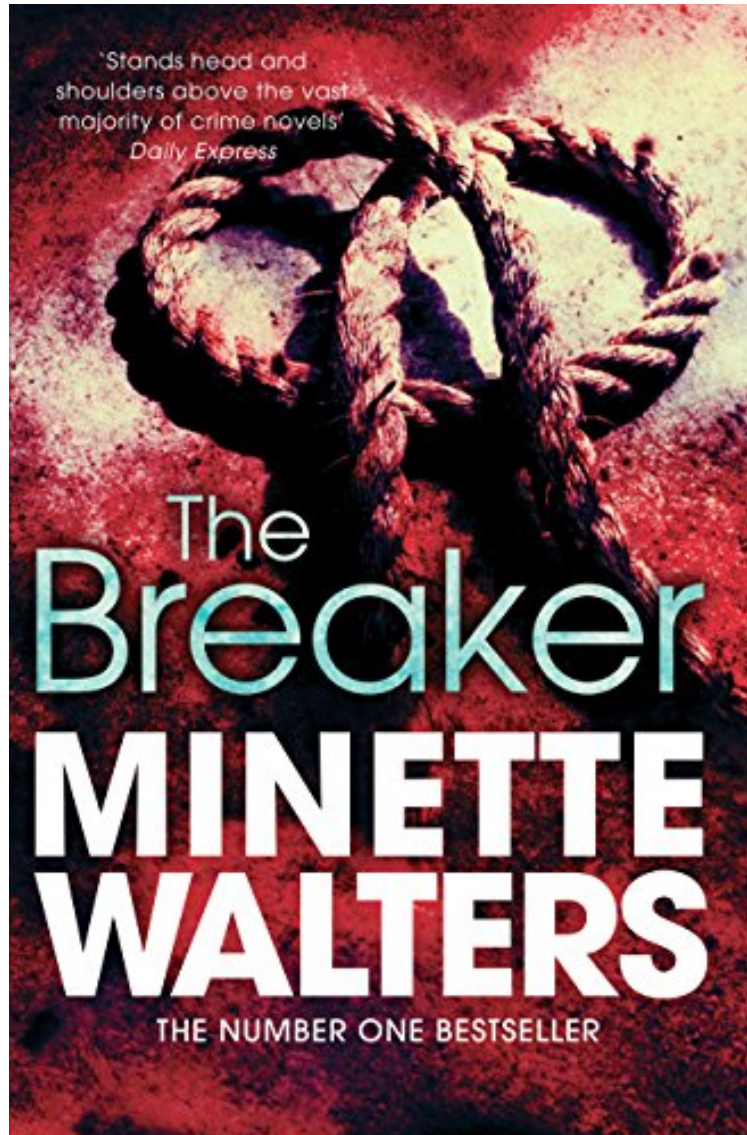


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The Breaker (English Edition)

Von Minette Walters

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Von Minette Walters : The Breaker (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Breaker (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A dense psychological crime novelVon melanie.knarr@stud.tu-muenchen.deMinette Walters has a special ability to create a dense psychological atmosphere, leaving the reader in a state of continual suspension. As in her earlier books ("the echo", "the darkroom") the reader gets a deep psychological insight of the main character's thoughts and feelings. The

