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Death in the Valley of Shadows

Deryn Lake



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Eighteenth-century Georgian England.

The apothecary John Rawlings is working in his Piccadilly shop when a panic-stricken man rushes in seeking a place to hide.

John agrees to conceal the man from whoever is pursuing him and, soon after, an angry woman arrives demanding if the Apothecary has seen him.

John covers for the terrified man and sends the formidable woman on her way.

The stranger is Aidan Fenchurch, importer of fine wines, and the rude woman is Ariadne Bussell, his married ex-mistress.

Aidan reveals to John that he ended his affair with Mrs Bussell after he met a widow called Mrs Trewellan whom he had intended to marry.

But Ariadne is reluctant to give up the chase. So reluctant, in fact, that she has been shadowing the poor man for years.

Aidan thinks that Ariadne wants him dead. Believing he is soon to be killed, he asks the Apothecary to be custodian of some sealed documents which detail Mrs Bussell's obsession with him.

That evening, Aidan is bludgeoned to death outside his home in Bloomsbury Square. He leaves behind three daughters: Evalina, who is in hysterics over her father's death; the recently widowed Jocasta; and Louisa, who has eloped with a soldier.

Also in mourning is the sisters' unmarried cousin Millicent, a sad figure whom their father had taken under his wing.

The Apothecary seeks out the famous magistrate Sir John Fielding - known as the Blind Beak.

Aidan's damning documents against Mrs Bussell suggest that she was behind his death.

But the killing appears to have been the work of two men.

Could Aidan's killers have been assassins hired by Mrs Bussell?

Knowing that he is neglecting his heavily-pregnant wife, John searches for answers by embarking on a journey to the Surrey countryside, where the Bussells have another home.

Here John finds familiar faces from the past waiting to greet him ...

Mrs Bussell is arrested for Aidan's murder and it looks as if the case is closed — until she takes ill and dies, seemingly from poisoning. Shortly after her husband dies. Is another member of the Bussell family behind the growing death toll?

John must find out before the poisoner strikes again...

Praise for Deryn Lake

'With history this colourful and a mystery this baffling, the result is delicious.' - The Good Book Guide

'The Queen of the Georgian historical mystery.' - The Times

'Meticulously researched, this is a series that brings the past to colourful life.' — Maxim Jakubowski, The Guardian

'Lake brings eighteenth century England to life in a fine colourful style ... Georgette Heyer ... but with the knickers off.' — Yorkshire Post

Deryn Lake started to write stories at the age of five then graduated to novels but destroyed all her early work because, she says, it was hopeless. A chance meeting with one of the Getty family took her to Sutton Place and her first serious novel was born. Deryn was married to a journalist and writer, the late L.F. Lampitt, has two grown-up children and lives in Mayfield, Sussex, with two large cats. She is also the author of 'Fortune's Soldier', 'Sutton Place', 'To Sleep No More', 'The King's Women', and 'Pour The Dark Wine'.

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Calvin Williams:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. Together with book everyone in this world can certainly share their idea. Guides can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their own reader with their story or their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the ebooks. But also they write about the knowledge about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach children, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write to their book. One of them is this Death in the Valley of Shadows.

Marlys Wieland:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try point that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition of knowledge. Even you love Death in the Valley of Shadows, you can enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still need to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout people. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Erma Ward:

Many people spending their time period by playing outside using friends, fun activity together with family or just watching TV all day long. You can have new activity to shell out your whole day by examining a book. Ugh, you think reading a book really can hard because you have to take the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, bringing everywhere you want in your Touch screen phone. Like Death in the Valley of Shadows which is keeping the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's observe.

Kyle Cook:

This Death in the Valley of Shadows is completely new way for you who has intense curiosity to look for some information as it relief your hunger of knowledge. Getting deeper you on it getting knowledge more you know otherwise you who still having little bit of digest in reading this Death in the Valley of Shadows can be the light food for you personally because the information inside this kind of book is easy to get simply by anyone. These books create itself in the form that is reachable by anyone, sure I mean in the e-book web form. People who think that in publication form make them feel tired even dizzy this publication is the answer. So there is not any in reading a reserve especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for anyone. So , don't miss this! Just read this e-book type for your better life along with knowledge.

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