

Nina Blazon

Die Königsmalerin

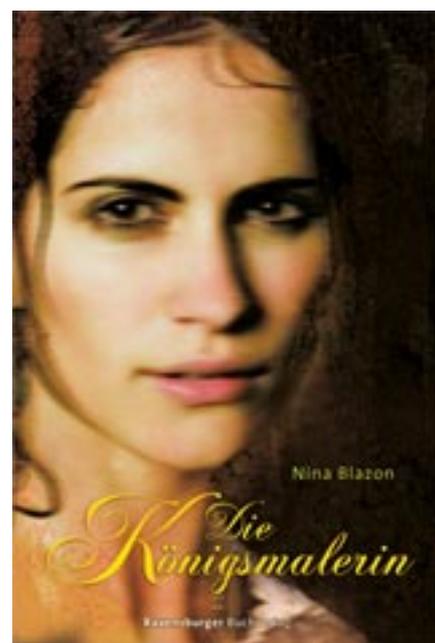
THE KING'S ARTIST

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Nina Blazon focuses on one of the most significant painters of the sixteenth century: Sofonisba Anguissola. From 1560 to 1571 the Italian artist was a court painter at the Spanish king's court. In Madrid, Sofonisba meets another young artist, Lucia, who secretly paints portraits of condemned heretics. The Inquisition uncovers this sacrilege and Lucia may be burned at the stake for it ...

CONTENT

In 1560, the young Italian painter is summoned to the Spanish court. There she meets King Philip and is torn between his personality and his politics; the Inquisition troubles her greatly. Sofonisba establishes a studio and immerses herself in her work. Naturally, she has contact with the nobility. One aristocratic family asks Sofonisba to critique the paintings of their daughter, Lucia, whose work consists of religious images of saints. One picture of Maria is particularly fascinating, with a very unique expression. Sofonisba takes an interest in Lucia and invites the young girl to help out in her studio. Walking through the city one day, Sofonisba passes Lucia's home and witnesses people being arrested and covered paintings being removed from the house. A short time later, the clergy request that Sofonisba examine Lucia's confiscated pictures. During the trial it comes out that Lucia had sketched heretics on their way to the stake, then immortalized them as saints or Virgin Mary! Sofonisba understands that Lucia's intention was to restore their dignity, and uses every bit of her sharp wit to keep Lucia herself from being burned at the stake. A daring plan ensures that the bonfire of Lucia's paintings is burned without the girl.



THE AUTHOR

Nina Blazon, born in 1969, studied Slavic and German Studies and completed an internship in the field of editing. She taught at several universities, wrote copy for an advertising agency for four years, and has been a freelance journalist for daily newspapers and magazines. Since 2003 she has written books for children and teens in the genres of fantasy, historical fiction and mysteries. With her books, Nina Blazon aims to take her readers along on dazzling, exciting journeys from which they return exhilarated and inspired. The author lives and works in Baden-Wurtemberg.

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