

# To Dance With Kings Rosalind Laker

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[The Vatican Princess](#) - C. W. Gortner 2016-02-09

For fans of Philippa Gregory and Alison Weir, bestselling author C. W. Gortner effortlessly weaves history and drama in this captivating novel about one of the world's most notorious families. Glamorous and predatory, the Borgias fascinated and terrorized fifteenth-century Renaissance Italy, and Lucrezia Borgia, beloved daughter of the pope, was at the center of the dynasty's ambitions. Slandered as a heartless seductress who lured men to their doom, was she in fact the villainess of legend, or was she trapped in a familial web, forced to choose between loyalty and survival? With the ascension of the Spaniard Rodrigo Borgia as Pope Alexander VI, a new era has dawned in Rome. Benefitting from their father's elevation are the new pope's illegitimate children—his rival sons, Cesare and Juan, and beautiful young daughter Lucrezia—each of whom assumes an exalted position in the papal court. Privileged and adored, Lucrezia yearns to escape her childhood and play a part in her family's fortunes. But Rome is seductive and dangerous: Alliances shift at a moment's notice as Italy's ruling dynasties strive to keep rivals at bay. As Lucrezia's father faces challenges from all sides, the threat of a French invasion forces him to marry her off to a powerful adversary. But when she discovers the brutal truth behind her alliance, Lucrezia is plunged into a perilous gambit that will require all her wits, cunning, and guile. Escaping her marriage offers the chance of happiness with a passionate prince of Naples, yet as scandalous accusations of murder and incest build against her, menacing those she loves, Lucrezia must risk everything to overcome the lethal fate imposed upon her by her Borgia blood. Beautifully wrought, rich with fascinating historical detail, *The Vatican Princess* is the first novel to describe Lucrezia's coming-of-age in her own voice. What results is a dramatic, vivid tale set in an era of savagery and unparalleled splendor, where enemies and allies can be one and the same, and where loyalty to family can ultimately be a curse. Praise for *The Vatican Princess* "In a literary exploration riven with Shakespearean quantities of murder, lies, deceptions, and treachery, Gortner's narrative gains veracity with his atmospheric exploration of fashion, architecture, and art on the stage of 'loud, filthy, and dangerous' Rome. Gortner has imagined Lucrezia Borgia's life from a feminist perspective."—Kirkus Reviews "[Gortner] has invested his novel with impressive historical detail that is woven neatly into the threads of the story, and his afterword and references offer excellent insight."—Historical Novels Review "Assiduously researched and expertly crafted, this novel takes readers inside the treacherous world of the Borgias—one of history's most dysfunctional ruling families—and brings to life the sympathetic and freshly imagined character of their leading lady, Lucrezia. This unholy plunge into Rome's darkest dynasty is wholly engrossing."—Allison Pataki, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Sisi: Empress on Her Own* "The world of Renaissance Italy is vividly brought to life—I'm captivated by this knowledgeable author's take on the controversial Borgias."—Alison Weir, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Katherine of Aragon*, *The True Queen* "Impressive research, a lush background, and deft characterization of these turbulent times make for a fascinating read."—Margaret George, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Elizabeth I*  
*Ride the Blue Riband* - Rosalind Laker 1977

**To Dance with Kings** - Rosalind Laker 2007-05-22

An epic generational tale of loves lost, promises kept, dreams broken, and monarchies shattered, *To Dance with Kings* is a story of passion and privilege, humble beginnings and limitless ambition. On a May morning in 1664, in the small village of Versailles, as hundreds of young aristocrats are coming to pay court to King Louis XIV, a peasant fan-maker gives birth to her first and only child, Marguerite. Determined to give her daughter a better life than the one she herself has lived, the young mother vows to break the newborn's bonds of poverty and ensure that she fulfills her destiny—to dance with kings. Purely by chance, a drunken nobleman witnesses the birth and makes a reckless promise to return for Marguerite in seventeen years. With those fateful words, events are set into motion that will span three monarchies, affecting the lives of four generations of women. Marguerite becomes part of the royal court of the Sun King, but her fairy-tale existence is torn out from under her by a change of political winds. Jasmin, Marguerite's daughter, is born to the life of privilege her grandmother dreamed of, but tempts fate by daring to catch the eye of the king. Violette, Marguerite's granddaughter, is drawn to the nefarious side of life among the nobles at Versailles. And Rose, Violette's daughter, becomes a lady-in-waiting and confidante to Marie Antoinette. Through Rose, a love lost generations before will come full circle, even as the ground beneath Versailles begins to rumble with the chaos of the coming revolution.

[To Dance with Kings](#) - Rosalind Laker 1988

The lives and destinies of four determined women are set against the splendor of the sumptuous Palace of Versailles through the reigns of France's most spectacular Bourbon kings.

