



## The Boleyn Deceit: A Novel (The Boleyn Trilogy)

By Laura Andersen

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**Perfect for fans of Philippa Gregory, Alison Weir, and Showtime's *The Tudors*, *The Boleyn Deceit* is the captivating new novel set in the imagined Tudor court of King Henry IX, son of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, who must navigate a terrain rife with palace intrigue, impending war, and unbridled passions.**

The regency period is over and William Tudor, now King Henry IX, sits alone on the throne. But England must still contend with those who doubt his legitimacy, both in faraway lands and within his own family. To diffuse tensions and appease the Catholics, William is betrothed to a young princess from France, but still he has eyes for only his childhood friend Minuette, and court tongues are wagging.

Even more scandalous—and dangerous, if discovered—is that Minuette's heart and soul belong to Dominic, William's best friend and trusted advisor. Minuette must walk a delicate balance between her two suitors, unable to confide in anyone, not even her friend Elizabeth, William's sister, who must contend with her own cleaved heart. In this irresistible tale, the secrets that everyone keeps are enough to change the course of an empire.

**Includes a preview of Laura Andersen's *The Boleyn Reckoning***

**Praise for *The Boleyn Deceit***

“Detailed and quick-paced, [*The Boleyn Deceit*] will have series fans devouring it and emerging eager for the last book. An excellent recommendation for Philippa Gregory fans.”—***Booklist* (starred review)**

“This entertaining work of alternative history offers plenty to savor for both fans of historical romance and those whose passion is political intrigue. . . . Perfect for fans of Philippa Gregory and Alison Weir, Andersen's novel admirably takes artistic license with history while remaining true to many aspects of real-world history. . . . [Foreshadows] a mesmerizing conclusion to the trilogy.”—***Publishers Weekly***

“An intriguing re-imagining of Tudor England and the treacheries of court life.”—***Kirkus Reviews***

**Praise for Laura Andersen’s *The Boleyn King***

“A sumptuous, vividly imagined novel of a Boleyn king’s fateful rise to power amid the treacherous glamour of the Tudor court.”—**C. W. Gortner, author of *The Queen’s Vow***

“Fans of both Stephenie Meyer and Philippa Gregory will find much to love in this evocative and well-written debut.”—**Francine Mathews, author of *Jack 1939***

**Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader’s Circle for author chats and more.**

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## **The Boleyn Deceit: A Novel (The Boleyn Trilogy) By Laura Andersen Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### From Publishers Weekly

The second part of a trilogy that began with *The Boleyn King*, this entertaining work of alternative history offers plenty to savor for both fans of historical romance and those whose passion is political intrigue. The premise: rather than leaving Henry VIII without a male heir, thereby permitting Elizabeth to ascend the throne, Anne Boleyn actually bore Henry a son, named William, who, at the novel's opening, has recently become king. William has also been promised in marriage to the much younger princess of France, a move calculated to appease England's Catholics. Secretly, however, William hopes to marry Minuette, Elizabeth's confidante who has been raised alongside the Boleyn children. Romantic complications—Minuette's heart belongs to William's closest friend, Dominic—arise alongside political scandal, as Minuette researches the cause of the bloody events that closed the previous title in the series and William struggles to retain control of the throne, despite those who would challenge the authority of the young but self-assured Protestant king. Perfect for fans of Philippa Gregory and Alison Weir, Andersen's novel admirably takes artistic license with history while remaining true to many aspects of real-world history. The romance plot builds gradually, while the political one comes to a more rapid (and, for those who have not read the first volume, perhaps confusing) head—but both seem to foreshadow a mesmerizing conclusion to the trilogy. (Nov.)

#### From Booklist

\*Starred Review\* Picking up immediately after where trilogy opener *The Boleyn King* (2013) left off, this speculative foray into Tudor England resumes Andersen's plausible reimagining of an England ruled by young King Henry IX, aka William, son of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. Bolstered by the unshakable loyalties of his sister; his confidante, Dominic; and his childhood friend, Minuette, William faces further entangling intrigues as he juggles an impending, politically motivated betrothal to a 10-year-old Catholic French princess, betrayals and possibly even treason by some at court, and the reckless depth of feelings he has for Minuette. Dominic and Minuette continue their love affair, resolutely hiding it from everyone, but especially from William, whose reaction would likely be a monstrous personal hurt or even a kingly decrying. Elizabeth struggles with the realization that she can never marry for love and also with the possibility that she might grace the throne herself as queen. Minuette draws danger closer to her as she insists on investigating a death from the series opener that haunts her still, despite escalating warnings to back off. Dominic battles with his loyalty to his king and his attraction to the one woman the king wants. Detailed and quick paced, this will have series fans devouring it and emerging eager for the final book. An excellent recommendation for Philippa Gregory fans. --Julie Trevelyan

#### Review

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