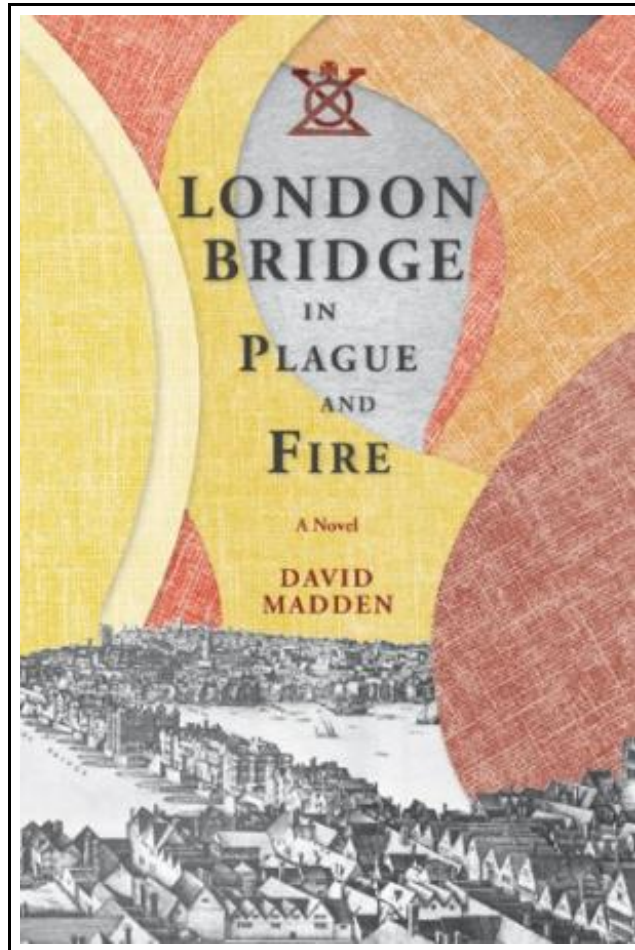


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LONDON BRIDGE IN PLAGUE AND FIRE: A NOVEL



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University of Tennessee Press. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, London Bridge in Plague and Fire: A Novel, David Madden, Like Dr. Frankenstein s invented creature, the larger-than-life, flesh-and-blood characters of London Bridge in Plague and Fire are made from pieces of the dead past that are forged in the consciousness of an historian himself a creation of history and of David Madden s literary magic. Struck by the lightning bolt of the co-joined imaginations of Madden and his reader, the fabricated beings rise up and walk on London Bridge, and they have the audacity to speak for themselves in completely convincing and haunting voices. Allen Wier, author of Tehano For more than two thousand years, Old London Bridge evolved through many fragile wooden forms until it became the first bridge built of stone since the Roman invaders. With over two hundred houses and shops built directly upon the bridge, it was a wonder of the world until it was dismantled in 1832. In this stunningly original novel, Old London Bridge is as much a living, breathing character as its architect, the priest Peter de Colechurch, who began work on it in 1176, partly to honor Archbishop Thomas a Becket, murdered in Canterbury Cathedral. In 1665, the year of the Great Plague, Peter s history is unknown, but Daryl Braintree, a young poet living on the bridge, resurrects him through inspired flights of imagination. As Daryl chronicles the history of the bridge and composes poems about it, he reads his work to his witty mistress, who prefers making love. Among other key characters is Lucien Redd, who as a boy was sexually brutalized by both Puritans and Cavaliers during the English Civil War before being kidnapped off London Bridge onto a merchant ship. Thus traumatized, he aspires to become Lucifer s...



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