**When We Meet Again** - Caroline Beecham 2021-07-20

An emotionally compelling tale of love and mystery set in the publishing world of World War II London, *When We Meet Again* tells the story of a mother searching for her stolen child, and illustrates the unbreakable bonds among families, lovers, and readers under the shadow of war. London, 1943: War and dwindling resources have taken their toll on the book publishing industry, but Alice Cotton, a young editor at Partridge Press, has seen her star begin to rise. She has a knack for creating new books to distract readers from the grim realities of the war. And the demand for books is greater than ever, both on the battlefield and on the home front. But just as her hard work seems poised to pay off, Alice unexpectedly falls pregnant. Facing the stigma of being an unwed mother, Alice flees to a small town to give birth to her child, Eadie, whom her family has promised to help raise. Instead, her mother sells the newborn to "baby farmers" who plan to give the child up for a private adoption. Alice begins her desperate hunt to find the daughter she never planned for but suddenly deeply loves. Alice's story intertwines with that of Theo Bloom, an American editor tasked with helping Partridge Press overcome the publishing obstacles of the war. Theo and Alice are quickly drawn to each other during their darkest hours, bound by hope, love, secrets, and the belief that books have the power to change lives.

[The Things We Cannot Say](#) - Kelly Rimmer 2019-03-19

Now a *New York Times* bestseller! From the author of *Truths I Never Told You*, *Before I Let You Go*, and the *The Warsaw Orphan*, Kelly Rimmer's powerful WWII novel follows a woman's urgent

search for answers to a family mystery that uncovers truths about herself that she never expected. “Kelly Rimmer has outdone herself. I thought that *Before I Let You Go* was one of the best novels I had ever read...If you only have time to read one book this year *The Things We Cannot Say* should be that book. Keep tissues handy.”—Fresh Fiction “Fans of *The Nightingale* and *Lilac Girls* will adore *The Things We Cannot Say*.” —Pam Jenoff, New York Times bestselling author

In 1942, Europe remains in the relentless grip of war. Just beyond the tents of the Russian refugee camp she calls home, a young woman speaks her wedding vows. It’s a decision that will alter her destiny...and it’s a lie that will remain buried until the next century. Since she was nine years old, Alina Dziak knew she would marry her best friend, Tomasz. Now fifteen and engaged, Alina is unconcerned by reports of Nazi soldiers at the Polish border, believing her neighbors that they pose no real threat, and dreams instead of the day Tomasz returns from college in Warsaw so they can be married. But little by little, injustice by brutal injustice, the Nazi occupation takes hold, and Alina’s tiny rural village, its families, are divided by fear and hate. Then, as the fabric of their lives is slowly picked apart, Tomasz disappears. Where Alina used to measure time between visits from her beloved, now she measures the spaces between hope and despair, waiting for word from Tomasz and avoiding the attentions of the soldiers who patrol her parents’ farm. But for now, even deafening silence is preferable to grief. Slipping between Nazi-occupied Poland and the frenetic pace of modern life, Kelly Rimmer creates an emotional and finely wrought narrative. *The Things We Cannot Say* is an unshakable reminder of the devastation when truth is silenced...and how it can take a lifetime to find our voice before we learn to trust it. Don’t miss Kelly Rimmer’s latest gripping novel, *The German Wife*. For more by Kelly Rimmer, look for *Before I Let You Go* Truths I Never Told You *The Warsaw Orphan*

*To Calais, In Ordinary Time* - James Meek 2019-08-29

SHORTLISTED FOR THE WALTER SCOTT PRIZE FOR HISTORICAL FICTION LONGLISTED FOR THE ORWELL PRIZE FOR POLITICAL FICTION A BOOK OF THE YEAR IN THE TIMES, GUARDIAN, SUNDAY TIMES, DAILY EXPRESS, SCOTSMAN and SPECTATOR Three journeys. One road. England, 1348. A gentlewoman flees an odious arranged marriage, a Scots proctor sets out for Avignon and a young ploughman in search of freedom is on his way to volunteer with a company of archers. All come together on the road to Calais. Coming in their direction from across the Channel is the Black Death, the plague that will wipe out half of the population of Northern Europe. As the journey unfolds, overshadowed by the archers' past misdeeds and clerical warnings of the imminent end of the world, the wayfarers must confront the nature of their loves and desires. A tremendous feat of language and empathy, it summons a medieval world that is at once uncannily plausible, utterly alien and eerily reflective of our own. James Meek’s extraordinary *To Calais, In Ordinary Time* is a novel about love, class, faith, loss, gender and desire - set against one of the biggest cataclysms of human history.

***To Dance with Kings*** - Rosalind Laker 1988

On a May morning in 1664, in the small village of Versailles, a peasant fan-maker gives birth to her first and only child, Marguerite. Determined to give her daughter a better life than the one she herself has lived, the young mother vows to break the newborn’s bonds of poverty and ensure that she fulfills her destiny—to dance with kings. Purely by chance, a drunken nobleman witnesses the birth and makes a reckless promise to return for Marguerite in seventeen years. With those fateful words, events are set into motion that will span three monarchies, affecting the lives of four generations of women. Marguerite becomes part of the royal court of the Sun King, but her fairy-tale existence is torn out from under her by a change of political winds. Jasmin, Marguerite’s daughter, is born to the life of privilege her grandmother dreamed of, but tempts fate by daring to catch the eye of the king. Violette, Marguerite’s granddaughter, is drawn to the nefarious side of life among the nobles at Versailles. And Rose, Violette’s daughter, becomes a lady-in-waiting and confidante to Marie Antoinette. Through Rose, a love lost generations before will come full circle, even as the ground beneath Versailles begins to rumble with the chaos of the coming revolution. An epic generational tale of loves lost, promises kept, dreams broken, and

monarchies shattered, *To Dance with Kings* is a story of passion and privilege, humble beginnings and limitless ambition.

