All they needed was warmth. I'd begun to wonder whether the Widow Perle would get her rent on time this year, but if these are making up for lost time, so will her white ones be. A sad year, if there were no roses by the twenty-second day of June! A daughter has been found murdered, and then the widow herself disappears. 1745, the Wistar family sold land to the Reformed Church in Richland, Pennsylvania for a nominal sum and the payment of one red rose every year to the family in June, a practice the church continues to this day. (In the interests of disclosure, my uncle belonged to that church.) The Rose Rent. Quite the same Wikipedia. Just better. The most recent audio book edition for libraries from Blackstone Audio carries this review: Peters's complex character Brother Cadfael, who applies his forensic skills in an authentic Middle Ages setting, surrounded by other monks, chivalrous knights and flirtatious ladies, has won the author critical acclaim and comparisons with Ngaio Marsh and P.D. James. The Rose Rent. by Ellis Peters (Author). 4.6 out of 5 stars 186 ratings. A widow rents her former home to the Abbey for the price of a single rose a year. The monk who delivers the rose is found murdered, and then the widow herself disappears. 1/4th of the text is already cut off. Niall goes out of town to visit his sister, but returns in time to deliver the rose rent. Unfortunately someone has stolen into his yard in his absence, and hewed the rose bush down. Under the fallen bush lies the lovelorn Brother Eluric, dead with a knife by his side. The bronzesmith brings the bad news to Abbot Radulfus: "My lord, Mistress Perle’s rosebush has been hacked and broken, and one of your brothers lies dead there under it." Brother Cadfael must now determine whether Eluric's death was a murder or suicide, but he has hardly begun his investigation when the widow who was o