

Lady Bette Percy: Money, Marriage and Murder

With Linda Taylor

In 1670, the 11th and last Earl of Northumberland dropped dead as he galloped away from his mistress in Italy to reach his pregnant wife in France. At a stroke, his last surviving child, Lady Elizabeth Percy (known as Bette) became one of the richest heiresses in England. She was 3 years old.

When she was 12, her grandmother thrust her on to the marriage market to be sold to the highest bidder and by the age of 15 she had been married three times. But it was a killing on a dark and deserted London street which mired her in a notorious scandal that haunted her later life.



Come with us on a bumpy ride through the bawdy Restoration world of Charles II when the lure of love or money or power, or perhaps all three, might drive a man to murder.

