something exciting. That struck a chord with me, especially as someone who tends to play it safe.

The book didn't necessarily change my perspective on life, but it did open my eyes to the idea that stories don't always have to be deep or dramatic to be meaningful. It was a book that helped me kick back and lighten up.

5 Conclusion

I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who is looking for an entertaining read. Even if you are not a regular reader, this book is easy to get into and fun to follow. If you are a fan of comedy novels, or classic literature or just in the mood for something different, **Something Fresh** is a great pick.