*Tulip Fever* - Deborah Moggach 2007-12-18

A sensual tale of art, lust, and deception—now a major motion picture In 1630s Amsterdam, tulipomania has seized the populace. Everywhere men are seduced by the fantastic exotic flower. But for wealthy merchant Cornelis Sandvoort, it is his young and beautiful wife, Sophia, who stirs his soul. She is the prize he desires, the woman he hopes will bring him the joy that not even his considerable fortune can buy. Cornelis yearns for an heir, but so far he and Sophia have failed to produce one. In a bid for immortality, he commissions a portrait of them both by the talented young painter Jan van Loos. But as Van Loos begins to capture Sophia's likeness on canvas, a slow passion begins to burn between the beautiful young wife and the talented artist. As the portrait unfolds, so a slow dance is begun among the household’s inhabitants. Ambitions, desires, and dreams breed a grand deception—and as the lies multiply, events move toward a thrilling and tragic climax. In this richly imagined international bestseller, Deborah Moggach has created the rarest of novels—a lush, lyrical work of fiction that is also compulsively readable. Seldom has a novel so vividly evoked a time, a place, and a passion. Praise for *Tulip Fever* “Sumptuous prose . . . reads like a thriller.”—The New York Times Book Review “An artful novel in every sense of the word . . . deftly evokes seventeenth-century Amsterdam’s vibrant atmosphere.”—Los Angeles Times “Need a brief escape into a beautiful and faraway world? Deborah Moggach’s wonderful *Tulip Fever* can offer you that.”—New York Post “Taut with suspense and unexpected revelations.”—Entertainment Weekly “Elegantly absorbing.”—The Philadelphia Inquirer

*Courtesan* - Diane Haeger 2006-07-25

Amid the disapproving gossip of the Court, a royal romance defies all obstacles. The Court of François I is full of lust, intrigue, and bawdy bon temps—a different world from the quiet country life Diane de Poitiers led with her elderly husband. Now a widow, the elegant Diane is called back to Court, where the King’s obvious interest marks her as an enemy to the King’s favourite, Anne d’Heilly. The Court is soon electrified by rumors of their confrontations. As Anne calls on her most venomous tricks to drive Diane away, Diane finds an ally in the one member of Court with no allegiance to the King’s mistress: his teenage second son, Henri. Neglected by his father and disliked by his brothers, Prince Henri expects little from his life. But as his friendship with Diane deepens into infatuation and then a romance that scandalizes the Court, the Prince begins to discover hope for a future with Diane. But fate and his father have other plans for Henri—including a political marriage with Catherine de Medici. Despite daunting obstacles, Henri’s devotion to Diane never wanes; their passion becomes one of the most legendary romances in the history of France. Also available as an eBook

*The House by the Fjord* - Rosalind Laker 2011-09-01

After losing her husband in World War II, an English widow finds a new life—and the promise of new love—in Norway . . . When Anna Harvik travels to Norway in 1946 in order to visit her late husband’s father, she intends to make it a quick visit. The country is only just recovering from five cruel years of Nazi occupation, and she expects to find it a cold and bitter place. But when she is offered a house in a secluded valley in which to stay, she slowly finds herself warming to the people around her, and learning about their experiences and history. Soon, she meets a man who may offer her a chance to start over, in this romantic saga that captures the emotions and drama of a world moving past upheaval and into a new future.

*To Dance with Kings* - Rosalind Laker 1988

The lives and destinies of four determined women are set against the splendor of the sumptuous Palace of Versailles through the reigns of France's most spectacular Bourbon kings.

*The Irish Princess* - Karen Harper 2011-02-01

A grand-scale historical novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *Mistress Shakespeare*. Born into a first family of Ireland, with royal ties on both sides, Elizabeth Fitzgerald—known as Gera—finds her world overturned when Henry VIII imprisons her father, the

Earl of Kildare, and brutally destroys her family. Torn from the home she loves, her remaining family scattered, Gera dares not deny the refuge offered her in England's glittering royal court. There she must navigate ever-shifting alliances even as she nurtures her secret desire for revenge. From County Kildare's lush green fields to London's rough-and-tumble streets and the royal court's luxurious pageantry, *The Irish Princess* follows the journey of a daring woman whose will cannot be tamed, and who won't be satisfied until she restores her family to its rightful place in Ireland.

**Haunting Paris** - Mamta Chaudhry 2020-05-19

Paris, 1989: Alone in her luminous apartment on Île Saint-Louis, Sylvie discovers a mysterious letter among her late lover Julien's possessions, launching her into a decades-old search for a child who vanished in the turbulence of the Second World War. She is unaware that she is watched over by Julien's ghost, his love for her powerful enough to draw him back to this world, though doomed now to remain a silent observer. Sylvie's quest leads her deep into the secrets of Julien's past, shedding new light on the dark days of Nazi-occupied Paris. A timeless story of love and loss, *Haunting Paris* matches emotional intensity with lyrical storytelling to explore grief, family secrets, and the undeniable power of memory.

