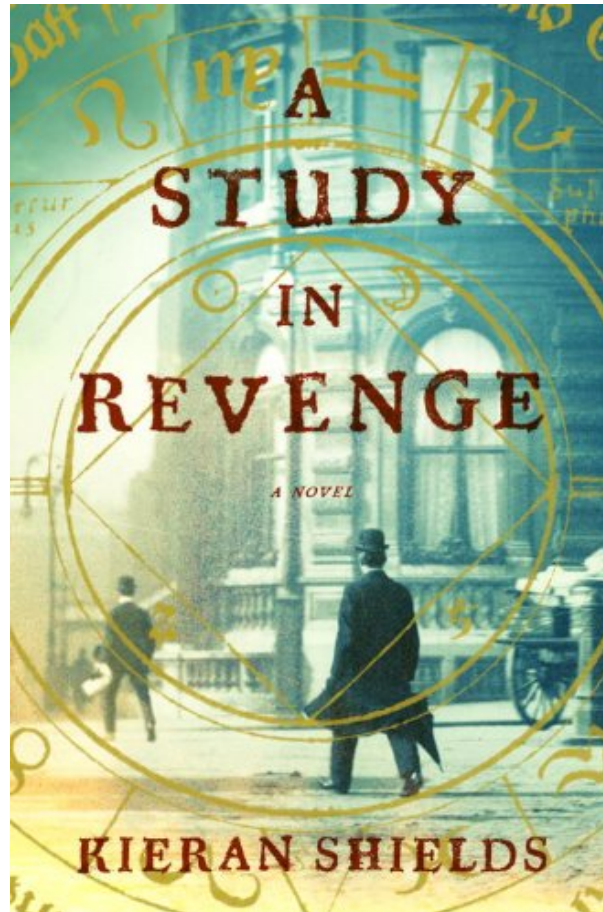
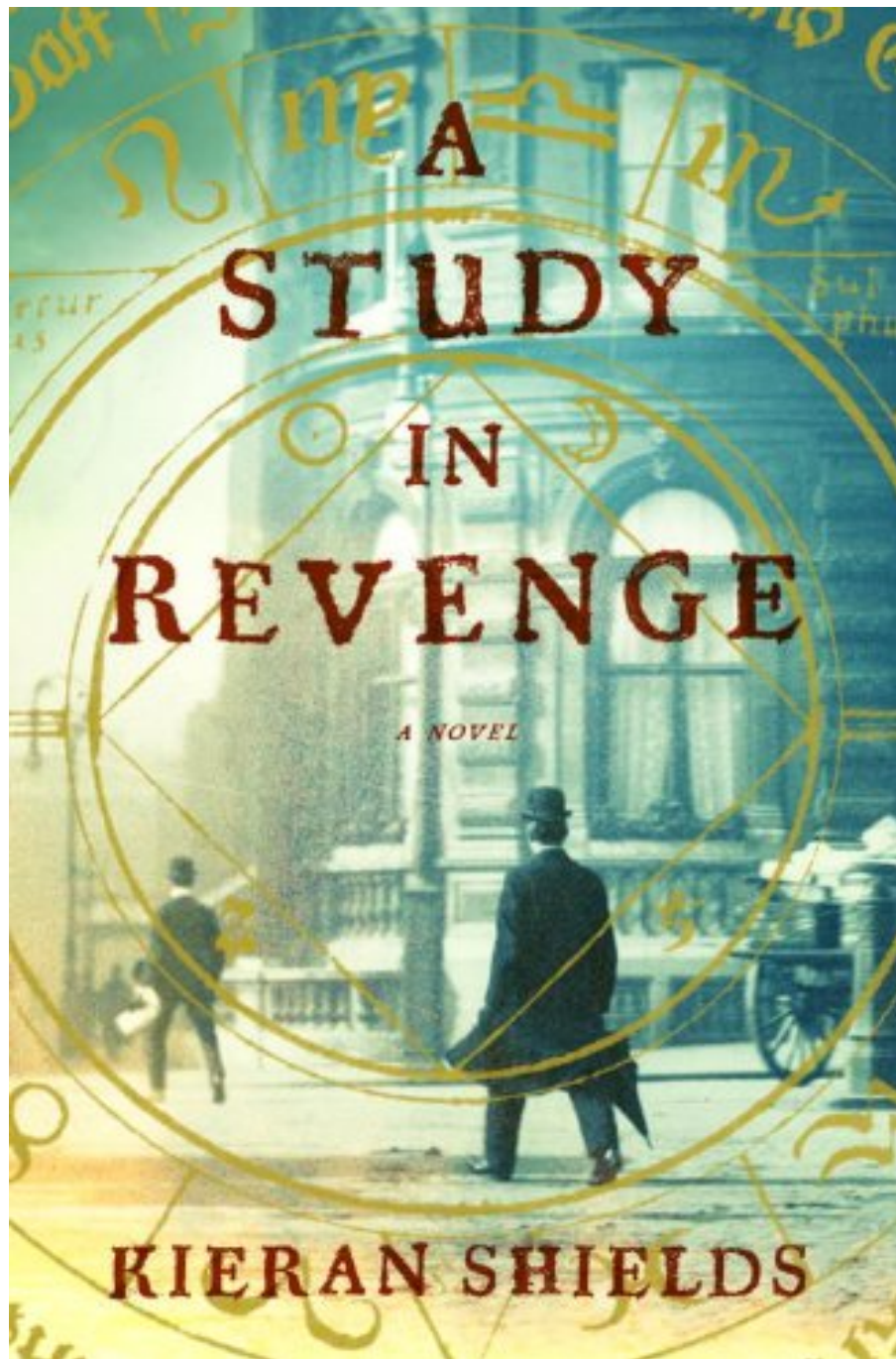


