



# I, Mona Lisa

By Jeanne Kalogridis

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I, Mona Lisa By Jeanne Kalogridis

*"My name is Lisa di Antonio Gherardini Giocondo, though to acquaintances, I am known simply as Madonna Lisa. My story begins not with my birth but a murder, committed the year before I was born..."*

**Florence, April 1478:** The handsome Giuliano de' Medici is brutally assassinated in Florence's magnificent Duomo. The shock of the murder ripples throughout the great city, from the most renowned artists like Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo, to a wealthy wool merchant and his extraordinarily beautiful daughter, Madonna Lisa.

More than a decade later, Florence falls under the dark spell of the preacher Savonarola, a fanatic who burns paintings and books as easily as he sends men to their deaths. Lisa, now grown into an alluring woman, captures the heart of Giuliano's nephew and namesake. But when Guiliano, her love, meets a tragic end, Lisa must gather all her courage and cunning to untangle a sinister web of illicit love, treachery, and dangerous secrets that threatens her life.

Set against the drama of 15th Century Florence, *I, Mona Lisa* is painted in many layers of fact and fiction, with each intricately drawn twist told through the captivating voice of Mona Lisa herself.

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## **I, Mona Lisa By Jeanne Kalogridis Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Set against a backdrop of political and religious conflicts in 15th-century Medici-ruled Florence, Kalogridis's bloody historical (after *The Borgia Bride*) identifies the subject of Leonardo da Vinci's painting as Lisa di Antonio Gherardini. Lisa was the daughter of Madonna Lucrezia, wife of a wealthy wool merchant who also enchanted both da Vinci and Lorenzo de' Medici's brother Giuliano, murdered by conspirators in 1478.

Giuliano's assassination—and the later murder of Lucrezia—presage a reign of religious terror led by a monk known as Savonarola and the retreat of the Medicis in the face of invasion from France's King Charles. An adult Lisa attracts the romantic attentions of a young Medici scion, whom she marries for love. (His father, Lorenzo, commissions her portrait from da Vinci.) But violent events soon separate the couple and a brutal Savonarola follower tells Lisa that her husband is dead—and her father's life in danger—unless she marries him instead. Lisa survives, an avenging angel, proving herself worthy of da Vinci's immortal artistry.

Kalogridis's fevered bodice ripper invents a passionate woman behind La Gioconda's enigmatic smile. (Nov.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Review

## Praise for THE BORGIA BRIDE

"From sexual passion to mortal danger, the dramatic shift of real historical events will keep the reader turning the pages." -**Philippa Gregory, author of *The Other Boleyn Girl***

"Entertaining." -**USA Today**

"...a dramatic tale from a heady mix of royal power plays and passion." --**Publishers Weekly**

About the Author

**Jeanne Kalogridis** lives with her partner on the West Coast, where they share a house with two dogs. She is the author of *The Borgia Bride*, *The Scarlet Contessa*, *The Devil's Queen*, and other dark fantasy and historical novels. Born in Florida, Kalogridis has a B.A. in Russian and a master's in linguistics, and taught English as a second language at The American University for eight years before retiring to write full-time.

## Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Charlotte Gambrel:**

Here thing why this kind of I, Mona Lisa are different and dependable to be yours. First of all looking at a book is good but it really depends in the content from it which is the content is as tasty as food or not. I, Mona Lisa giving you information deeper including different ways, you can find any reserve out there but there is no guide that similar with I, Mona Lisa. It gives you thrill reading journey, its open up your personal eyes about the thing which happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. It is possible to bring everywhere like in recreation area, café, or even in your method home by train. When you are having difficulties in bringing the paper book maybe the form of I, Mona Lisa in e-book can be your

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**Deanna Marcantel:**

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Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or even 15 minute in your time to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill possibly analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book as compared to can satisfy your short period of time to read it because pretty much everything time you only find publication that need more time to be go through. I, Mona Lisa can be your answer since it can be read by an individual who have those short spare time problems.

**Tommy Worm:**

Is it anyone who having spare time in that case spend it whole day simply by watching television programs or just laying on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This I, Mona Lisa can be the answer, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are so out of date, spending your time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these guides have than the others?

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