The Ball and The Cross

G. K. Chesterton

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The Ball and the Cross is G. K. Chesterton's third novel. Evan MacIan is a tall, dark-haired, blue-eyed Scottish Highlander and a devout Roman Catholic... James Turnbull is a short, red-haired, gray-eyed Scottish Lowlander and a devout but naive atheist... The two meet when MacIan smashes the window of the street office where Turnbull publishes an atheist journal. When MacIan challenges Turnbull to a duel to the death, Turnbull is overjoyed. For twenty years no one had paid the slightest attention to his Bible bashing. Now at last someone is taking him seriously! Most of the rest of the story is a series of comic events in which the two enemies wander about seeking a spot for their duel.

Total running time

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