CROWN & CURIOSITY

WALNUT ÉTUI

Victorian Sterling Chatelaine

Late 19th or early 20th century · A portrait inside

Some objects keep their secrets until they are opened. This one is a walnut — until it isn't.

It is a Victorian sterling novelty étui, realistically modeled as a walnut, with a darkened silver shell, a hinge and a suspension ring: a chatelaine pendant, meant to be kept close.

Inside are a period photographic portrait of a Victorian woman, set in a circular hinged frame; a small mirror behind the portrait; a soft powder puff; a miniature glass perfume vial with a decorative metal cap; and small pins around the vial. The interior is gold-toned, against the dark silver of the shell.

A whole dressing table, no larger than a walnut.

~ A curiosity, chosen for you ~

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