

a mad wicked folly

Book Concept: A Mad, Wicked Folly

Logline: A captivating historical mystery intertwined with a modern-day investigation reveals a centuries-old secret buried beneath a seemingly idyllic English village, forcing its inhabitants to confront a legacy of deceit and madness.

Storyline/Structure:

The book will employ a dual timeline structure. The first timeline unfolds in 1776 England, focusing on the enigmatic Lady Beatrice Ashworth and her scandalous life at Ashworth Manor. Beatrice, fiercely independent and brilliant, is caught in a web of forbidden love, political intrigue, and a dark family secret that threatens to unravel her world. Her story is told through letters, journal entries, and fragmented historical accounts discovered by the protagonist in the modern timeline.

The second timeline centers on Dr. Eleanor Vance, a history professor struggling with writer's block and a sense of unease after inheriting Ashworth Manor from a distant relative she never knew. As Eleanor begins to research the manor's history, she stumbles upon Beatrice's hidden writings, unearthing a tale of betrayal, murder, and a chilling legacy that continues to haunt the village centuries later. Eleanor's investigation forces her to confront not only the past but also her own personal demons and the unsettling truth about her own family history. The two timelines intertwine, revealing shocking connections and a climax where the past and present collide.

Ebook Description:

Dare to uncover a secret buried for centuries?

Are you captivated by historical mysteries? Do you crave a story that blends intrigue, romance, and a touch of the supernatural? Are you tired of predictable plots and unsatisfying endings?

Then prepare to be swept away by A Mad, Wicked Folly. This thrilling novel delves into a hidden world of secrets, deceit, and a legacy of madness that spans two centuries. Unravel the truth alongside Dr. Eleanor Vance as she uncovers a dark family history that threatens to consume her – a history intertwined with the scandalous life of Lady Beatrice Ashworth.

Author: [Your Name]

Contents:

Introduction: Setting the stage, introducing Eleanor and the mystery of Ashworth Manor.

Chapter 1-5 (1776): Lady Beatrice's story unfolds – her life, loves, and the growing shadow of a family secret.

Chapter 6-10 (Present Day): Eleanor's investigation begins, revealing clues hidden in Beatrice's writings and the manor itself.

Chapter 11-15: Intertwined timelines: The past and present converge, revealing shocking connections and escalating danger.

Epilogue: The resolution of the mystery and the lasting impact on Eleanor and the village.

Article: Unraveling "A Mad, Wicked Folly" – A Deep Dive into the Book's Structure

Keywords: A Mad Wicked Folly, historical mystery, dual timeline, book structure, Lady Beatrice, Dr. Eleanor Vance, historical fiction, mystery novel, ebook

1. Introduction: Setting the Stage for Intrigue

The introduction serves as the crucial first impression, drawing the reader into the world of A Mad, Wicked Folly. It establishes the core mystery: the enigmatic Ashworth Manor and its unsettling history. We meet Dr. Eleanor Vance, our modern-day protagonist, a history professor grappling with writer's block and a sense of unease surrounding her newly inherited ancestral home. This introduction immediately creates a sense of unease and foreshadows the unfolding mystery. The reader is introduced to the key conflict: Eleanor's personal struggle combined with the looming mystery of the manor. The setting itself, the seemingly idyllic English village hiding dark secrets, is vividly described, creating an atmosphere of both beauty and foreboding. This sets the tone for the entire novel, blending the seemingly peaceful present with the ominous weight of the past.

2. Chapters 1-5 (1776): Unveiling Lady Beatrice's World

These chapters transport the reader back to 1776, introducing Lady Beatrice Ashworth, a captivating and complex character. Through her letters, journal entries, and fragmented accounts from the era, we witness her life – her social standing, her forbidden love affairs, her fierce independence, and the ever-present shadow of a dark family secret. The writing style here should evoke the period, using language and imagery appropriate to 18th-century England. This section is crucial in building suspense. The reader learns about Beatrice's struggles and the escalating threat to her life and reputation. Each chapter reveals more about the secret, slowly building the

mystery and creating a sense of anticipation. The challenges faced by Beatrice in her era will mirror, in some way, the modern-day challenges faced by Eleanor, foreshadowing the connections between the two stories.

3. Chapters 6-10 (Present Day): Eleanor's Investigation Begins

These chapters shift the focus to Eleanor's present-day investigation. We follow her as she explores Ashworth Manor, uncovering clues within its walls and amidst Beatrice's hidden writings. The reader experiences the process of discovery alongside Eleanor, witnessing her initial skepticism transform into growing certainty as she uncovers evidence of a past crime. This part of the story will showcase Eleanor's skills as a historian, her meticulous research methods, and her growing obsession with solving the mystery. Obstacles are presented to her - perhaps archival records are incomplete, locals are unwilling to talk, or the manor itself seems to resist her inquiries. This creates tension and keeps the reader engaged. The reader starts to build connections between events in the past and events in the present, adding another layer to the complexity of the story.

4. Chapters 11-15: Intertwined Timelines – The Convergence

This section marks the climax of the story. The past and present timelines converge dramatically, revealing shocking connections between Beatrice's life and Eleanor's present-day situation. The narrative seamlessly blends the two timelines, showing how events centuries apart are intrinsically linked. This could involve the discovery of a hidden passage, a forgotten family heirloom that holds a crucial clue, or a revelation about Eleanor's own ancestry. The tension is high as Eleanor risks everything to uncover the truth, facing both physical and emotional dangers. This section delivers the major plot twists and reveals the shocking truth behind the "mad, wicked folly" of the title. The reader will experience the satisfaction of piecing together the puzzle along with Eleanor.

5. Epilogue: Resolution and Lasting Impact

The epilogue provides closure, revealing the ultimate fate of the characters and the lasting impact of the events on the village and on Eleanor herself. It doesn't necessarily need to be a happy ending; the impact of the past can linger. The epilogue may leave the reader with lingering questions, perhaps hinting at the ongoing consequences of the revealed secrets. The emotional resolution of Eleanor's personal journey will be a key aspect of this section. The reader will gain a better understanding of the "madness" and "wicked folly" referred to in the title. This section will leave a lasting impression on the reader, solidifying the novel's themes and message.

FAQs

1. Is this book suitable for young adults? While the themes are mature, the writing style can be adapted to make it suitable for older young adults (16+). Mature themes are handled with sensitivity.
1. Is there romance in the story? Yes, there are elements of romance in both timelines, adding another layer of complexity to the characters' motivations.
1. Does the story contain supernatural elements? While not strictly supernatural, the story explores themes of legacy and the unsettling feeling of being haunted by the past.
1. What is the setting of the story? The story is set in a fictional English village and its surrounding areas, providing a rich historical backdrop.
1. Is this a standalone novel or part of a series? This is intended to be a standalone novel, though the characters and setting could lend themselves to future stories.
1. What is the main conflict of the story? The main conflict is twofold: Eleanor's struggle to solve the mystery and come to terms with her own past, and the centuries-old conflict that continues to haunt Ashworth Manor.
1. What makes this book different from other historical mysteries? The dual timeline structure, the complex character of Lady Beatrice, and the blending of historical research with modern-day investigation.

1. What is the target audience for this book? Readers who enjoy historical fiction, mysteries, and suspenseful plots with strong female characters.

1. Where can I purchase the ebook? [Specify where the ebook will be available]

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