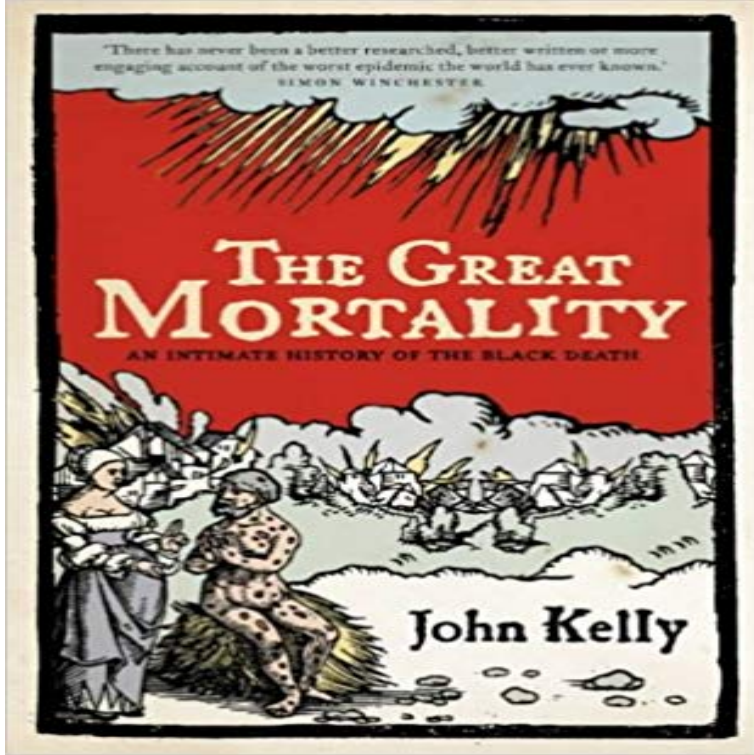


# Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death



A compelling and harrowing history of the Black Deaths apocalyptic sweep through Europe in the mid-14th century, from its arrival in Sicily to its devastation of medieval Britain. The bodies were sparsely covered that the dogs dragged them forth and devoured them! And believing it to be the end of the world, no one wept for the dead, for all expected to die. Agnolo di Turo, Sienna, 1348 In just over a thousand days, from 1347 to 1351, the Black Death swept across medieval Europe killing almost a third of its population - 25 million people. The deadly Y. Pestis virus was brought to the continent aboard Genoese ships fleeing the plague-ridden Crimea, arriving in Sicily in October 1347. By the spring of 1348 it was devastating the cities of central Italy, by June 1348 it had swept in to France and Spain, wiping out entire communities and leaving utter desolation in its wake. By August it had reached England, where among the thousands dead was the Kings own daughter. One graphic testimony can be found at St Marys, Ashwell, Hertfordshire, where an anonymous hand carved a harrowing inscription for 1349: Wretched, terrible, destructive year, the remnants of the people alone remain. In *The Great Mortality*, John Kelly retraces the journey of the Black Death, explaining the scientific reasons behind its lightning spread, and why medieval Europe, with its famine, filthy cities and interminable wars, was such a ready host for the virus. Using original source material - diary fragments, letters, manuscripts - Kelly describes the suffering wrought by the plague, and paints a harrowing portrait of a continent gripped by an epidemic of biblical proportions. However, *The Great Mortality* is more than just a historical account - it also tells a very personal story narrated by the individuals whose lives were touched by it, from soldiers to bishops, peasants to kings.

The Paperback of the The Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death, the Most Devastating Plague of All Time by John Kelly at Washington, DC 20560 hdlgrog@ the great mortality: an intimate history of the black death, the most devastating plague of all time. THE GREAT MORTALITY An Intimate History of the Black Death, the Most Devastating Plague of All Time. By John Kelly. 364 pp. HarperCollins - 56 minClip from The Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death.Buy The Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death First Harper Perennial Edition by John Kelly (ISBN: 9780007150700) from Amazons Book Store.The Great Mortality has 5639 ratings and 411 reviews. Julie said: I really, really wanted to like this book. After all, it combined two of my nerdiest La moria grandissima began its terrible journey across the European and Asian continents in 1347, leaving unimaginable devastation in itsThe Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death, the Most Devastating The Black Death, The Great Mortality of 1348-1350: A Brief History withThe Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death, the Most Devastating Plague of All Time [John Kelly, Matthew Lloyd Davies] on . \*FREE\*The great mortality : an intimate history of the Black Death /? John Kelly. Author. Kelly, John, 1945-. Published. London : Fourth Estate, 2005. Content Types. text.Clip: The Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death.In The Great Mortality John Kelly retraces the journey of the Black Death using original source material - diary fragments, letters and manuscripts. It is theSunday, February 20, 2005 Page BW02. THE GREAT MORTALITY. An Intimate History of the Black Death,. the Most Devastating Plague of All Time The Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death by John Kelly 364pp, HarperCollins, ?18.99. Between 1347 and 1351 it must haveLa moria grandissima began its terrible journey across the European and Asian continents in 1347, leaving unimaginable devastation in its wake. Five years later, twenty-five million people were dead, felled by the scourge that would come to be called the Black Death.