
OTHER GREAT PAINTING NOVELS

The Music Lesson / by Katherine
Weber FIC WEBER

The Last Van Gogh / by Alyson
Richman FIC RICHMAN

The Secret Supper: A Novel / by
Javier Sierra FIC SIERRA

Portrait of An Unknown Woman /
by Vanora Bennett
FIC BENNETT



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PAINTING NOVELS

THE STORIES BEHIND
THE PAINTINGS



Girl with a Pearl Earring / by Tracy Chevalier FIC CHEVALIER

A young girl becomes the friend and muse to renowned 17th century Dutch Painter Johannes Vermeer after she's hired on as a servant at his Amsterdam home. Chevalier's fictional story behind the famous painting is as charming as the portrait itself.

see also: [The Lady and the Unicorn](#)

In the Company of the of the Courtesan / by Sarah Dunant

FIC DUNANT

Amid the sacking of Rome in 1527, a young Courtesan, Fiametta Bianchini, escapes the city and heads to Venice in the company of her escort Bucino Teodoldo, a dwarf. This story and its heroine were inspired by Titian's "Venus of Urbino", which is featured on the cover.

see also: [The Birth of Venus](#)

Leonardo's Swans / by Karen Essex FIC ESSEX

Two sisters compete for the attention of master painter Leonardo da Vinci just as their husbands and, in fact, the whole of Renaissance Florence competes for power in escalating political battles.

The Forgery of Venus / by Michael Gruber FIC GRUBEL

Modern day American artist Chaz Wilmot gets more than he bargained for after he agrees to repair a damaged Venetian fresco. Soon his entire world is transformed as he begins "living" as the noted 17th century artist of the original painting.

I, Mona Lisa / by Jeanne Kalogridis FIC KALOGRIDIS

In this empassioned novel of Renaissance Italy, author Kalogridis examines the woman behind that mysterious smile depicted in Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa—Lisa di Antonio Gherardini. Her life and the eventful, often bloody, circumstances surrounding the commission and painting of her portrait are vividly described in this fascinating book.

The Painted Kiss / by Elizabeth Hickey FIC HICKEY

Hickey wonderfully describes the lush elegance of early 20th century Vienna in this tale about the relationship between artist Gustav Klimpt and the adolescent protégé who would become his muse and ultimately his mistress.

Luncheon at the Boating Party / by Susan Vreeland FIC VREELAND

In her latest fictional rendition chronicling the events surrounding a famous painting, Vreeland tracks artist August Renoir as he labors under the Paris sun on his impressionist masterpiece, "Luncheon of the Boating Party". Accompanying the often unpleasant heat is the stress of trying to get just the right people in just the right light, not to mention the unwanted attention of critical onlookers and a host of other distractions.

See also:

[The Forest Lover](#)

[Girl in Hyacinth Blue](#)

[The Passion of Artemesia](#)

[Life Studies](#)

The Caves of Perigord / by Martin Walker FIC WALKER

This book tells the story of the actual Caves of Perigord (France), one of the most well-known cave paintings, through the voice of the prehistoric artist who painted it. Simultaneously, a modern day scholar researches the artwork thousands of years later.