plot starts with a mysterious sea accident. A woman has drowned in the sea, the fact that she is not reported missing indicating a crime rather than an accident. At the same time a toddler is found a few miles farther, wandering around all alone. As the police examines the dead woman's background, the reader gets to know once more, that behind a facade of normal life is always more to discover. Where relationships are based on greed, lies and deceit there's insanity lying underneath everywhere. But where is to find a mind so wretched to commit a murder? While reading this book I had to change my personal prime suspect several times, when a sudden twist in the plot made the whole scenario appear in a completely different light, leaving me once again wondering if my conclusions were based on facts and logic or my personal judgement of what is to be considered normal. After a few hours of reading excitement it is a pleasure to see how at the end all things and oddities you occupied your mind with fall into place smoothly revealing a surprising solution. I enjoyed reading this book very much and I think all fans of Minette Walters, Elizabeth George etc. will also.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Taut thriller? Von Twohounds From the opening chapter of Kate trying to swim, wondering why he broke all of her fingers, I truly expected good things from this book. Wrong. Walters tries to keep you guessing between the two men, but telegraphs which one is the killer. At one point it's hinted that it could be the third guy, then the case is built strongly at the end for this unexpected turn of events -- only to disappoint the reader by revealing that the murderer was the obvious choice all along. The victim was totally unsympathetic. The sexual perversion was far from "shocking." The rape -- if that's what it was -- was not "brutal" but closer to consensual sex. And the broken fingers really had nothing to do with the story -- the reason revealed in an "oh, by the way," fashion by the author. The love story (and Maggie's marital history) was so uninteresting, its inclusion was an annoyance. The "twist" with the 15 year old was thrown in at the end for no reason that I could see. No one in the book was likable, interesting, or compelling in any way. I was glad to reach the end, not to find out the killer, but so I could move on to something else. I bought this in hardback based on the NY Times and Kirkus reviews, which were good. The book is a mere shadow of the story described in the reviews. Next time I'll rely on your readers before wasting my money.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Minette...what happened? Von Pretty Sinister Oddly enough, I grew to envy Walters' labyrinthine plots and nasty characters. My impression has always been that she has been trying to subvert the genre by populating her novels with loathsome, complex characters whose lives are open to interpretation by the slanted perceptions of the others in each book. This presents us with a world of ambiguity. Walters' unusual talent, and for me the appeal of her crime stories, lies in her creating characters who alternately make our flesh crawl with their quirks and perversities then elicit our sympathy when we understand the events that lead to choices they make. However, for my tastes, *The Breaker* is run-of-the-mill. The story begins with an excerpt from a book called *The Mind of A Rapist* and its elementary Freudian analysis automatically forces the reader to overanalyze each of the male characters' libidos. Maybe this is her point. But obviously the suspect list is immediately limited to one sex. Much of the "romance" angle I felt was merely padding and could have been dispensed with. The Jenners were intrusive and annoying and I didn't care about any of their storyline. Overall, fewer twists and hardly a single surprise. I wanted to gasp at the end, not shrug and say "But of course."

Kurzbeschreibung When she revisited, always with astonishment, what had happened to her, it was the deliberate breaking of her fingers that remained indelibly printed on her memory . . . Twelve hours after a woman's broken body is washed up on a deserted shore, her traumatized three-year-old daughter is discovered twenty miles away wandering the streets of Poole. But why was Kate killed and her daughter, a witness, allowed to live? And why were they together? More curiously, why had Kate willingly boarded a boat when she had a terror of drowning at sea? Police suspicion centres on both a young actor, whose sailing boat is moored just yards from where the toddler is found, and the murdered woman's husband. Was he really in Liverpool the night she died? And why does their daughter scream in terror every time he tries to pick her up? .de When Kate Sumner's corpse is discovered naked, bruised, prone and violated on the rocks of a sleepy South Coast town by two curious young boys and her tiny, traumatised daughter is found wandering alone several miles away, police are instinctively drawn to two suspects. William Sumner, Kate's husband, and Steven Harding, a handsome would-be actor, find themselves at the centre of the investigation and as police suspicions grow, their fatally flawed personalities are gradually disembowelled in the search for the truth. The clever presentation of part of the evidence in the form of bland witness statements, stylishly contrasting with the fast-paced narrative that swoops between the two prime suspects, is an ingenious tool which allows the weaknesses of each man to be gradually revealed. *The Breaker* is an example of the crime novel at its very best, with characters and situations so carefully judged that they become all the more believable as the story is pushed towards its chilling climax. Minette Walters has more than proved her exceptional talent for mystery and suspense in the award-winning *The Ice House*, *The Sculptress* and *The Scold's Bridle* and here merely confirms her unquestionable standing as the true Queen of intelligent crime writing. --Susan Harrison.co.uk When Kate Sumner's corpse is discovered naked, bruised, prone and violated on the rocks of a sleepy South Coast town by two curious young boys, and her tiny,

traumatised daughter is found wandering alone several miles away, police are instinctively drawn to two suspects. William Sumner, Kate's husband, and Steven Harding, a handsome would-be actor, find themselves at the centre of the investigation and as police suspicions grow, their fatally flawed personalities are gradually disembowelled in the search for the truth. The clever presentation of part of the evidence in the form of bland witness statements, stylishly contrasting with the fast-paced narrative that swoops between the two prime suspects, is an ingenious tool which allows the weaknesses of each man to be gradually revealed. *The Breaker* is an example of the crime novel at its very best, with characters and situations so carefully judged that they become all the more believable as the story is pushed towards its chilling climax. Minette Walters has more than proved her exceptional talent for mystery and suspense in the award-winning *The Ice House*, *The Sculptress* and *The Scold's Bridle*, and here merely confirms her unquestionable standing as the true Queen of intelligent crime writing. --Susan Harrison