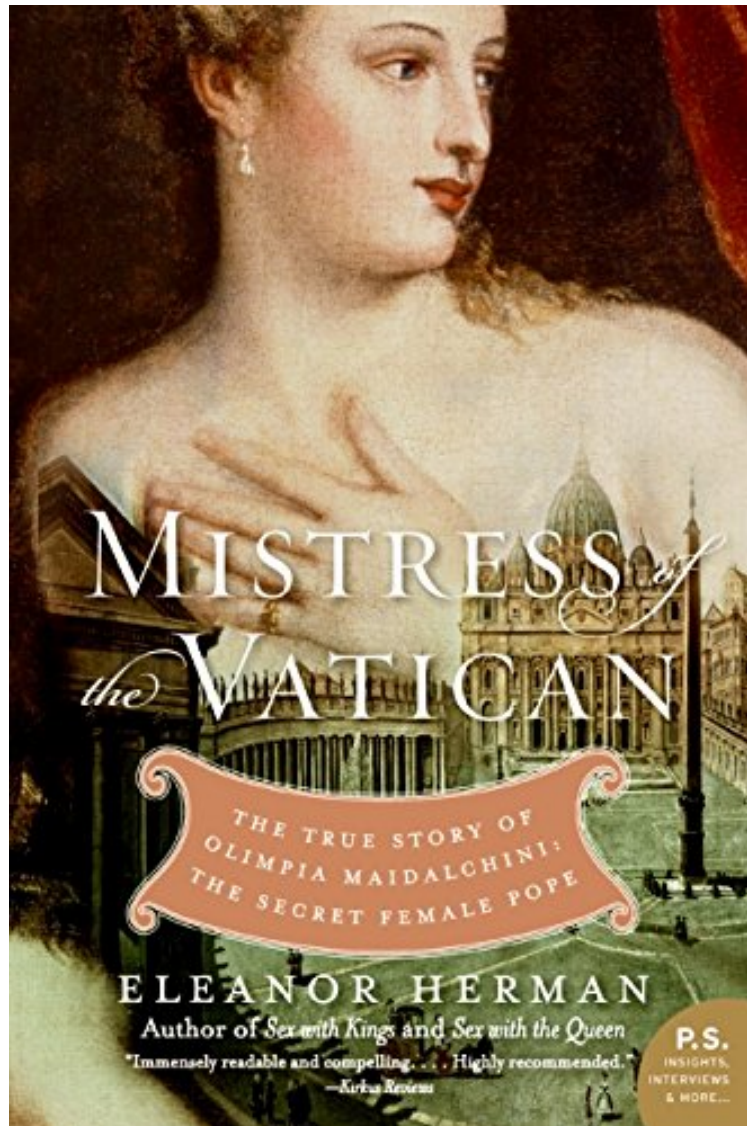


[Free] Mistress of the Vatican: The True Story of Olimpia Maidalchini: The Secret Female Pope

Mistress of the Vatican: The True Story of Olimpia Maidalchini: The Secret Female Pope

Eleanor Herman

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#279441 in Books Eleanor Herman 2009-09-08 2009-09-08 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x 1.12 x 5.311, .79 #File Name: 0061245569496 pages Mistress of the Vatican The True Story of Olimpia Maidalchini The Secret Female Pope | File size: 16.Mb

Eleanor Herman : Mistress of the Vatican: The True Story of Olimpia Maidalchini: The Secret Female Pope before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mistress of the Vatican: The True Story of Olimpia Maidalchini: The Secret Female Pope:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Feminist in the Vatican By K. Gaylin I love history and a few years

ago visited the two palaces in Rome where Olimpia called home. However, I never expected this to be such compelling reading. Ms. Herman's exhaustive research is illuminating rather than pedantic. You will learn a great deal about Ms. MIdalchini, the Byzantine politics of the Vatican and the complicated power plays in Europe. Olympia was a remarkable woman by any definition but quite extraordinary when one considers the chauvinistic attitudes of Baroque Europe. This book makes history come alive and is well with the reader's time.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful and ImportantBy Lavinia WhatelyThis is a true story I doubt you'll ever learn in Sunday School, history class or on the History Channel. Eleanor has written a very well documented, well written and interesting book. Authors like her do a great service to the public by bringing important history from academia to the rest of us. Commercial books also have the freedom to give perspective and interpretation that is frankly forbidden in academia. Thank you, Eleanor, for a great book. Fascinating and also disconcerting history. And how you wrote about her death was very moving.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Oh, Olimpia!By D. DeTarsioOh, Olimpia! This NEEDS to be an HBO miniseries. In our own current turbulent times, it is so refreshing (or scary) to realize politics are politics, and always have been. This book does a masterful job of personalizing this time period and bringing those characters to life! I laughed at the statues (one behind Olimpia's house, the other across town, where pundits of the day posted gossip and had the statues "talk" to each other)the first Twitter. What a lovely respite from the noise of our own world!

Eleanor Herman, the talented author of the New York Times bestselling *Sex with Kings* and *Sex with the Queen* goes behind the sacred doors of the Catholic Church in *Mistress of the Vatican*, a scintillating biography of a powerful yet little-known woman whose remarkable story is ripe with secrets, sex, passion, and ambition. For almost four centuries this astonishing story of a woman's absolute power over the Vatican has been successfully buried until now.

From Publishers WeeklyStarred . In this engrossing "forgotten story" of the Vatican, Herman (*Sex with the Queen*) relays not only the life of 17th Century Papal puppet-master Olimpia Maidalchini, but the political and social history of her age, including glimpses of art and architecture, family relations, medical care, religious traditions and daily life. Born into a family of average means, Maidalchini rebelled successfully against her father's plans to place her in a convent. This early triumph gave her a will that she'd eventually use to grab the ultimate seat of power in 17th century Italy, the Papacy, through the likely accomplice of her indecisive brother-in-law, a lawyer with holy orders who was dazzled by Maidalchini's intelligence, planning and accounting capabilities. He submitted to her plans, and she eventually ushered him into power as Pope Innocent X. As her wealth and strength grow, so does the resentment around her, but her fate would be sealed by the bubonic plague. Exhaustively researched, with historical vignettes interwoven seamlessly, Herman's latest provides a window into an age of empire, nepotism and intrigue that rivals any novel for fascinating reading. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. ...immensely readable and compelling...An expert on and descendant of European royal families, she skillfully uses letters, diaries, newsheets of the time, and biographies to tell this personal tale, set during unforgiving times. Highly recommended for public and academic libraries. (Kirkus s) "...immensely readable and compelling...An expert on and descendant of European royal families, she skillfully uses letters, diaries, newsheets of the time, and biographies to tell this personal tale, set during unforgiving times. Highly recommended for public and academic libraries." (Kirkus s)