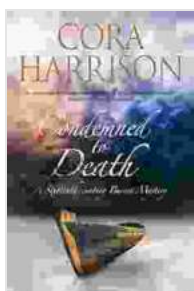


Unraveling the Enigmatic Burren Mystery Set in Sixteenth Century Ireland

Nestled amidst the rugged limestone landscape of County Clare, Ireland, the Burren conceals a captivating mystery rooted in the tumultuous sixteenth century. This enigmatic tale, steeped in ancient legends and historical intrigue, transports readers to a time of Gaelic lords, English colonists, and spiritual intrigue.

Dysert O'Dea Castle: A Hub of Gaelic Resistance



Condemned to Death: A Burren mystery set in sixteenth-century Ireland by Cora Harrison

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1634 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled

Print length

: 208 pages

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At the heart of the Burren Mystery lies Dysert O'Dea Castle, a crumbling fortress perched on a rocky outcrop. Once the stronghold of the O'Dea clan, the castle became a refuge for Gaelic lords resisting the encroachment of English forces.

Led by the charismatic Owen O'Flaithbertaigh, the O'Deas fiercely defended their territory and their ancient customs. They forged alliances with other Gaelic clans, including the O'Briens of Thomond and the O'Connors of Connaught.

Kilfenora Cathedral: A Sanctuary in Troubled Times



Just a stone's throw from Dysert O'Dea Castle stands Kilfenora Cathedral, a magnificent Gothic edifice dating back to the thirteenth century. In the sixteenth century, the cathedral became a sanctuary for those fleeing religious persecution.

Bishop Thomas Smith, a staunch advocate of Irish Catholicism, sheltered persecuted priests and monks within the cathedral's hallowed walls. He also presided over the infamous trial of the "false saintess," a woman who claimed to be the Virgin Mary.

The Arrival of English Colonists



As England's grip on Ireland tightened, English colonists began to settle in the fertile lands of the Burren. They established towns and villages, and their influence gradually eroded the traditional Gaelic society.

The most prominent colonist in the Burren was Sir Thomas Smith, a powerful Elizabethan courtier. Smith acquired vast tracts of land and established a Protestant plantation in the area.

The Central Enigma: The Vanishing Treasure

At the heart of the Burren Mystery lies an elusive treasure that has tantalized historians and treasure hunters for centuries. Legend has it that the O'Deas, in anticipation of an English invasion, hid a vast hoard of gold and silver in a secret location.

The whereabouts of the treasure remain unknown, but clues have emerged over the years. Ancient maps, cryptic poems, and even human remains have been uncovered, hinting at the existence of a hidden cache.

The Enduring Legacy of the Burren Mystery

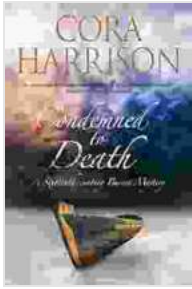
The Burren Mystery, with its blend of history, legend, and unsolved intrigue, continues to captivate the imaginations of those who visit the region. Guided tours lead visitors through the ruins of Dysert O'Dea Castle and Kilfenora Cathedral, while local guides recount tales of the hidden treasure and the turbulent events of the sixteenth century.

The enduring legacy of the Burren Mystery lies in its ability to transport visitors to a bygone era of chivalry, resistance, and spiritual strife. It offers a glimpse into the complexities of Ireland's past, where ancient traditions clashed with the forces of modernization.

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