



Bitten by witch fever

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Lucinda Hawksley

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256 pages

Revue de presse

'Lucinda Hawksley's intriguing Bitten by Witch Fever is surely the most beautifully designed and produced book this year.' --The Art Quarterly

'A quirky book examining a killer in the Victorian home... Lucinda Hawksley tells the story in chapters interleaved with fabulous designs.' --Guardian, G2

'In Hawksley's engaging prose, Morris comes across as a contradictory figure - just like the poisonously beautiful wallpaper that adorned so many Victorian homes and like the sumptuous pages of this handsome book, hiding a dark social history within.' World of Interiors

'Like Horrible Histories, but for grown-ups with a keen interest in interior design'--Emerald Street

'A highly original and beautifully illustrated volume that contrasts alluring, poison-laden wallpapers with thought-provoking narrative.' --Town Daily

'compelling... richly illustrated' --Elle Decoration

'...Lucinda Hawksley explores the fascinating history of the use of arsenic in textiles and wallpapers. The book is beautifully made...' --It's Nice That Présentation de l'éditeur

'As to the arsenic scare a greater folly it is hardly possible to imagine: the doctors were bitten as people were bitten by the witch fever.' William Morris on toxic wallpapers, 1885. Bitten by Witch Fever presents facsimile samples of 275 of the most sumptuous wallpaper designs ever created by designers and printers of the age, including Christopher Dresser and Morris & Co. For the first time in their history, every one of the samples shown has been laboratory tested and found to contain arsenic. Interleaved with the wallpaper sections, evocative commentary guides you through the incredible story of the manufacture, uses and effects of arsenic, and presents the heated public debate surrounding the use of deadly pigments in the sublime wallpapers of a newly industrialized world. Biographie de l'auteur

Lucinda Dickens Hawksley is the author of three biographies of Victorian artists: Lizzie Siddal, Kate Perugini (nee Dickens), and Princess Louise. Lucinda is a regular lecturer at the National Portrait Gallery in London.

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