

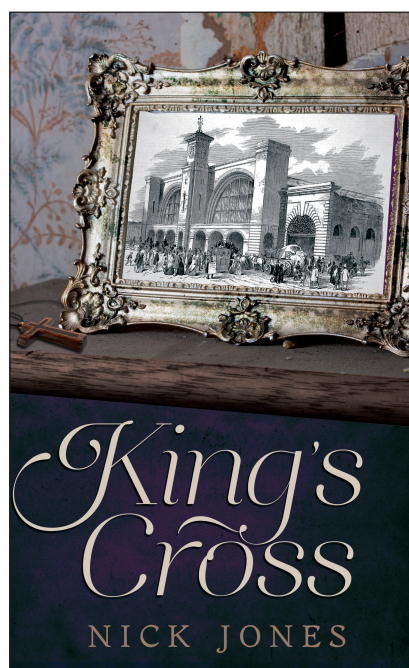
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A modern ghost story for Christmas...

Christmastime is traditionally the time for the telling and reading of ghost stories, and Nick Jones' *King's Cross*, set in Sicily and London, has been inspired by *The Innocents*



King's Cross is a tale of love and obsession, in which Englishman Mark Sutton encounters Beatrice, a beautiful young Cistercian nun, in a medieval convent on a remote mountainside in Sicily, where he is recuperating from a nervous breakdown. They fall in love, but the liaison is doomed. Mark flees back to London, but Beatrice follows him. The story's dramatic denouement takes place in and around the London rail terminus of the title.

Herefordshire-based journalist and writer Nick Jones admits that his debut novel *King's Cross* was inspired by a re-viewing of the 1962 movie classic *The Innocents* starring Deborah Kerr, which the American film director Martin Scorsese has nominated as one of the 10 scariest movies of all time.

"I wanted *King's Cross* to be a modern ghost story in which inexplicable things happen at unexpected moments," says the author.

Nick Jones is a retired journalist who lives in Hereford, Herefordshire. After studying architecture he moved into journalism, working for Morgan-Grampian (formerly part of Express Newspapers) for 10 years, rising to become editor of the leading monthly magazine on restoration and refurbishment. He has published several short stories on the internet and work on his second novel is well under way.

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