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The Wolverhampton Tragedy: Death and the Respectable Mr Lawrence

By John Benson

Carnegie Publishing Ltd. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Wolverhampton Tragedy: Death and the Respectable Mr Lawrence, John Benson, Exactly one hundred years have passed since Ruth Hadley, a pretty young Wolverhampton woman with a fiery temper, was killed by a shot to the head. Just three months later, in March 1909, Edward Lawrence - one-time veterinary surgeon and successful businessman - was acquitted of her murder. This was not the kind of thing that was expected in respectable middle-class Victorian neighbourhoods. Yet Mr Lawrence was not quite the perfect gentleman. Though married, Lawrence took several mistresses, of whom Ruth was one of the first. He drank heavily, brawled in the town centre pubs operated by his family brewing business; he litigated frequently and usually unsuccessfully, and took few pains to conceal his actions from polite Wolverhampton society. His antics were often reported in full in the Midlands press. Did Edward pull the trigger? Was it a tragic accident? Lawrence's famous defence lawyer, Edward Marshall Hall, was able to prove reasonable doubt; the judge implied that he was very lucky to be acquitted, and he advised Lawrence to reform his ways. Yet the astonishing thing is that, far from...



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