

## The Lusts Of The Borgias

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Italy, during the Renaissance, was a time of culture but also of uninhibited corruption. And no family was more depraved than the infamous House of Borgia. Here is the story of their cruel, passionate, erotic adventures that Evergreen Review calls one of the few historical erotic novels worthy of being called a classic.

"Thus what the word Renaissance really means is new birth to liberty—the spirit of mankind recovering consciousness and the power of self-determination, recognizing the beauty of the outer world, and of the body through art, liberating the reason in science and the conscience in religion, restoring culture to the intelligence, and establishing the principle of political freedom. The Church was the schoolmaster of the Middle Ages. Culture was the humanizing and refining influence of the Renaissance."

Before the Tudors, there were the Borgias. More passionate. More dangerous. More deadly. From the author of *Poison*, called "stunning"\* and "a fascinating page-turner," comes a new historical thriller, featuring the same intriguing and beautiful heroine: Borgia court poisoner, Francesca Giordano. In the summer of 1493, Rodrigo Borgia, Alexander VI, has been pope for almost a year. Having played a crucial role in helping him ascend the chair of Saint Peter, Francesca, haunted by the shadows of her own past, is now charged with keeping him there. As court poisoner to the most notorious and dangerous family in Italy, this mistress of death faces a web of peril, intrigue, and deceit that threatens to extinguish the light of the Renaissance. As dangers close in from every direction, Francesca conceives a desperate plan that puts her own life at risk and hurls her into a nightmare confrontation with a madman intent on destroying all she is pledged to protect. From the hidden crypts of fifteenth-century Rome to its teeming streets alive with sensuality, obsession, and treachery, Francesca must battle the demons of her own dark nature to unravel a plot to destroy the Borgias, seize control of Christendom, and plunge the world into eternal darkness. \*Booklist +Lauren Willig

His lust for power gave him everything. But it might cost him the love of his life. The Bishop hired her for a simple job: embroider a tapestry. It is an enormous work, a cloth trophy of the conquest of England. But her skill with a needle and thread is legendary. It would be uncomplicated. She plans to kill him as soon as she gets the chance. He and his brother, William the Conqueror, murdered her King and destroyed her world. Revenge, pure and clean. It would be simple. But neither planned to fall desperately in love. As the two become hopelessly entangled, friends become enemies, enemies become lovers, and nothing in life—or the tapestry—is what it seems. An unlikely love story born of passion and intensity, crafted by critically acclaimed historical novelist Sarah Bower, *The Needle in the Blood* is a "story of love, war, and the tangled truth of England's birth." Praise for Sarah Bower's *Sins of the House of Borgia* "Sizzling." —USA Today "The sheer grandeur of the papal and Ferrara courts and the spectacle of the Borgia and Ferrara siblings' rivalries and revenges form a glittering take on one of the most notorious families of the Italian Renaissance." —Publisher's Weekly "Bower brilliantly merges history with politics and convincing characters to draw readers into a lush and colorful tapestry of Renaissance life...This powerful piece of fiction ranks with some of the finest of the genre." —RT Book Reviews

In the vein of Sarah Dunant's New York Times bestseller, *Blood and Beauty*, Sarah Bower reveals the burning heart of the Borgia family. A Notorious Duke An Infamous Duchess An Innocent Girl *Violante* isn't supposed to be here, in one of the grandest courts of Renaissance Italy. She isn't supposed to be a lady-in-waiting to the beautiful Lucrezia Borgia. But the same secretive politics that pushed Lucrezia's father to the Vatican have landed *Violante* deep in a lavish landscape of passion and ambition. *Violante* discovers a Lucrezia unknown to those who see only a scheming harlot, and all the whispers about her brother, Cesare Borgia, never revealed the soul of the man who dances close with *Violante*. But those who enter the House of Borgia are never quite the same when they leave—if they leave at all. *Violante*'s place in history will test her heart and leave her the guardian of dangerous secrets she must carry to the grave. What Readers Are Saying "Glittering, gorgeous, compelling, and stunning." "A richly satisfying historical novel. It deserves prizes."

Their wealth exceeded the limits of imagination. Their political acumen and cunning inspired the genius of Machiavelli. Their influence on the Catholic Church was unparalleled. The story of the Borgias is truly extraordinary, filled with the intrigue and drama of men and women who gave free rein to their passions and scorned conventional morality.

First ed published 1912 Reprint of 10th ed (new and rev) published 1926 Includes bibliographical references and index.

Excerpts from criticism of the works of novelists, poets, playwrights, short story writers and other creative writers who lived between 1800 and 1900, from the first published critical appraisals to current evaluations.

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This study of Baudelaire and English modernism observes his protean influence on poets from Swinburne, who wrote the first English review of *Les Fleurs du Mai*, to T. S. Eliot. Documenting Baudelaire's impact on Swinburne, Pater, Wilde, Arthur Symonds, Aldous Huxley, Edith and Osbert Sitwell, D. H. Lawrence, the Imagists, John Middleton Murry, Eliot, and others, Patricia Clements describes the Baudelaire who is the creation of the English poets and identifies some major lines in the development of modernism in English literature. Originally published in 1986. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

Vivacious Sancha of Aragon arrives in Rome newly wed to a member of the notorious Borgia dynasty. Surrounded by the city's opulence and political corruption, she befriends her glamorous and deceitful sister-in-law, Lucrezia, whose jealousy is as legendary as her beauty. Some say Lucrezia has poisoned her rivals, particularly those to whom her handsome brother, Cesare, has given his heart. So when Sancha falls under Cesare's irresistible spell, she must hide her secret or lose her life. Caught in the Borgias' sinister web, she summons her courage and uses her cunning to outwit them at their own game. Vividly interweaving historical detail with fiction, *The Borgia Bride* is a richly compelling tale of conspiracy, sexual intrigue, loyalty, and drama.

Two sisters change the course of a nation by forsaking the King—their own father. England is on the verge of revolution. Antagonized by the Catholicism of King James II, the people plot to drive him from the throne. But at the heart of the plot

is a deep betrayal: the defection of the daughters James loves, Mary and Anne. Both raised Protestant according to the wishes of England, the sisters support Protestant usurper William of Orange, Mary's husband, who lusts after the British crown. Passive Queen Mary is subservient to her husband's wishes, while Anne is desperate to please her childhood friend Sarah Churchill, a bold and domineering woman determined to subdue Anne, the queen-to-be, and rule England herself. Intrigue and political drama run high as the sisters struggle to be reconciled with each other--and with the haunting memory of the father they have exiled.

The notorious classic of lavish passion and unbridled sensuality

An innocent young girl chronicles the rise to power of the legendary Borgia family in 1492 Rome in this new novel from the best-selling author of *Empress of the Seven Hills* and *Daughters of Rome*. Original.

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Now deceased, Johnson lived in Rome in 1944 while working for the British Foreign Office and became interested in the dynasty that established itself there during the Renaissance and has become the epitome of political intrigue and corruption. Her account was originally published by Macdonald in 1981. Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR.

Two historical novels of sexual indulgence by the master of erotic realism--one set in Renaissance Italy and the other in modern London. "Adam & Eve" is the story of soaring ambition and the sexual corruption of fresh youth and innocent beauty. And "Lusts of the Borgias" is the story of the uninhibited corruption of a powerful family in a depraved age.

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