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## The Devil in the Marshalsea

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By Hodgson, Antonia.

Mariner. 1 Paperback(s), 2014. soft. Book Condition: New. (Winner of the 2014 CWA Historical Dagger) This first novel in a new historical crime series by Little, Brown's UK editor-in-chief Antonia Hodgson is set in early 18th-century London and follows Thomas Hawkins, a rakish scoundrel who has turned his back on his father's country parsonage, preferring instead to pursue wine, women, and cards. Faced with debtors' prison, however, Hawkins shows fortitude enough to accept his fate, and soon finds that the notorious Marshalsea Gaol is a world of its own, where those with outside support can live fairly comfortably, while those with none will starve in squalor. After the grisly murder of a fellow debtor, Captain Roberts, suspicion falls on Samuel Fleet, a man many have claimed is a devil to be shunned and who also happens to be Hawkins's cellmate." [The author] conjures up scenes of Dickensian squalor and marries them to a crackerjack plot, in her impressive first novel. Hodgson makes the stench, as well as the despair, almost palpable, besides expertly dropping fair clues. Fans of Iain Pears and Charles Palliser will hope for a sequel." Publishers Weekly (starred review) "As promised in the historical note that opens Hodgson's satisfyingly twisty debut...



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### Reviews

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