



HUE & CRY

A Hew Cullan Mystery (Book 1)

Shirley McKay

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KEY SELLING POINTS

- The first in a popular series of historical crime thrillers
- The Hew Cullan mysteries have sold over 40,000 copies

'A gripping and welcome addition to the growing genre of historical crime fiction' – *Waterstone's Books Quarterly*

'An elaborate, closely plotted tale that combines extensive research with high drama' – *The Herald*

'one of those rare 'historical' thrillers in which the characters are not only utterly believable, but also wonderfully immediate and vivid in their humanity' – John Burnside

SUMMARY

1579, St. Andrews. Hew Cullan, a young lawyer, returns home from studying in Paris. But it proves to be a cold homecoming as Hew's friend, university regent Nicholas Colp, is accused of murdering a thirteen-year-old boy. The boy was a private pupil of Nicholas, and salacious gossip backed up by incriminating letters have him judged, convicted and heading for the hangman's noose.

Investigating the crime Hew uncovers a dark tale of duplicity and passion amidst a world of religious piety and the chilling austerity of university life. From a cast that seems to be open and shtu, a Pandora's Box of lies and corruption emerges.

AUTHOR

Shirley McKay was born in Tynemouth but now lives with her family in Fife. At the age of fifteen she won the Young Observer playwriting competition, her play being performed at the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs. She went on to study English and Linguistics at the University of St Andrews before attending Durham University for postgraduate study in Romantic and Seventeenth-Century prose. She was shortlisted for the CWA Debut Dagger. Shirley works as a freelance proofreader.

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