

MYSTERY

The Excalibur Murders / by J.M.C. Blair MYS BLAIR

Contrary to popular belief, Merlin is no magician, only a court scholar and advisor to King Arthur during the early days of English sovereignty. But when some precious stones and the actual sword Excalibur are stolen from the castle and one of Arthur's knights is murdered in the process, it's up to Merlin to investigate the case.

The Law of Angels / by Cassandra Clark MYS CLARK

In 1385, Sister Hildegard has established a religious retreat in the quaint town of Deepdale where she ministers to those nearby. When two youngsters are attacked by bandits for no apparent reason, Hildegard believes there's foul play afoot. Thinking it safer to relocate with the victims to a safer place, the nun with a knack for problem solving tries to find out why anyone would want to murder these two innocent looking youths.

Nightshade: A Hugh Corbett Mystery / by P.C. Doherty MYS DOHERTY

Hugh Corbett, in service of his majesty King Edward I, is sent to investigate the case of an renegade local lord who's refused to relinquish a priceless relic he found during the Crusades. Furthermore, he has accused several Knights Templar of heresy and is suspected of murdering a few.

A Play of Piety: A Joliffe the Player Mystery / by Margaret Frazer MYS FRAZER

Joliffe the Player has returned from his stint as an undercover spy in Normandy to resume his role in his beloved theatrical troupe. But Basset their leader has come down with an awful case of arthritis and the troupe remains inactive. To fill the time, Joliffe acts as a physician's assistant, on the sly, begins to investigate a potential murder.

The Killer of Pilgrims / by Susanna Gregory MYS GREGORY

During the earliest years of Cambridge University, a wealthy patron of the school is found murdered. Meanwhile a serial thief is preying on vulnerable pilgrims and it falls on Brother Michael and Matthey Bartholomew to solve both cases.

The Oath / by Michael Jecks MYS JECKS

In 1326 in a country rife with war and conflict, county bailiff Simon Puttock is asked by Sir Roger Mortimer to investigate the isolated slaughter of a family of five. Three more vicious murders occur before Simon can even begin looking for clues and before long the case becomes a web of intrigue as hidden secrets are revealed.

Chalice of Blood: A Mystery of Ancient Ireland / by Peter Tremayne MYS TREMAYNE

In 670 A.D., the murder of an esteemed monk and scholar has occurred at the Abbey of Lios Mor in Ireland. The killer has absconded with an important manuscript containing some cryptic writings. With haste Abbot Iarnla sends for savvy sleuth Sister Fidelma and her companion Brother Eadulf to investigate the matter.

The Demon's Parchment: A Crispin Guest Medieval Noir / by Jeri Westerson MYS WESTERSON

In fourteenth century London, Crispin Guest is a defrocked knight making ends meet doing undercover work for hire. "The Tracker" as he's come to be known for his uncanny knack for ferreting out secret information, Guest has now been enlisted by one of the royal physicians, a Jew, who needs to locate a stolen parchment on which some potentially demonic incantations are written.

SCIENCE FICTION

The Enterprise of Death / by Jesse Bullington SF BULLINGT

Awa is a Moorish slave accompanying her mistress on a sea voyage when their ship is marooned on an island off the coast of Spain. When her party's captured by a necromancer, an ancient sorcerer with the power to raise the dead, Awa comes under his tutelage, ultimately learning his black arts only to have him place a curse on her when she attempts to escape.

Paradise War / by Steve Lawhead SF LAWHEAD

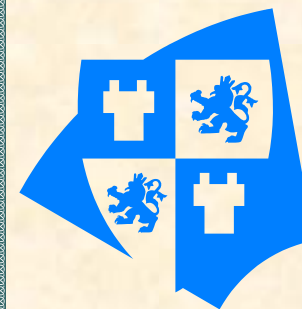
Oxford graduate student Lewis Gillies has always been fascinated by Celtic mythology. So he eagerly agrees to join a friend on weekend trip to the tip of Scotland in search of a mythical spot where magical occurrences are reported to have happened. Suddenly he's engulfed into a magical portal which transports him back in time a thousand years to the age of the Celts.

Hellfire: Plague of Dragons / by Robert Weinberg; illus. by Tom Wood SF WOOD

As the Black Plague ravages its way across the European continent, laying waste to entire towns and cities, another deadly menace preys on humanity all the while. Ship merchant Robertus of Avignon is among the few who actually lives to tell about the scourge which imparted its own damage no less horrifying and every bit as deadly.

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NEWER MEDIEVAL FICTION



FICTION

Sins of the House of Borgia / by Sarah Bower

FIC BOWER

Following her baptism, Jewish orphan Esther Safarti becomes a lady in waiting to the widowed Lucrezia Borgia. Exposed to the heinous corruption of the papal court, Esther is nonetheless entranced by its glamorous aura.

The King's Mistress: A Novel / by Emma Campion

FIC CAMPION

The daughter of modest English nobility in the mid-14th century, Alice Salisbury is a good, obedient girl who at the age of fourteen is wed to merchant Janyn Perrer. But when Janyn disappears under dubious circumstances, Alice fears for her life until she's brought under the protection of King Edward III, a man who has more than just Alice's safety in mind.

Lady of the English / by Elizabeth Chadwick

FIC CHADWICK

There are many in the English royal court who'd like to prevent Matilda, daughter of Henry I, to succeed her father on the throne. Some within her own family even, like her widowed mother's second husband, fight to preserve not only a preferred line of succession but to keep a woman from being the monarch. But Matilda's adversaries don't know the strength she possesses to remain steadfast in her duty to lead her country.

