

The Assassin of Venice

Pol Castellanos

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Recommended age: 12+



**Winner of the
Premi Ramon Muntaner
2021**

**Potential funding available
to support the translation
and promotion of the book**

**An award-winning historical murder-mystery
adventure around the Mediterranean with a
touch of Norse-based witchcraft**

About the author

Pol Castellanos (Barcelona, 1991) is a secondary school language and literature teacher. In 2019, he debuted as a writer with his novel *The Imposter of Vienna* which received the Alba Prize for Best Fantasy Book for Young People. His second novel, *The Assassin of Venice* went on to win the Premi Ramon Muntaner for YA Literature and the Premi Protagonista Jove.

Publishing Rights

World English language rights are available.

Rights holder: Grupo Planeta - Estrella Polar Imprint

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Sample Translation

A sample translation of this book is available on request.

**THE ASSASSIN OF VENICE
POL CASTELLANOS // CATALONIA**

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Overview

Venice, 1914. **Carla Herzog**, about to turn fourteen, discovers that she has the power to foresee misfortunes shortly before they occur. Her father, a rich and powerful man who is very strict and conservative, accuses her of witchcraft and locks her up in a reform school. One night, Carla manages to escape with two companions. The three of them will travel to various places in Europe in search of a mysterious book that contains the explanation of her powers, while the Venice police search for Carla, falsely accusing her of murder. Meanwhile, the First World War breaks out...

Themes

First World War

The book is set in 1914 just as war is about to break out. Once Carla escapes from the reform school, she and her friends flee first to Dubrovnik and onwards to Sarajevo where Carla has a premonition of the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand and the following years of war. Towards the end of the book, back in Italy, they are caught in the first airborne attack on Italy by the Austro-Hungarian forces.

Friendship

Carla, Pigi and Alina form an unlikely trio, with differing social backgrounds (Carla is of noble birth while Pigi and Alina have had to find their own way). While they have their differences, ultimately they realise their bond has grown and they strive to find and help each other.

Norse Mythology

Carla discovers she is one of the three Norns from Norse Mythology who were a trio of supernatural female beings called Urd, Verdandi, and Skuld. In this book, Carla is Skuld, the Norn able to see into the future. On their adventure they will encounter Urd (the past) and Verdandi (the present).

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