

The Devil Comes to Dartmoor: The Haunting True Story of Mary Howard, Devon's 'Demon Bride'

By Laura Quigley

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Many will have heard of the ghostly white lady haunting Tavistock—the notorious Mary Howard, accused of murdering her four husbands. A few may know the true story of her lover, George Cutteford, a Plymouth "cutty man" who became a Puritan lawyer. Cutteford was imprisoned in the horror of Lydford Gaol, persecuted by Mary's fourth husband—Sir Richard Grenville, the most notorious and sadistic royalist General of the Civil War. But fewer still will know the secrets George Cutteford died to protect—secrets that would destroy his own family; end Grenville’s career in shame; and make a boy with no name the richest landowner in Devon. Gathered from the varying historical accounts, and including primary material unearthed, hundreds of years ago, in an old fish market in London, comes this haunting true story of love, treachery, and revenge in seventeenth-century Devon.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Laura Quigley is a full-time writer who lives in Plymouth. Her interest in Mary Howard's life was sparked after a visit to Okehampton Castle, scene of the legendary Howard haunting. In 2010, Amnesty International held a public reading of her play, *The Advocate*, based on the stunning material in this book and directed by a member of the RSC.

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