**Warwyck's Woman** - Rosalind Laker 1983

**The Golden Tulip** - Rosalind Laker 2007-11-27

Francesca's father is a well-known painter in the bustling port city of Amsterdam; he is also a gambler. Though their household is in economic chaos, thankfully the lessons she learned in his studio have prepared her to study with Johannes Vermeer, the master of Delft. When she arrives to begin her apprenticeship, Francesca is stunned to find rules, written in her father's hand, insisting that she give up the freedoms she once enjoyed at home— including her friendship with Pieter van Doorne, a tulip merchant. Unaware of a terrible bargain her father has made against her future, Francesca pursues her growing affection for Pieter even as she learns to paint like Vermeer, in layers of light. As her talent blooms, "tulip mania" sweeps the land, and fortunes are being made on a single bulb. What seems like a boon for Pieter instead reveals the extent of the betrayal of Francesca's father. And as the two learn the true nature of the obstacles in their path, a patron of Francesca's father determines to do anything in his power to ensure she stays within the limits that have been set for her. *The Golden Tulip* brings one of the most exciting periods of Dutch history alive, creating a page-turning novel that is as vivid and unforgettable as a Vermeer painting.

**The Last Boleyn** - Karen Harper 2006-02-28

She survived her own innocence, and the treachery of Europe's royal courts; *The Last Boleyn* is the story of the rise and fall of the Boleyns, one of England's most powerful families, through the eyes of the eldest daughter, Mary. Although her sister, Anne, the queen; her brother, George, executed alongside Anne; and her father, Thomas, are most remembered by history, Mary was the Boleyn who set into motion the chain of events that brought about the family's meteoric rise to power, as well as the one who managed to escape their equally remarkable fall. Sent away to France at an extraordinarily young age, Mary is quickly plunged into the dangerous world of court politics, where everything is beautiful but deceptive, and everyone she meets is watching and quietly manipulating the events and people around them. As she grows into a woman, Mary must navigate both the dangerous waters ruled by two kings and the powerful will of her own family in order to find a place for herself and the love she so deeply desires.

*The Slave Dancer* - Paula Fox 2016-06-28

Newbery Medal Winner: A young Louisiana boy faces the horrors of slavery when he is kidnapped and forced to work on a slave ship in this iconic novel. Thirteen-year-old Jessie Bollier earns a few pennies playing his fife on the docks of New Orleans. One night, on his way home, a canvas is thrown over his head and he's knocked unconscious. When he wakes up, Jessie finds himself aboard a slave ship, bound for Africa. There, the *Moonlight* picks up ninety-eight black prisoners,

and the men, women, and children, chained hand and foot, are methodically crammed into the ship's hold. Jessie's job is to provide music for the slaves to dance to on the ship's deck—not for amusement but for exercise, as a way to keep their muscles strong and their bodies profitable. Over the course of the long voyage, Jessie grows more and more sickened by the greed of the sailors and the cruelty with which the slaves are treated. But it's one final horror, when the *Moonlight* nears her destination, that will change Jessie forever. Set during the middle of the nineteenth century, when the illegal slave trade was at its height, *The Slave Dancer* not only tells a vivid and shocking story of adventure and survival, but depicts the brutality of slavery with unflinching historical accuracy.

**The Sugar Pavilion** - Rosalind Laker 1995-01

*Peachtree Road* - Anne Rivers Siddons 2009-10-13

"A blockbuster of a novel. . . . *Peachtree Road* is the meaty and absorbing story of a city turned on to power and of the privileged inhabitants who led it to its current station as a mecca of business, culture, and progress. . . . To say this book is potent does not come close to doing it justice. More than merely powerful, it is mesmerizing, enthralling, and totally unforgettable." — *Chattanooga Free Press* A masterful tale of love, hate, and rebellion set in an elite world of class and wealth, New York Times bestselling author Anne Rivers Siddons's *Peachtree Road* is the unforgettable story of the turbulent growth of a great Southern city and of two people cursed by blood and birth. Headstrong, independent, and devastatingly beautiful Lucy Bondurant Chastain Venable will never become the demure Southern lady her family requires—while her older cousin, Sheppard Gibbs Bondurant III, is too shy and bookish, a far cry from the suave, gregarious Southern gentleman he's expected to be. In the Bondurants' sprawling home on Atlanta's *Peachtree Road*, these two will be united by a fierce tainted love—and torn apart by a smoldering rage fanned by the cruelty of years and the unbending demands of privilege.

*Garlands of Gold* - Rosalind Laker 2011-04-01

"Filled with rich period detail, this historical romance will appeal to readers who enjoy learning about other cultures and times." —*Booklist* In seventeenth-century Rotterdam, young Saskia is lady's maid to wealthy English merchant's wife. But her talent for manufacturing beautifying face balms far exceeds her lowly status. When the Gibbons family returns to England, Saskia goes with them and sets up in business selling the beauty products which have earned her a devoted clientele. But as she finds success in this new pursuit, she secretly dreams of winning the heart of her employer's son, the woodcarver Grinling Gibbons, who is destined for great things . . . Based on real historical characters, this is a tale of passion, ambition, and an enterprising young woman ahead of her time.

