

Belvedere Boy Kevin Barry - Irish Patriot and Martyr of the Irish War of Independence



Belvedere Boy: Kevin Barry, Irish Patriot by Gerry Pratt

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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Kevin Barry was a young Irish patriot who was executed by the British during the Irish War of Independence. He was born in Dublin in 1902 and attended Belvedere College, a prestigious Jesuit school. Barry joined the Irish Republican Army (IRA) in 1919 and quickly rose through the ranks. He was involved in several IRA operations, including the attack on a British barracks in Dublin in 1920. Barry was captured by the British after the attack and was sentenced to death. He was executed on November 1, 1920, at the age of 18.

Early Life and Education

Kevin Barry was born on January 19, 1902, in Dublin, Ireland. He was the son of Thomas Barry, a successful businessman, and Mary Dowling Barry. Barry had two older brothers, Thomas and Edward, and a younger sister, Eileen.

Barry attended Belvedere College, a prestigious Jesuit school in Dublin. He was a bright and inquisitive student, and he excelled in his studies. Barry was also a talented athlete, and he played on the school's rugby and cricket teams.

Joining the IRA

In 1919, Barry joined the Irish Republican Army (IRA). The IRA was a paramilitary organization that was fighting for Irish independence from British rule. Barry was inspired by the IRA's ideals, and he believed that Ireland could be free.

Barry quickly rose through the ranks of the IRA. He was a brave and resourceful soldier, and he was involved in several IRA operations. In 1920, Barry was part of an IRA unit that attacked a British barracks in Dublin. The attack was successful, and the IRA inflicted heavy casualties on the British.

Capture and Execution

Barry was captured by the British after the attack on the barracks. He was sentenced to death, and he was executed on November 1, 1920, at the age of 18. Barry's execution shocked and angered the Irish people. He became a martyr for the Irish cause, and his death helped to galvanize support for the IRA.

Legacy

Kevin Barry is remembered as one of the most iconic figures of the Irish War of Independence. He was a young man who gave his life for his country. Barry's sacrifice helped to inspire the Irish people to fight for their freedom, and he is still revered as a national hero.

There are many memorials to Kevin Barry in Ireland. A statue of him stands in St. Stephen's Green in Dublin, and there is a museum dedicated to him in his hometown of Rathmines. Barry's name is also inscribed on the Roll of Honour at Glasnevin Cemetery in Dublin.

Kevin Barry was a brave and selfless young man who gave his life for his country. He is an inspiration to us all, and his legacy will live on for generations to come.



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