The Burning Land: A Novel / by Bernard Cornwell

FIC CORNWELL

In ninth-century Britain, the once youthful King Alfred the Great has grown old and feeble and is ill-equipped to defend his kingdom against the marauding Viking raiders. Having to hire outside help, he secures the aid of vicious mercenary Uhtred the Saxon, a mercenary who defends the honor of the king amid perilous circumstances and treacherous schemes.

The Maid: A Novel of Joan of Arc / by Kimberly Cutter

FIC CUTTER

The war that would last one hundred years was being fought between France and England. Following multiple defeats at the hands of the English, Charles VII of France finds an unlikely hero in a young peasant girl named Jehanne (Joan). Claiming to have received divine inspiration, the young maid rallies the French forces to victory in numerous battles only to be captured by the enemy and denounced for heresy.

Holy Warrior: A Novel of Robin Hood / by Angus Donald

FIC DONALD

In 1190 A.D., Richard the Lionheart has assumed his rightful position as King of England. His first order of business is to take up arms in a crusade to reclaim the Holy Land with his most trusted nobility in-tow. Among them is a fearless knight named Robin of Locksley, as good a fighter and as battle tested a warrior as Richard possesses.

Queen By Right / by Anne Easter Smith

FIC EASTERSM

Things have worked out rather well for Cecily Neville and Richard, Duke of York. Having met and been informally betrothed to one another since Cecily was 9 and Richard was 13, the match was intended to consolidate power within the House of York and could have turned out very unfavorably on a personal level. But the pair were soul mates from the beginning. Now if they could only weather the coming storm in a war between their own House and that of the Plantagenets.

Lady of the Rivers / by Philippa Gregory

FIC GREGORY

In this adapted true life tale of Jacquetta of Luxembourg, the origins of the Tudor dynasty are set in motion when a youthful but mystically inclined Jacquetta is married to John, Duke of Lancaster, an English nobleman who dies early in the marriage. Soon after the widowed Jacquetta weds Sir Richard Woodville and begins a family only to see her own life and legacy become caught up in the escalating political tensions between the Houses of Lancaster and York. see also: The Red Queen (FIC GREGORY)

The Stolen Crown / by Susan Higginbotham

FIC HIGGINBO

During England's turbulent War of the Roses, King Edward IV marries local noblewoman Elizabeth Woodville in secret, an action enabling Elizabeth's sister Katherine to wed Henry Stafford, the Duke of Buckingham. Though a mostly happy marriage, the union between Katherine and Henry suffers from the inevitable turmoil during one of the country's most critical periods.

The King's Witch / by Cecelia Holland

FIC HOLLAND

Under the grueling circumstances that encompass the Third Crusade, death by disease and pestilence is as common as being killed in battle. Fortunately for King Richard, he has a secret ally in a mysterious woman claiming to have been sent by his mother. The woman, Edythe, remains under suspicion until her extraordinary healing gifts come into play at just the right time.

I Am The Chosen King / by Helen Hollick

FIC HOLLICK

Early in the 11th century England, Harold Godwinsson is last of his line as heir to the Saxon throne. Despite numerous political factions and divisions plaguing his kingdom, Harold does his best as head of a nation that stares down an inevitable civil war as neighboring rivals and other foreign entities feel entitled to the kingdom.

By Fire, By Water: A Novel / by Mitchell James Kaplan

FIC KAPLAN

During the Spanish Inquisition, court chancellor Luis de Santangel is becoming disgusted by the church's abuse of power. As the violence around him grows, Santangel reconnects with his Jewish roots to discover a means of combating the atrocities.

Queen Hereafter / by Susan Fraser King

FIC KING

In eleventh-century Scotland, a young Saxon princess Margaret and members of her family seek refuge from the Normans. In exchange for their safety, Celtic ruler Malcolm Canmore asks the hand of the fair princess anticipating a political alliance between the two families.

Queen Defiant: A Novel of Eleanor of Aquitaine /

by Anne O'Brien

FIC OBRIEN

Eleanor, Duchess of Aquitaine, seeks a strong husband and royal ally to help maintain her hold on her vast land holdings. But her arranged marriage to Louis VII, King of France, has turned out badly and now the still young queen must decide what to do next.

The Lion of Cairo / by Scott Oden

FIC ODEN

In thirteenth century Egypt, Caliph Rashid al-Hasan rules over a crumbling empire. Beset on all sides by enemies wishing to claim the Nile for their own purposes, Rashid sees little hope for his once proud kingdom. That is, until a mysterious warrior, an assassin calling himself Emir of the Knife arrives, evidently sent to help fight back Caliph's adversaries.

Lionheart / by Sharon Kay Penman

FIC PENMAN

One of only two surviving sons of Henry of Plantagenet and Eleanor of Aquitaine, Richard is no sooner on the throne following his father's death than he's engulfed in a crusade to reclaim the Holy Land. Marching toward a pivotal war against the formidable Saladin and the Muslim hoard, Richard must defer his duties as King to his younger brother John.

The Borgia Betrayal: A Novel / by Sara Poole

FIC POOLE

In 1493, new Pope Alexander IV is settling in to his new job. At his side is Francesca, a dangerous woman partly responsible for getting Alexander his seat in St. Peter's. Only now Francesca's very life is in danger from those she's deceived and betrayed.

Captive Queen: A Novel of Eleanor of Aquitaine /

by Alison Weir

FIC WEIR

Queen Eleanor, wife to King Louis VII of France, is almost 30 when she meets the dynamic young King Henry II of England and the pair fall passionately in love. When her marriage to Louis is successfully annulled, Eleanor marries Henry and becomes a new queen over a new kingdom.