*A Dangerous Inheritance* - Alison Weir 2012-10-02

In this engrossing novel of historical suspense, New York Times bestselling author Alison Weir tells the dramatic intertwined stories of two women—Katherine Grey and Kate Plantagenet—separated by time but linked by twin destinies . . . involving the mysterious tragic fate of the young Princes in the Tower. When her older sister, Lady Jane Grey, the Nine Days' Queen, is executed in 1554 for unlawfully accepting the English crown, Lady Katherine Grey's world falls apart. Barely recovered from this tragic loss she risks all for love, only to incur the wrath of her formidable cousin Queen Elizabeth I, who sees Katherine as a rival for her insecure throne. Interlaced with Katherine's story is that of her distant kinswoman Kate Plantagenet, the bastard daughter of Richard III, the last Plantagenet king. In 1483, Kate travels to London for Richard's coronation, and her world changes forever. Kate loves her father, but before long she hears terrible rumors about him that threaten all she holds dear. Like Katherine Grey, she falls in love with a man who is forbidden to her. Then Kate embarks on what will become a perilous quest, covertly seeking the truth about what befell her cousins the Princes in the Tower, who may have been victims of Richard III's lust for power. But time is not on Kate's side, or on Katherine's. Katherine finds herself a prisoner in the Tower of London, the sinister fortress that overshadowed the lives of so

many royal figures, including the boy princes. Will Elizabeth demand the full penalty for treason? And what secrets will Katherine find hidden within the Tower walls? Alison Weir's new novel is a page-turning story set within a framework of fascinating historical authenticity. In this rich and layered tapestry, Katherine and Kate discover that possessing royal blood can prove to be a dangerous inheritance. Look for special features inside and an excerpt from Alison Weir's *Captive Queen*. Join the Random House Reader's Circle for author chats and more. Praise for *A Dangerous Inheritance* "Highly compelling [with] plenty to keep readers enthralled."—*Historical Novel Review* "A page turner . . . too juicy to put down . . . Alison Weir's strong suit as a fiction writer is making her novels living history."—*The Courier-Journal* "With its evident in-depth research and creative twists, this tale of two women trying to make sense of the power of the English crown . . . is nothing short of riveting."—*Library Journal* (starred review) "No one alive knows as much about the Tudors as Weir. . . . Any reader of Hilary Mantel's excellent Tudor evocations will want to explore this book as well."—*Kirkus Reviews* "Stunning . . . A richly layered cake of love, sex, danger, death, and mystery."—*Sunday Express* (UK)

***Gilded Splendour*** - Rosalind Laker 2016-07-14

In the summer of 1737, a young apprentice carpenter at Nostell Priory in Yorkshire lovingly creates an invalid chair for a convalescent visitor. But although the tender love born between the humble carpenter, Thomas Chippendale, and the young noblewoman, Isabella Woodleigh, can never be openly declared, their lives are destined to remain intricately and intimately linked. Thomas's career will be remarkable, his destiny to be the most renowned of English cabinet-makers. From a background of poverty, with low prospects, he works tirelessly to perfect his craft and his life is transformed. Yet the memory of Isabella, her absence and what might have been, continues to haunt him. Isabella, romantic and gentle, will suffer a crueler fate in her search for love and fulfilment. Great misfortune comes her way when she is forced to make amends for the actions of her cruel sister Sarah and their ruthless mother. When Sarah learns she is to be married to a wealthy older man, undesirable in every aspect apart from his money, she pursues a flirtation with Thomas to ensure the marriage is called off. Deeply wounded and desperate to ensure the safety of her family, Isabella resorts to drastic measures. The life that awaits her becomes a nightmare and it is only until her new home is visited by death that she escapes. Despite their wildly different courses in life, the unbreakable bond forged that summer between Isabella and Thomas will always hold them close... *Gilded Splendour* is a powerful story of love, loyalty and destiny, from best-selling romantic novelist Rosalind Laker. Rosalind Laker is a best-selling novelist that has been published all over the world, with her works translated into twenty languages. The author of over forty historical novels, her first work was published in 1970; *Warwyck's Wife* is the first of her acclaimed Easthampton trilogy and is followed by *Claudine's Daughter* and *The Warwycks of Easthampton*. She is also the author of *Banners of Silk*, *Tree of Gold*, *The Silver Touch* and *To Dance With Kings*. She lives with her Norwegian husband in Sussex. Endeavour Press is the UK's leading independent digital publisher. For more information on our titles please sign up to our newsletter at [www.endeavourpress.com](http://www.endeavourpress.com). Each week you will receive updates on free and discounted ebooks. Follow us on Twitter: @EndeavourPress and on Facebook via <http://on.fb.me/1HweQV7>. We are always interested in hearing from our readers. Endeavour Press believes that the future is now.

***The Court Dancer*** - Kyung-Sook Shin 2018-08-07

When a novice French diplomat arrives for an audience with the Emperor, he is enraptured by the Joseon Dynasty's magnificent culture, then at its zenith. But all fades away when he sees Yi Jin perform the traditional Dance of the Spring Oriole. Though well aware that women of the court belong to the palace, the young diplomat confesses his love to the Emperor, and gains permission for Yi Jin to accompany him back to France. A world away in Belle Epoque Paris, Yi Jin lives a free, independent life, away from the gilded cage of the court, and begins translating and publishing Joseon literature into French with another Korean student. But even in this new world, great sorrow awaits her. Betrayal, jealousy, and intrigue abound, culminating with the tragic

assassination of the last Joseon empress—and the poisoned pages of a book. Rich with historic detail and filled with luminous characters, Korea's most beloved novelist brings a lost era to life in a story that will resonate long after the final page.

