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By Macgillivray

BLOODAXE BOOKS LTD, United Kingdom, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The Nine of Diamonds: Surroial Mordantless is a book in nine parts constructed to play the Butcher - the Duke of Cumberland - in a Gaelic interpretation of the ghost gamble. Given the command on the back of a nine of diamonds - the Curse of Scotland - that the Highlanders should all be slaughtered, the persecution of Jacobite sympathisers after the Battle of Culloden under the Butcher was one of the worst atrocities carried out on British soil. Using a kaleidoscope, a deck of tarot cards and an 1895 Dictionary of Phrase and Fable, The Nine of Diamonds is influenced by French surrealism and opens with the Gaelic visionary practice of inducing visions behind a waterfall. Treating the Highlands as a Gaelic garden, the rebels on the run as herds of deer, and the preservation of Gaelic culture as a type of sugar-cured mummification, The Nine of Diamonds is set in a phantasmagoric landscape described in the Scots of Henryson and Dunbar but evoking Scots Gaelic concepts and motifs to mix Highland and Lowland experience with magical and occult terminology. With the deer as...

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