A STUDY IN REVENGE: A NOVEL BY KIERAN SHIELDS



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From Booklist

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Review

"Erudite, mysterious and exciting, with a brooding, brilliant Sherlock-ian detective. The denouement is just as surprising as in Grey's first case." -- Kirkus Reviews (Starred)

"Conan Doyle fans will appreciate the Holmes/Watson-like relationship of Perceval Grey, who's half Abenaki Indian, and deputy Archie Lean of the Portland, Maine police in Shields's excellent sequel to 2012's *The Truth of All Things*. ... The humanity of the well-developed leads enhances the smooth-flowing plot." -- Publishers Weekly (Starred)

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In 1893, a trail of ashen footprints leads Deputy Archie Lean to the body of a murdered thief. The man's exposed flesh has been horribly burned and occult symbols mark the nearby walls. Most troubling of all is what Lean witnessed two days earlier: this same man being lowered into his grave without a burn mark on him. Once again, the Portland, Maine, police deputy must turn to the brilliant criminalist Perceval Grey for help.

Grey, a half-Abenaki Indian detective, faces problems of his own after agreeing to an elderly tycoon's death-bed plea to find his long-lost granddaughter. The dying man's family is less interested in the missing heiress than with the recent theft of an obscure heirloom carved with curious symbols. As the family's shadowy history is revealed, the three mysteries intersect to draw Lean and Grey into a maze of murder, deceit, and revenge. Each deadly new clue points toward an even greater puzzle—one that will pit Grey against a devious murderer in a race to unlock an ancient and mysterious power.

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- Format: Kindle eBook

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Most helpful customer reviews

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful.

