

At the Precipice of Poverty: A Croydon Chronicle

D. Blakeley



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This is a story of life in a street in Croydon in 1907. It is also the story of one man's dream. And this dream is a simple one - to leave that street with all its violence, drunkeness and poverty behind, and to give his parents a better life. Based on tales told by the author's grandparents, At the Precipice of Poverty vividly and dramatically captures the daily battle for survival in the infamous Wilford Road: the quick pulling of a knife from beneath an apron, the blood stained scullery walls, and, lurking in every alleyway, the exception of a swift and ugly reprisal for any minor slight - an existence relieved only by a jug or two, or three of ale from the local public house...

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