

The *Ambition & Destiny* Newsletter October 2017

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This months news ...

The *Ambition & Destiny* Newsletter

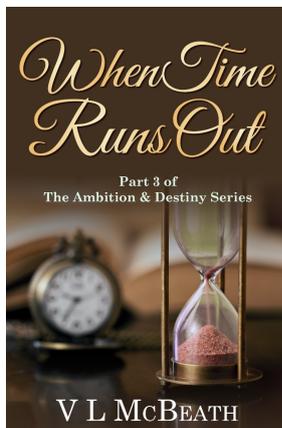
You are receiving this email following your interest in *Condemned by Fate*,
(the prequel to The *Ambition & Destiny* Series)

Hi there!

Thank you for joining me again. In this months newsletter:

- Will You Join my Advanced Review Team?
- Free Books for October
- Self-Publishing Spotlight
- Fact or Fiction. From *Condemned by Fate*: Was Mary really banished from her family?

Will You Join my Advanced Review Team?



With the publication of ***When Time Runs Out*** just over a month away, I am looking for readers to join my advanced review team.

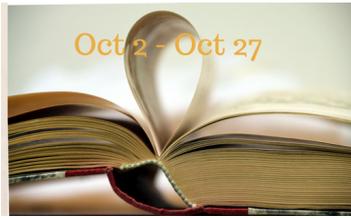
This is a small group of people who are sent a free copy of the pre-publication draft, with a view to leaving an honest review on the day of publication.

As this is Part 3 of the series, in order to join the team you will need to have read *Hooks & Eyes* and *Less Than Equals* (otherwise the story is unlikely to make much sense). You also need to have left a review on Amazon for either one (or both) of these books.

If you are interested, just reply to this email, sending me a link to your previous review(s), and I will add you to the group. (NB. For those of you already on the team, I will contact you separately.)

Thanks! I look forward to hearing from you 😊

Free Book Offers for October



October Historical Fiction Giveaway

Are you looking for your next historical novel? This month, nineteen authors have joined together to offer free copies of their books. Take a look and download your copies here: [October Giveaway](#)

Self-Publishing Spotlight



Would you pay someone to bear your sorrow?

In the middle ages, peasants believed a mother mourning her child's death could "sell her sorrow" by selling a nail from her child's coffin to a traveling peddler.

Lady Celeste is overwhelmed with grief when her son dies. Desperate to find relief, she begs a passing peddler to buy her sorrow. Jean, the cynical peddler she meets, insists she include her ruby ring along with the nail in return for his coin. They both find themselves changed greatly by their transaction, but all their attempts to reverse the effects of their fateful choice fail.

When Celeste learns that without her wedding ring her husband may set her aside, she determines to retrieve it without reclaiming her sorrow. But how will she find the peddler & convince him to give up the precious ruby ring?

Buy *The Sorrow Stone* to begin your fascinating journey through 12th C France!

US customers, [click here](#); UK customers, [click here](#).

Fact or Fiction:

The *Ambition & Destiny* Series was inspired by a true story, and over the last few months, readers have asked whether certain storylines are based on real life events.

If you have a question please let me know by replying to this email.

From *Condemned by Fate*:

Was Mary really banished from her family?

This is one of the storylines I have no evidence for. I included it in the book, however, as I

believe there is a high likelihood that it could have happened.

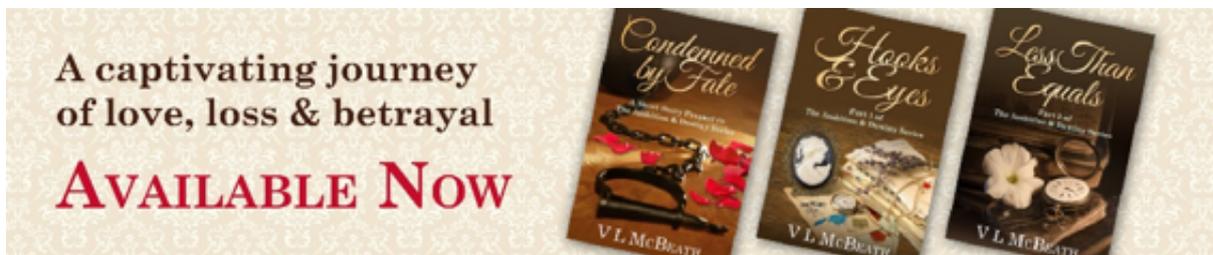
At the start of the book, Charles and his family belonged to a religious group called The Society of Friends, more commonly known as Quakers. In the early nineteenth century, tolerance for other religions was minimal, and to marry someone outside your own religious denomination was thought to be completely unacceptable.

The Quakers themselves were known to banish family or friends who married outside their religious circle, but for Mary and Charles, this wasn't the case. At the end of *Condemned by Fate* and the beginning of *Hooks & Eyes*, I know that Mary lived with Charles's family. As she was baptized into the Church of England, however, I wondered if her family could have refused to have anything more to do with her once she married a Quaker. It seemed quite possible, and so the arguments and subsequent estrangement of Mary from her family became part of the book.

Next month: From *Hooks & Eyes*: Was there a relationship between Mary and Richard? What about Mr Wetherby and Sarah-Ann?

Thank you for your continuing support for The *Ambition & Destiny* Series.

For further details about any of the books, [click here](#).



If you know of anyone else who would be interested in the books, please ask them to visit valmcbeath.com and sign up for the newsletter.

See you again next month

Best wishes

Val

