



COLLEGE GREEN

Amina Black

Based on a true story (1754-1764), the novel contains supplements from: John Latimer's "Annals of Bristol"; newspaper articles from the period; copies of official documents, like wedding, funeral and will registries.

In Bristol the elections to elect the city representatives in Parliament took place. During the celebrations Mary Champness notices the way that Robert Nugent is staring at the widow Frances Curwen, promised to Mr. Ruscombe.

Mary Champness is a maid employed by the congressman Richard Beckford, who gets murdered. Mary decides to investigate on those who she thinks ordered the murder: Robert Nugent and Jarrit Smith, two congressmen in the service of the Crown. Mary Champness changes her name to Mary Sweet and gets herself hired as maid of the house of the married couple Ruscombe, in College Green, knowing that the lady of the house is Nugent's lover. Mary is sure about Nuge and Smith's involvement in Beckford's killing and starts to blackmail the two congressmen by sending anonymous letters to Smith. Smith finds out who's blackmailing him, but decides to pay nonetheless, because he fears that Mary might have some evidence to support what she's saying.

Mary and lady Ruscombe get murdered on the 27th of September 1764. House Ruscombe is rummaged through top to bottom; Mary's money (received from Smith) gets stolen, together with many cards which belonged to the lady. The culprit has never been found.

DETAILS

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Amina Black is a pseudonym used by the young writer Beatrice Spada, who was born in Pavia, Italy, in 1995.