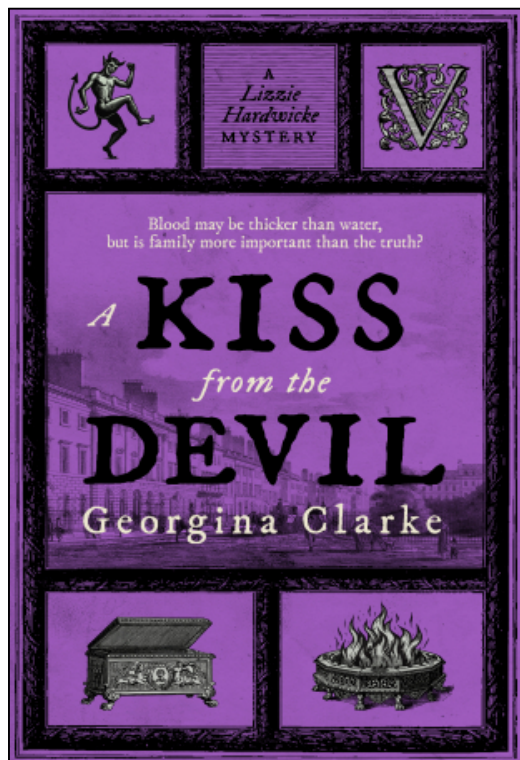




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Pub. Date:	11 December 2025	Price:	£10.99
ISBN:	978-0-85730-930-3	Binding:	Paperback
Format:	B (198 x 129mm)	Extent:	384
Weight:		Rpt. Code:	IP
Publishing Rights:	World English Language		
Sales Rights:	World English Language		
Market:	Amateur Detectives, British Crime, Historical Fiction, Historical Mystery, Women Sleuths		
BISAC Code:	FIC022060: Fiction : Mystery & Detective : Historical FIC022100: Fiction : Mystery & Detective : Amateur Sleuth FIC022040: Fiction : Mystery & Detective : Women Sleuths		
THEMA Code:	FFH: Historical mysteries FV: Historical fiction FFD: Crime & mystery: private investigator / amateur detectives		
Country of Manufacture:	UK		

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A KISS FROM THE DEVIL

A Lizzie Hardwicke Novel - #4

by **GEORGINA CLARKE**

THE BOOK

Blood may be thicker than water, but is family more important than the truth?

London, August 1759. Lizzie Hardwicke, society harlot and occasional investigator for the magistrate, is shaken by an encounter with her estranged brother during a riotous evening hosted by the notorious Devils' Brotherhood. Beyond the opulence of this Mayfair party, a streetwalker is found strangled on the doorstep of a well-known moral campaigner, her cheek branded with the letter V.

When more girls are discovered dead and similarly marked, Lizzie fears that someone stalks the streets with a violent hatred of women, and as the evidence begins to point to her own brother, any remaining family loyalty she has is severely tested.

Her past catches up with her and her future becomes increasingly dangerous, yet Lizzie is still unaware of darker plots being hatched in the shadows by those who wish to silence her for good. This time, the consequences of her investigations will lead her to a place where even Will Davenport, the one man she trusts, won't be able to find her.

GEORGINA CLARKE (Location: Worcester, UK)

GEORGINA CLARKE has a degree in theology and completed a PhD in history part-time, while working as a parish priest. Her love of the past is at the heart of her fiction: her Lizzie Hardwicke crime series is set in the mid-eighteenth century, and her standalone novel - *The Dazzle of the Light* - unfolds in 1920s London and is inspired by the real-life activities of the women-led Forty Thieves crime syndicate. Georgina is currently a tutor at the Queen's Foundation in Birmingham. When she's not working, she enjoys dressmaking, running and mooching around old houses. She lives in Worcester with her husband, son and two lively cats.



MARKETING & SALES POINTS

A gripping and vividly imagined historical mystery set in 18th-century London, from the author of acclaimed historical novel *The Dazzle of the Light*

Perfect for fans of *The Household* by Stacey Halls (6K HB sold), *Daughters of the Night* (28K sold) and *The Square of Sevens* (12K sold) by Laura Shepherd-Robinson, as well as readers of Laura Purcell, Sarah Waters and Diana Gabaldon

The latest instalment of the fan-favourite series sees brothel worker and sometime sleuth Lizzie Hardwicke drawn into another deadly investigation following a spate of violent attacks against women. When evidence begins to point to her own brother as the murderer, who can Lizzie trust?

Follows the release of the third Lizzie Hardwicke Mystery, *Viper in the Nest*, in April 2025. VERVE also re-issued the first two novels in the series, *Death and the Harlot* and *The Corpse Played Dead* (previously published by Canelo) in March 2025 in a striking new series design

VERVE published Clarke's standalone novel, *The Dazzle of the Light*, in autumn 2022 to widespread acclaim including reviews in the *Times*, *Daily Mail*, *Independent*, *Sunday Express* and *RED* magazine; it was selected as a Book of the Year by both the *Irish Times* and *Good Housekeeping*

PRAISE FOR THE LIZZIE HARDWICKE MYSTERIES

'Wickedly entertaining... Courageous, forthright and shrewd, Lizzie crackles and sparkles her way through the book' - **5-Star Reader Review**

'All the luscious period detail of a Georgette Heyer; Lizzie Hardwicke is, quite simply, irresistible' - **5-Star Reader Review**

'I will continue singing the praises of this brilliant series until my very last breath' - **5-Star Reader Review**

'Lizzie Hardwicke is an endearing, smart female sleuth you cannot fail to love' - **5-Star Reader Review**

'A real page-turner combining an involved plot with vivid characterization' - **5-Star Reader Review**



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47 Chase Side, Southgate
London N14 5BP
Tel: +44 (0)208 829 3000
www.turnaround-uk.com



