

TITLE: GREAT CRIME STORIES

AUTHOR NAME : BERNARD NEWMAN

### INTRODUCTION:

- **Why did you choose this book?**

I chose *Great crime stories* because I've always liked crime stories, and this one seemed different with its unique story in the world of cricket. It sounded interesting to mix a murder mystery with a sport, it is something I haven't seen before. I was curious to see how it will be.

- **What were your initial expectations?**

I thought it would be a mystery with a slower pace, where the focus would be on solving the crime. I was hoping for a few twists, and I expected and wanted to learn something about the game cricket, since I don't know much about cricket.

### SUMMARY :

*Death at the Wicket* is about a famous cricketer who is found dead during a match. A smart and focused investigator is assigned to solve the case. He quickly realizes from his investigation that the world of cricket is full of hidden rivalries and jealousies. The suspects are all people who may have had a reason to harm the cricketer, whether from personal grudges or professional jealousy. As the investigator goes on solving, he finds some surprising truths about the people around the cricketer. The story is full of tension and suspense, and it keeps you guessing until the very end and as the story goes on the curiosity to know the next also increases. The main themes of competition, rivalry, and secrets are strong throughout the story. By the time the mystery is solved, we understand more about how the qualities ambitious, and jealousy can lead to dangerous outcomes, not just in sports, but in any field where people are trying to beat one another.

### ANALYSIS AND OPINION :

- **What worked well in the book? What didn't?**

What I liked most about the book was how it used cricket as the main background. It made the whole story feel new and different from most of the other mysteries. I enjoyed how the investigation slowly revealed more about the characters and their

hidden motivations. The story wasn't too fast paced, but it kept me interested as each new clue was uncovered.

The thing I didn't liked is, there were times when the characters would explain things in a way that felt a bit forced. It almost felt like they were talking to the reader directly, which made me to feel the story was slow down a little. I would have always preferred if some things were left for us to find out on our own, rather than having it all spelled out or directly known from the story.

- **Did any character stand out? Why?**

The investigator really stood out for me. He was calm, logical, and didn't let emotions to influence his work. He was focused on finding the truth, and that made his character feel real. There's a line he says that I liked "In every match, there's always a winner and a loser, but in murder, there's only one truth." That shows how determined he was to his profession.

- **Discuss any important message or lesson the book conveys.**

The main lesson I found from this book is how competition can bring out the worst in people. Even in something like cricket, a sport that's supposed to be all about fun and teamwork, jealousy and rivalry can cause harm. The book made me think about how people's hidden feelings can sometimes lead to dangerous actions. It also reminded me that "appearances can be deceiving." Just because someone looks successful doesn't mean they don't have dark secrets.

- **Include at least one direct speech and one indirect speech reference from the book.**

One of the lines I liked was when the investigator says, "In every match, there's always a winner and a loser, but in murder, there's only one truth." It really shows his serious and practical attitude. And there's a moment where one character says, "Everyone has something to hide," which really shows the main theme of the story that how everyone has their own secrets, and that's what makes the case so complicated to solve.

## PERSONAL CONNECTION :

- **How did the book impact you?**

This book made me think about how strong competition can make people act in ways that they normally wouldn't. It showed me that sometimes people are willing to hurt others just to get ahead of their opponent or win, and that's a scary

thought. It also made me realize that people often hide their true feelings, and that can lead to unexpected consequences.

- **Did it change your perspective on anything?**

It made me more aware of how rivalry can get out of control. I've always thought of competition as part of my life, but this book reminded me that when you're too focused on winning, it can cause problems which are completely unexpected. I got reminded of the saying, "Don't judge a book by its cover," because the cricketer's life looked perfect and cool from the outside, but it was full of hidden jealousy and secrets. It also made me think that sometimes it's better to "take a step back" and think what really matters, rather than thinking always about winning or competing all the time.

## CONCLUSION:

- **Would you recommend this book? Why or why not?**

Yes, I would recommend *Death at the Wicket* if you like mysteries with an unexpected twist. It's not too fast paced crime story and isn't full of action, but it is a new story with interesting characters and a lot of suspense. We can't expect what is going to happen. The background of story cricket adds something different to the usual detective stories, which I really liked.

- **Who would enjoy it the most?**

If you enjoy classic crime stories, especially ones that focus on character development and motivation, you'd most likely enjoy this book. It's also a good choice for people who are into sports and want to see how a crime story can happen in that world.