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A Parcel of Patterns

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~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

0

Perhaps the parcel from London brought plague to Eyam. Within a year, 267 villagers have died, including the parents and husband of young Mall who tells the story as a ridding charm to leave behind the voices of the dead. Early on, she apologises - 'I lack wit and skill and set things down awry' -- but language and narrative are compelling. It's a story of love and suffering, fear, courage and loyalty, based on real events - with the plague as centre but also bringing close this Derbyshire lead-mining community, just post-Restoration. The apparently naive voice and the strong plot interest carry a fine historical novel so that concerns remote to us, but the context of Mall's life, are made immediate and available. I'd like to share this with Third years up.

Running Order:

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