CROWN & CURIOSITY

# THE ETRUSCAN REVIVAL

## *Mourning Brooch*

Silver · Birmingham, England · 1884–85

In the 1800s, explorers in Italy opened the tombs of the ancient Etruscans, a people who lived there long before Rome. Inside lay jewelry worked with tiny beads of gold, and Victorian jewelers fell in love. Etruscan Revival became the fashion of the age.

This silver brooch carries that spirit: a beaded edge, a raised oval heart, and a small star stamped into every petal.

On its back, a full Birmingham hallmark keeps its secret calendar. The tiny letter "k" marks it as assayed between July 1884 and July 1885, beside the maker's initials, ACC.

Behind the face is a little locket compartment. Victorians kept such spaces for a remembrance of someone loved, a way to carry them close. Made to be worn and treasured, it has now been kept for more than 140 years.

*~ A curiosity, chosen for you ~*

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