***To Dance with Kings, Vol. II*** - Rosalind Laker 1988

The lives and destinies of four determined women are set against the splendor of the sumptuous Palace of Versailles through the reigns of France's most spectacular Bourbon kings.

***A Dance in Donegal*** - Jennifer Deibel 2021-02-02

"Deibel's descriptions of Ireland's landscape, enticing cuisine, sonorous language, and vibrant culture converge to form a spectacular background for the story."--*BookPage* starred review All of her life, Irish-American Moira Doherty has relished her mother's descriptions of Ireland. When her mother dies unexpectedly in the summer of 1920, Moira decides to fulfill her mother's wish that she become the teacher in Ballymann, her home village in Donegal, Ireland. After an arduous voyage, Moira arrives to a new home and a new job in an ancient country. Though a few locals offer a warm welcome, others are distanced by superstition and suspicion. Rumors about Moira's mother are unspoken in her presence but threaten to derail everything she's journeyed to Ballymann to do. Moira must rely on the kindness of a handful of friends--and the strength of Sean, an unsettlingly handsome thatcher who keeps popping up unannounced--as she seeks to navigate a life she'd never dreamed of . . . but perhaps was meant to live. Jennifer Deibel's debut novel delights the senses, bringing to life the sights, sounds, smells, and language of a lush country and a colorful people. Historical romance fans will embrace her with open arms. "God's redemptive love is the highlight of this debut work . . . Fans of historical Christian romances in the vein of Kristi Ann Hunter and Jen Turano will want to keep an eye on Deibel."--*Library Journal* "Deibel's exemplarily executed debut is a touching tale of love and forgiveness that also beautifully captures the warmth and magic of 1920s Ireland. The author's flair for vivid characterization is especially striking in Moira, whose realistic struggles with her faith give her memorable depth and relatability."--*Booklist*

***Confessions of Marie Antoinette*** - Juliet Grey 2013-09-24

A novel for fans of Philippa Gregory and Michelle Moran, *Confessions of Marie Antoinette* blends rich historical detail with searing drama, bringing to life the first years of the French Revolution and the final days of the legendary French queen. Versailles, 1789. As the burgeoning rebellion reaches the palace gates, Marie Antoinette finds her privileged and peaceful life swiftly upended by violence. Once her loyal subjects, the people of France now seek to overthrow the crown, placing the heirs of the Bourbon dynasty in mortal peril. Displaced to the Tuileries Palace in Paris, the royal family is propelled into the heart of the Revolution. There, despite a few staunch allies, they are surrounded by cunning spies and vicious enemies. Yet despite the political and personal threats against her, Marie Antoinette remains, above all, a devoted wife and mother, standing steadfastly by her husband, Louis XVI, and protecting their young son and daughter. And though the queen secretly attempts to arrange her family's rescue from the clutches of the rebels, she finds that they can neither outrun the dangers encircling them nor escape their shocking fate. Advance praise for *Confessions of Marie Antoinette* "Juliet Grey brings her trilogy on Marie Antoinette's life to a triumphant finale, depicting with sensitivity and compelling vividness the collapse of a bygone glamorous world and the courageous transformation of its ill-fated queen."—C. W. Gortner, author of *The Queen's Vow* "A heartfelt journey with Marie Antoinette in her wrenching last days . . . We see the end looming that is still veiled from her eyes, and knowing her hopes are in vain makes it all the more poignant. Far from the 'let them eat cake' woman of legend, Juliet Grey's Marie Antoinette reveals herself to be a person we can admire for her courage, her loyalty, and her love of her family and her adopted country, France."—Margaret George Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader's Circle for author chats and more.

***To Dance with Kings, Vol. 1*** - Rosalind Laker 1988

The lives and destinies of four determined women are set against the splendor of the sumptuous

Palace of Versailles through the reigns of France's most spectacular Bourbon kings.

**To Dance with Kings, Vol. 2** - Rosalind Laker 1988

**The Shadow Queen** - Sandra Gulland 2014-04-08

From the author of the beloved Josephine B. Trilogy, comes a spellbinding novel inspired by the true story of a young woman who rises from poverty to become confidante to the most powerful, provocative and dangerous woman in the 17th century French court: the mistress of the charismatic Sun King. 1660, Paris Claudette's life is like an ever-revolving stage set. From an impoverished childhood wandering the French countryside with her family's acting troupe, Claudette finally witnesses her mother's astonishing rise to stardom in Parisian theaters. Working with playwrights Corneille, Molière and Racine, Claudette's life is culturally rich, but like all in the theatrical world at the time, she's socially scorned. A series of chance encounters gradually pull Claudette into the alluring orbit of Athénaïs de Montespan, mistress to Louis XIV and reigning "Shadow Queen." Needing someone to safeguard her secrets, Athénaïs offers to hire Claudette as her personal attendant. Enticed by the promise of riches and respectability, Claudette leaves the world of the theater only to find that court is very much like a stage, with outward shows of loyalty masking more devious intentions. This parallel is not lost on Athénaïs, who fears political enemies are plotting her ruin as young courtesans angle to take the coveted spot in the king's bed. Indeed, Claudette's "reputable" new position is marked by spying, illicit trysts and titanic power struggles. As Athénaïs, becomes ever more desperate to hold onto the King's favor, innocent love charms move into the realm of deadly Black Magic, and Claudette is forced to consider a move that will put her own life—and the family she loves so dearly—at risk. Set against the gilded opulence of a newly-constructed Versailles and the War of Theaters, THE SHADOW QUEEN is a seductive, gripping novel about the lure of wealth, the illusion of power, and the increasingly uneasy relationship between two strong-willed women whose actions could shape the future of France.

