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# The Lancashire Witches



William Harrison Ainsworth

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## *The Lancashire Witches*

by William Harrison Ainsworth  
(1805-1882)

*The Lancashire Witches* is a highly fictionalised account of the activities of the notorious witches Demdike, Chattox and Alice Nutter who, together with others, terrorised the district of Lancashire around Pendle Hill and the Forest of Bowland during the early seventeenth century. The witches named in the book were real enough, if not as witches then as people. In his story, Ainsworth brings in the dissolution of Whalley Abbey and the historic families of Assheton, Braddyll and Nowell, and takes us through to the final trial and execution at Lancaster Castle in 1612.

Total running time: 25:13:43

Read by Andy Minter

Cover design by Kathryn Delaney  
17<sup>th</sup>-century woodcut of the Pendle Witches



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