

REVIEW

Author: GRAHAM MASTERTON
Title: HOUSE OF BONES
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House of Bones, Masterton, Graham (Author), Oct 2008. 240 p. Severn, hardcover, \$27.95. (9780727866684).

Masterton, the prolific author of over 70 books, has written yet another satisfying work of horror structured as a traditional mystery, emphasizing character and featuring organized spirits. A London youth is employed by an estate agency owned by Mr. Vane, a strange fellow whose personal accounts are forbidden to employees. On the newcomer's first day at work, the young man ignorantly visits one of these properties, where his fellow employee is pulled bodily into a brick wall by a mysterious force. This is followed by other disappearances in other residences, puzzling estate employees and the police until a number of skeletons are discovered behind a wall in a property undergoing demolition. The accessible vocabulary and splendid flow are great strengths and typical of Masterton's style, as are the contemporary young characters. Granted a smidgen of suspension of disbelief, even the horror of being pursued by a statue may be believable. The generous type size (typical of Severn House titles) may be appreciated by readers of any age. Recommended for all libraries.—Jonathan Pearce, California State Univ. Stanislaus, Stockton