**The Light of Amsterdam** - David Park 2013-01-01

It is December in Belfast, Christmas is approaching and three sets of people are about to make their way to Amsterdam. Alan, a university art teacher, goes on a pilgrimage to the city of his youth with troubled teenage son Jack; middle-aged couple Marion and Richard take a break from running their garden centre to celebrate Marion's birthday; and Karen, a single mother struggling to make ends meet, joins her daughter's hen party. As these people brush against each other in the squares, museums and parks of Amsterdam, their lives are transfigured as they encounter the complexities of love in a city that challenges what has gone before.

**A Cupboard Full of Coats** - Yvonne Edwards 2012-07-31

"[A] gorgeously lyrical debut novel....Engrossing and human to the core, Edwards's novel wrings the heart in the most tender of ways." —Publishers Weekly (starred review) "The novel is high drama, full of breathtaking tension, and, at times, brought to mind the works of Arthur Miller and August Wilson, both of whom knew a thing or two about secrets spilled across a kitchen table." —Attica Locke, author of Black Water Rising Soon the name on every fiction lover's lips will be Yvonne Edwards, thanks to her extraordinary debut novel, A Cupboard Full of Coats. Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, one of Great Britain's most prestigious literary awards, and named one of Kirkus Review's Best Books of the Year, Edwards's powerful first novel is at once a poignant family drama and a gripping mystery—page-turning literature with an exhilarating infusion of noir. It is the story of Jinx, who believes she played a pivotal role in her mother's murder, until an old acquaintance appears at her door with seductive air, a long, strange story, and, quite possibly, the bitter truth. A truly stunning work of contemporary literary fiction that packs an emotional punch and keeps readers guessing to the end, A Cupboard Full of Coats is already being compared by critics to the novels of the master, Ruth Rendell.

**The Silver Touch** - Rosalind Laker 1987

In eighteenth-century England, Hester Bateman marries a young silversmith apprentice and, while

raising a family of six, struggles against poverty to become the matriarch of a successful silver business

**Orchids and Diamonds** - Rosalind Laker 1995

Beginning her career at the House of Landell in 1907 Paris, Juliette meets and falls in love with Nikolai Karasvin, a Russian count pursuing a career as a sculptor, but they are soon separated by World War I

**Claudine's Daughter** - Rosalind Laker 2016-08-03

Raised by nuns in an Italian orphanage and abandoned by her mother Claudine, beautiful young Lucy Di Castelloni is determined to find out the mystery of her English parentage. Recently widowed, her nobleman husband's cruel son has raped her and she has escaped to England in search of security and the family she is desperate to be part of. On a bleak March day in 1850, she arrives in the Victorian seaside resort of Easthampton. Desperately restless, Lucy is unaware of the acute resemblance to her dead mother. Whilst she is charming, her arrival generates suspicion from some due to her unconventional past. Lucy cautiously conceals her true identity until she is certain of how to proceed. In her quest to belong she becomes a threat to more than one family. The family of Daniel Warwyck, ex-champion prizefighter and now head of the powerful Warwyck family are most unsettled by her arrival as she provides a link to Richard Warwyck's past mistress... Politics begin to brew in the little town when plans to build a railway are hotly debated and dark secrets begin to surface whilst riots and tensions explode. Meanwhile Lucy struggles to come to terms with the traumas of her past and is shattered when faced with abandonment once again. Uncomfortable realisations have devastating consequences when accusations of adultery and incest are followed by blackmail as it appears one local man has been underestimated... What is the secret of Lucy's birth? Will she be able to find out the truth? And who will win her heart - handsome, fair Richard Warwyck who loves her passionately; dark, glowering railway company man Josh Barton whom she loathes; or Timothy Attwood, whose name is the strongest link from her past? Claudine's Daughter is a captivating romantic sequel to Warwyck's Wife. "Filled with rich period detail, this historical romance will appeal to readers who enjoy learning about other cultures and times yet still crave happy endings." - Booklist on Garlands of Gold "A truly interesting and wonderfully informative story" - Booklist on Brilliance "As her heroine wends her way through perilous times, readers will be swept along in Laker's latest compelling tale" - Booklist on To Dream of Snow Rosalind Laker is a best-selling novelist that has been published all over the world, with her works translated into twenty languages. The author of over forty historical novels, her first work was published in 1970; Warwyck's Wife is the first of her acclaimed Easthampton trilogy and is followed by Claudine's Daughter and The Warwycks of Easthampton. She is also the author of Banners of Silk, Tree of Gold, The Silver Touch and To Dance With Kings . She lives with her Norwegian husband in Sussex. Endeavour Press is the UK's leading independent digital publisher. For more information on our titles please sign up to our newsletter at [www.endeavourpress.com](http://www.endeavourpress.com). Each week you will receive updates on free and discounted ebooks. Follow us on Twitter: @EndeavourPress and on Facebook via <http://on.fb.me/1HweQV7>. We are always interested in hearing from our readers. Endeavour Press believes that the future is now.

