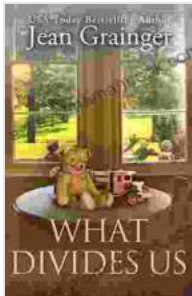


# What Divides Us: The Heartbreaking Story of the Kiltteegan Bridge



## What Divides Us: The Kiltteegan Bridge Story - Book 2

by Jean Grainger

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1135 KB

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 291 pages

Lending : Enabled



In the picturesque countryside of County Wicklow, Ireland, lies a small bridge that holds a profound story of division and reconciliation. The Kiltteegan Bridge, spanning the Avonmore River, was once a vital link between two communities, but it became a poignant symbol of the sectarian conflict that tore Ireland apart.

The story of the Kiltteegan Bridge begins in the 18th century, when the area was predominantly Protestant. However, in the 19th century, a large influx of Catholic workers arrived to work in the nearby lead mines. As the two populations grew, tensions escalated, and sectarian violence erupted.

The Kiltteegan Bridge became a flashpoint of conflict. Protestants and Catholics refused to cross the bridge into each other's territory, and it became a physical and psychological barrier between the two communities.

The bridge was frequently damaged or destroyed, and it was repeatedly rebuilt, only to be destroyed again.

In 1922, during the Irish Civil War, the bridge was blown up by anti-Treaty forces. It remained in ruins for over two decades, a stark reminder of the bitter divisions that had torn Ireland apart.

In the late 20th century, there was a growing desire for reconciliation in Ireland. The Troubles in Northern Ireland had brought the devastating consequences of sectarianism to the forefront, and many people began to question the wisdom of the past. In 1989, the Kiltteegan Bridge was finally rebuilt, this time with the support of both Protestant and Catholic communities.

The new bridge was a symbol of hope and reconciliation. It was named the Peace Bridge, and it became a place where people from both communities could come together. In the years since its rebuilding, the Peace Bridge has played a vital role in promoting dialogue and understanding between the Protestant and Catholic communities in the area.

The Kiltteegan Peace Bridge is a poignant reminder of the horrors of sectarian conflict and the importance of reconciliation. It stands as a testament to the human capacity for both division and unity, and it serves as a lesson for us all about the dangers of prejudice and the power of forgiveness.

### **The Kiltteegan Bridge Today**

Today, the Kiltteegan Peace Bridge is a popular tourist destination and a symbol of the progress that has been made in Ireland towards

reconciliation. The bridge is open to all, and it is a place where people from all backgrounds can come together in peace.

The Peace Bridge is also a reminder of the work that still needs to be done. Sectarianism remains a problem in some parts of Ireland, and there is still much that can be learned from the story of the Killeegan Bridge.

The Killeegan Peace Bridge is a powerful symbol of hope and reconciliation. It is a reminder that even the most divided communities can find a way to come together, and it is an inspiration to all who work for peace.

The story of the Killeegan Bridge is a complex and heartbreaking one, but it is also a story of hope and reconciliation. The bridge stands as a testament to the power of forgiveness and the importance of working together to build a better future.

The Killeegan Peace Bridge is a reminder that even the most divided communities can find a way to come together, and it is an inspiration to all who work for peace.



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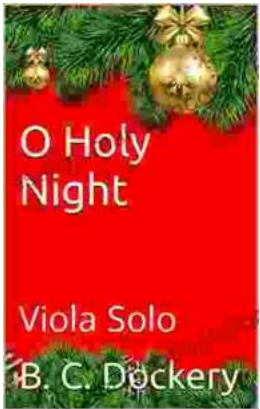
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