Complicated Plot...Compelling Characters...Satisfying Conclusion

By Jim Schmidt

I have been looking forward to this book since reading Kieran Shields' terrific debut novel, *The Truth of All Things*, early last year. That book introduced the two main characters - Perceval Grey and Archie Lean - and several others, including the villain Jotham Marsh. I truly enjoyed the story of "Truth" while being introduced to the characters...the story in "Study/Revenge" was more complicated and - frankly - convoluted than "Truth," but the characters and their development are absolutely wonderful. The start - perhaps the first 10% - was VERY promising, with a couple of Portland's criminals either found dead or seen plunging to death...even better, as Lean investigates, he notes fear among the rest of the city's criminal class that they may be subject to the same fate. Then, it drags until about halfway, as a host of other plot lines are introduced, a bit too many (especially when compared to the more "tightly" written "Truth"), but that's just my opinion. But here's the thing: the last 1/3 to 1/2 of the book is absolutely thrilling - and smart - and the seemingly unrelated and disparate threads do come together. The author does a great favor to those who invested their time and mind and emotions into the debut novel. I do look forward to #3.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

An Intelligent Historical Fiction Mystery!

By Naomi B.

Synopsis: A thief is murdered in a really unpleasant way with symbols from the occult close to his body. Problem is, Deputy Archie Lean witnessed this thief being buried 2 days earlier. Meanwhile, criminologist Percival Grey is helping a dying wealthy tycoon who is desperately attempting to locate a stolen artifact and if Mr. Grey could happen to find his missing granddaughter who is probably attached to the artifact that would just be spectacular.

My rating: 4.5 Stars

My opinion: I LOVE, LOVE, LOVE when I find intelligently written historical fiction mysteries. This book is a prime example! This book was beautifully laid out in its' mystery storyline divulging just enough to keep its' readers "whistle what" while telling a very different type of mystery than your typical historical mysteries, which tend to bore me to tears at this point!

His characters were approachable and well thought out. What I loved most about the characters is that the author was dynamic in interjecting just enough humor into their "lines" which is a must in a book to suck me in. They had what another reviewer called "snarkiness" and I love that.

Source: Netgalley for Crown Publishing Group

Would I recommend? : Yep

Stand Alone or Part of a Series: Part of series. I must say that normally I am pretty compulsive about reading series in order, but this one stood fine on its' own. Although I will be going back immediately and reading the first in series and then stalking to see new releases. So, thank you to Mr. Shields and Crown Publishing

Group for giving me yet ANOTHER series to read! ;)

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

A Study in Revenge: A Novel

By Arlena

Author: Kieran Shields

Published by: Crown Publishers

Age Recommended: YA - Adult

Reviewed By: Arlena Dean

Book Blog For: GMTA

Rating: 4

Review:

"A Study in Revenge" by Kieran Shields was a good mystery, historical, thriller series. I have not read the first book 'The Truth of all Things' and maybe that was why I didn't understand some parts of this novel but what I could understand ...I did like. I had a feeling I was still missing something that had gone on in the first novel...but again it was a very intriguing historical read...Sort of like the 'Sherlock Holmes' novels. This story setting was from Portland, Maine in the year of 1893. In this novel we have a 'Victorian' private investigator and police consultant... Perceval Grey and we have Archie Lean who is a dedicated 'Deputy of Police'...dedicated to the State and its people. Grey and Lean come together trying to unravel a mystery and that is:

"The body of a local thief is discovered under unusual circumstances, with evidence of the occult (or at least somebody trying to stage it to look that way). The problem is, the thief in question was killed days earlier and was already buried, meaning that whoever staged the scene also robbed his grave."

Be ready for a lots of twist and turns...keep up or you could get lost...also be ready for "Viking runes, explosions, the occult, mysterious tunnels, robberies, shootings, burnings, and grave robbing, just to name some." It will be a long read but if you continue to will find out what the 'Revenge' was in the story! I will stop there to say you must pick up " Study in Revenge" to see what all the author had instore for the reader. The characters all well developed and the author did some job working all this in with some some religion and along with the murders that will tie in three different mysteries.

If you are in for a historical thriller mystery "A Study in Revenge" would be a good read that I would recommend for you

See all 27 customer reviews...

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