Burke Hare: A Notorious True Crime Story by Owen Dudley Edwards

In 1828, Edinburgh was a city gripped by fear. The notorious Burke and Hare were on the loose, robbing graves and selling the bodies to medical schools. Their macabre crimes shocked the public and led to a number of reforms in the way that bodies were handled.



Burke & Hare by Owen Dudley Edwards

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.2 out of 5 Language : English File size : 1081 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 455 pages : Enabled Lending



Owen Dudley Edwards' book Burke Hare tells the full story of these two men and their gruesome deeds. Edwards draws on a wealth of primary sources, including trial transcripts and newspaper accounts, to create a vivid and chilling portrait of Burke and Hare.

Burke was a native of Ireland who had come to Edinburgh in search of work. He soon fell in with Hare, a fellow Irishman who was down on his luck. Together, they began to rob graves, selling the bodies to Dr. Robert Knox, a leading anatomist at the University of Edinburgh.

Knox was desperate for bodies to dissect, and he was willing to pay good money for them. Burke and Hare quickly realized that they could make a tidy profit by selling him the bodies of the recently deceased. They began to target the poor and the vulnerable, robbing the graves of those who had no family to mourn them.

As the body count mounted, the public became increasingly alarmed. Rumors of Burke and Hare's crimes spread like wildfire, and people began to fear for their own safety. The authorities were slow to react, but eventually they were forced to take action.

Burke and Hare were arrested in November 1828. They were tried and convicted of murder, and they were hanged in January 1829. Their execution brought a sense of relief to the people of Edinburgh, but it did not erase the memory of their horrific crimes.

Burke and Hare's story is a fascinating and disturbing one. It is a tale of greed, violence, and the dark side of human nature. Owen Dudley Edwards' book Burke Hare is a masterful account of this infamous true crime.

Reviews

"A gripping and chilling account of one of the most notorious true crime stories in history." - The New York Times

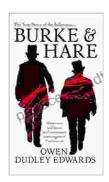
"Edwards has written a definitive account of Burke and Hare's crimes. This is a must-read for anyone interested in true crime or 19th-century Scotland." - The Guardian

"Burke Hare is a masterpiece of true crime writing. Edwards' research is impeccable, and his storytelling is both gripping and horrifying." - The Daily Telegraph

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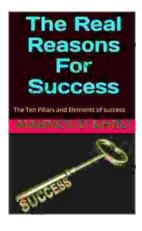
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