



## The Serpent and the Pearl (A Novel of the Borgias)

By Kate Quinn

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**The Serpent and the Pearl (A Novel of the Borgias) By Kate Quinn**

**One powerful family holds a city, a faith, and a woman in its grasp—from the national bestselling author of *Daughters of Rome* and *Mistress of Rome*.**

Rome, 1492. The Holy City is drenched with blood and teeming with secrets. A pope lies dying and the throne of God is left vacant, a prize awarded only to the most virtuous—or the most ruthless. The Borgia family begins its legendary rise, chronicled by an innocent girl who finds herself drawn into their dangerous web...

Vivacious Giulia Farnese has floor-length golden hair and the world at her feet: beauty, wealth, and a handsome young husband. But she is stunned to discover that her glittering marriage is a sham, and she is to be given as a concubine to the ruthless, charismatic Cardinal Borgia: Spaniard, sensualist, candidate for Pope—and passionately in love with her.

Two trusted companions will follow her into the Pope's shadowy harem: Leonello, a cynical bodyguard bent on bloody revenge against a mysterious killer, and Carmelina, a fiery cook with a past full of secrets. But as corruption thickens in the Vatican and the enemies begin to circle, Giulia and her friends will need all their wits to survive in the world of the Borgias.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“A masterful storyteller.” —Margaret George

The novels of Kate Quinn are...

“Full of great characters.”—Diana Gabaldon, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

“Epic, sexy.”—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“Deeply passionate.”—Kate Furnivall, author of *The White Pearl*

“A riveting plunge into an ancient world.”—C. W. Gortner, author of *The Queen’s Vow*

#### About the Author

**Kate Quinn** is a native of Southern California . She attended Boston University, where she earned a bachelor's and master's degree in classical voice. A lifelong history buff, she's written three previous novels set in ancient Rome -- *Mistress of Rome*, *Daughters of Rome*, and *Empress of the Seven Hills* -- all of which have been translated into multiple languages. Kate lives in Maryland with her husband.

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