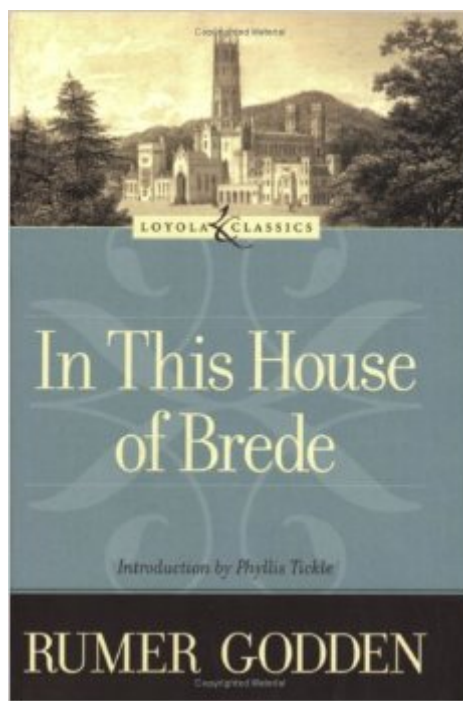


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# In This House Of Brede



## Synopsis

“A novel of sensitive dedication.” “The Atlantic Monthly” Rumer Godden deals precisely with the theme of the religious life . . . as representing “the heart of holiness of the Church.” It is at once a life of great peace and often equally intense struggle.” America magazine This extraordinarily sensitive and insightful portrait of religious life centers on Philippa Talbot, a highly successful professional woman who leaves her life among the London elite to join a cloistered Benedictine community. In this gripping narrative of the crises surrounding the ancient Brede abbey, Rumer Godden penetrates to the mysterious, inner heart of a religious community “a place of complexity and conflict, as well as joy and love. It is a place where Philippa, to her own surprise and her friends’ astonishment, finds her life by losing it.

## Book Information

Series: Loyola Classics

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Product Dimensions: 5 x 1.6 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (141 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #283,382 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #192 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Literature & Fiction > Classics & Allegories](#) #9852 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Religious & Inspirational](#) #18642 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Literary](#)

## Customer Reviews

Personally, as a Benedictine Associate, the "life" of any religious is enriched through the journeying towards God in a communal atmosphere. Since this book was written prior to the Vatican II Reformation, it shows the unique structure of the abbey hierarchy and depth with which the heart yearns for closeness to God through the daily Divine Office of Prayer, hard work, communal friendships and the strict observance of the Grand Silence and its true purpose. This book unlike any other, gives readers that rare glimpse at how difficult cloistered religious life can be and the constant rigors, tests, and hardships that can exist as we see with the protagonist "Phillipa". She entered the convent "late" in life after she converted to Catholicism, renounced her powerful career,

peers, high-bred social standing out of her heart's desire for God. Even after all these years, this book is a true find for anyone leaning towards religious life. At the center of the story, we see the on-going personal challenges and growth of the women of Brede Abbey who are on the "journey" in their relationship with God and one another. Who could compare with the story's lady Abbess, the indefatigable Dame Hester Cunningham Proctor? Who could not feel compassion for the little elderly nun hugging the newest Abbess who was crying? Who wouldn't love to hear the bells chiming the time of day that calls one to God for prayer? Who hasn't suffered in the night with painful memories that tear at the heart over and over? Who wouldn't rejoice when one's sister, daughter, niece or friend is called to the "life"? This "life" is not chosen, rather a person is chosen for the "life". There is a great difference. Ms.

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