**Banners of Silk** - Rosalind Laker 1999

A girl named Louise Vernet Allard who's "skill with a needle soon recognised and as she grows up, her enthusiasm and gift for the fashion world grow apace. Louise's life is inextricably linked with the young Englishman, Worth, who was to change the face of fashion. Then there is Will Russell, a superb fabric cutter and, above all, there is aristocrat Pierre de Gand. Can Louise dare to win his love?"--Back cover.

**Brilliance** - Rosalind Laker 2012-08-01

After a shattering betrayal, a Frenchwoman finds a new role during the birth of the film industry, in a "truly interesting" historical novel (Booklist). When Lisette Decourt discovers her fiancé in the arms of her newly widowed stepmother, she flees her Paris home in shock and sorrow. Her wanderings bring her in contact with Daniel Shaw—a traveling "lanternist" who tells stories

through a strange new art known as slide projection. Learning more about moving pictures, Lisette finds her passion for film growing—along with her passion for the Englishman Daniel. But their love will be tested as fate threatens to pull them away from each other, and as Lisette follows her path to becoming one of the first movie stars of the twentieth century. “The birth of the film industry is just as much a character in Laker's tale as Lisette, who overcomes personal tragedies to triumph in a truly interesting and wonderfully informative story.” —Booklist  
*Dancing for Degas* - Kathryn Wagner 2010-03-16

In the City of Lights, at the dawn of a new age, begins an unforgettable story of great love, great art—and the most painful choices of the heart. With this fresh and vibrantly imagined portrait of the Impressionist artist Edgar Degas, readers are transported through the eyes of a young Parisian ballerina to an era of light and movement. An ambitious and enterprising farm girl, Alexandrie joins the prestigious Paris Opera ballet with hopes of securing not only her place in society but her family's financial future. Her plan is soon derailed, however, when she falls in love with the enigmatic artist whose paintings of the offstage lives of the ballerinas scandalized society and revolutionized the art world. As Alexandrie is drawn deeper into Degas's art and Paris's secrets, will she risk everything for her dreams of love and of becoming the ballet's star dancer?  
[The Venetian Mask](#) - Rosalind Laker 2008-03-25

Enduring friendships and long-held vendettas come alive against the splendor and decadence of eighteenth-century Venice. In 1775 Venice--known to outsiders as “the brothel of Europe”--the tradition of mask-wearing has allowed adultery and debauchery to flourish. But Marietta and Elena, two friends at the Ospedale della Pietà, a world-famous orphanage and music school for girls, know little of that milieu--until they come of age. Elena is forced to wed the head of the Celano clan, a jealous, brutal man, while Marietta marries Domenico Torrisi, whose family vendetta with the Celanos is centuries old. Tradition dictates that the friends should never speak again, but their bond is too strong to break. As the French Revolution unsettles all of Europe, Elena's husband frames Domenico and he becomes a political prisoner. Marietta and Elena plot to save him, and the women discover that Venetian masks have noble purposes, too--but will their efforts put their own lives at risk? Embodying the glitter and the treachery of the city it portrays,

The Venetian Mask will keep you turning pages long into the night.

*In the Name of the Family* - Sarah Dunant 2017-03-07

Before the Corleones, before the Lannisters, there were the Borgias. One of history's notorious families comes to life in a captivating novel from the author of *The Birth of Venus*. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY COSMOPOLITAN (UK) AND THE TIMES (UK) “In the end, what's a historical novelist's obligation to the dead? Accuracy? Empathy? Justice? Or is it only to make them live again? Dunant pays these debts with a passion that makes me want to go straight out and read all her other books.”—Diana Gabaldon, *The Washington Post* Bestselling novelist Sarah Dunant has long been drawn to the high drama of Renaissance Italy: power, passion, beauty, brutality, and the ties of blood. With *In the Name of the Family*, she offers a thrilling exploration of the House of Borgia's final years, in the company of a young diplomat named Niccolò Machiavelli. It is 1502 and Rodrigo Borgia, a self-confessed womanizer and master of political corruption, is now on the papal throne as Alexander VI. His daughter Lucrezia, aged twenty-two—already three times married and a pawn in her father's plans—is discovering her own power. And then there is his son Cesare Borgia, brilliant, ruthless, and increasingly unstable; it is his relationship with Machiavelli that gives the Florentine diplomat a master class in the dark arts of power and politics. What Machiavelli learns will go on to inform his great work of modern politics, *The Prince*. But while the pope rails against old age and his son's increasingly erratic behavior, it is Lucrezia who must navigate the treacherous court of Urbino, her new home, and another challenging marriage to create her own place in history. Sarah Dunant again employs her remarkable gifts as a storyteller to bring to life the passionate men and women of the Borgia family, as well as the ever-compelling figure of Machiavelli, through whom the reader will experience one of the most fascinating—and doomed—dynasties of all time. “Enthralling . . . combines flawless historical scholarship with beguiling storytelling.”—*The Guardian* “Renaissance-rich details fill out the humanity of the Borgias, rendering them into the kind of relatable figures whom we would hope to discover behind the cold brilliance of *The Prince*.”—NPR “[Dunant] has an enviable command of this complex political scene, with its shifting alliances and subtle betrayals. . . . [She] has a special gift for attending to her female characters.”—*The New York Times*