



“No Picturesque Village Is Safe”: Agatha Christie’s Cornish Crime Scenes in “The Blood-Stained Pavement” and “Ingots of Gold”

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Abstract. This article explores Agatha Christie’s representations of Cornwall and Cornish crime scenes in two crime short stories, “The Blood-Stained Pavement” (1928) and “Ingots of Gold” (1928). The author argues that Christie looks behind popular cultural representations of Cornwall, uncovering dark tourism, heritage crime, histories of oppression, misogynist violence, and murder.

INVESTIGATING CORNISH CRIME SCENES

Christie’s Cornish crime short stories focus on a specific geographical setting to investigate the politics of representing identity, marginality, and inequality. This article explores Christie’s portrayal of Cornwall in “The Blood-Stained Pavement” (1928) and “Ingots of Gold” (1928), both from her 1933 collection, *The Thirteen Problems*. Christie has depicted Cornwall in other crime short stories—for example, “The Companion” (also from *The Thirteen Problems*) and “The Hound of Death” (1933). However, my investigation here focuses on “The Blood-Stained Pavement” and “Ingots of Gold,” as these two short stories complement

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