

The book cover features a dark, atmospheric illustration. At the top, a large, dark face with glowing yellow eyes looms over a town. The town is depicted in silhouette against a teal and blue background with swirling patterns. It includes a church with a tall steeple topped by a weather vane, a house with a cross-shaped window, and a building with a chimney. A beam of light emanates from the chimney. The title 'ONCE UPON A CRIME' is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters with black outlines. Below the title, the text 'A BROTHERS GRIMM MYSTERY' is written in smaller, teal capital letters. At the bottom, the author's name 'P.J. BRACKSTON' is in large yellow capital letters, and a line of text below it identifies him as a 'New York Times bestselling author of The Witch's Daughter'.

ONCE UPON A CRIME

A
BROTHERS
GRIMM
MYSTERY

P.J. BRACKSTON

New York Times bestselling author of *The Witch's Daughter*

Resumo de Once Upon a Crime: A Brothers Grimm Mystery

Gretel (yes, that Gretel) is now 35, very large, still living with her brother Hans, and working as a private investigator. The small, sleepy town of Gesternstadt is shaken to its pretty foundations when the workshop of the local cart maker is burnt to the ground, and a body is discovered in the ashes.

It is Gretel who notices that the cadaver is missing a finger. At first she does not see this as significant, as her mind is fully focused on a new case.

Not that she wouldn't far rather be investigating an intriguing murder, but her client is willing to pay over the odds, so she must content herself with trying to trace three missing cats.

It is not until she is further into her investigations that she realizes the two events are inextricably and dangerously connected, and that the mystery of the missing cats will lead her into perilous situations and frightening company. Very soon Gretel finds herself accused of kidnapping Princess Charlotte, twice locked up in the cells at the Summer Schloss, repelling the advances of an amorous troll, strapped to a rack in Herr Schmerz's torture chamber, and fleeing a murder charge.

With dubious help from her brother (whose scant wits are habitually addled by drink), she must prove her innocence, solve the puzzle of the unidentified corpse, and find the stolen cats before they meet a grisly end."

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