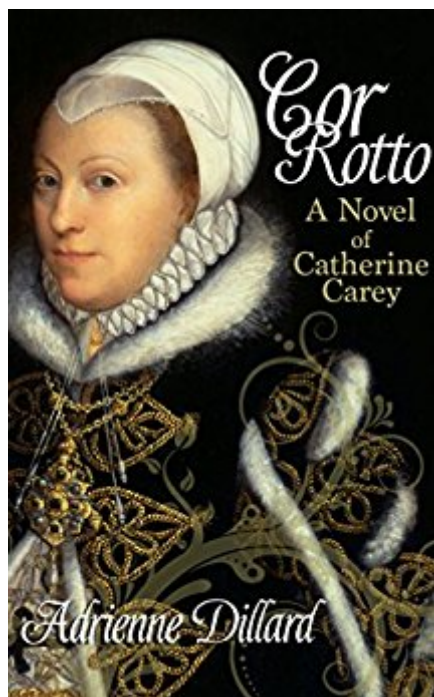


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Cor Rotto: A Novel Of Catherine Carey



Synopsis

The dream was always the same â | the scaffold before me. I stared on in horror as the sword sliced my aunt's head from her swan-like neck. The executioner raised her severed head into the air by its long chestnut locks. The last thing I remembered before my world turned black was my own scream. Fifteen year-old Catherine Carey has been dreaming the same dream for three years, since the bloody execution of her aunt Queen Anne Boleyn. Her only comfort is that she and her family are safe in Calais, away from the intrigues of Henry VIII's court. But now Catherine has been chosen to serve Henry VIII's new wife, Queen Anne of Cleves. Just before she sets off for England, she learns the family secret: the true identity of her father, a man she considers to be a monster and a man she will shortly meet. This compelling novel tells the life story of a woman who survived being close to the crown and who became one of Queen Elizabeth I's closest confidantes.

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Customer Reviews

A thoroughly enjoyable book on a very fascinating family line who have always been a bit mysterious in their paternal origins. Were Catherine and Henry Carey offspring of Henry VIII or was

that even known at the time has been conjectured for centuries? This author and historian has a very good premise and follows that forward in a very engrossing and extremely readable fashion. Perhaps a bit more depth to their characters could have worked but Catherine and Francis were courtiers, after all, and kept their emotions in check. I read it straight through and will look forward to the next offering by Adrienne Dillard. An excellent first novel, by a fine historian, about this important family whose history helps define the Tudor period.

Catherine is my 12th great-grandmother, and this is the first novel I've read about her. I've read about Mary, Anne and Lettice at length. I found myself captivated by her character and was completely drawn into the book immediately! I felt Dillard did a fantastic job for her first novel and I loved the fact that she ended the book by explaining not only her take on what events she believed to be true (for example, that Catherine was Henry's daughter), but also went on to note what she added in as fiction. I was sobbing at the end, but I think in large part that was because she is an ancestor. She also died at the age I am now, and I wish I knew exactly what it was that killed her (was it a specific fever, etc.). She died too young and was such a wonderful person. Thank you Adrienne Dillard!

I love reading about this time period & have read many books about Catherine's mother Mary Boleyn. It was bittersweet for even noble ladies who served the queen to be separated from children & husbands at the queen's whim. Amazing that she-Catherine bore 13 children & her & her husband were still so much in love. Great story!

I wasn't too sure if I was going to enjoy the book when I first started reading this book as the conversations between characters were jarringly modern in word and phrase and the book seemed like it was skimming over a lot of the historical events that were happening. Of course, if you were a lady in waiting to the queen, you probably were more concerned with events that only related to you and your family so once I had fixed the correct perspective in my head as to who was telling the story, the story was much easier to read. It seemed the marriage was all about absences, bedding, and off Francis would go again which was a bit irritating in the beginning but again, if you stop and realize there is not a lot of information about Catherine other than her name, family connections, work for the queen, and the fact she did bear SIXTEEN (yowza!) children, "meeting and mating" probably all they had time to do in their marriage! By the time I read the last page, I really was sad the story had ended. I applaud the author in her research and dedication to her subject. It has made

me interested in Catherine and shouldn't that be the objective of any good writer...leaving the reader wanting more?????

Adrienne did an incredible job with this subject. I could not put this book down. She found a way to give life to all of the characters as well as create a connection between them and the reader. I would be interested in any book Ms. Dillard writes after reading this. I highly recommend Cor Rotto, ESPECIALLY if you enjoy reading about Tudor history. Wonderful job!

For those who've read the stories of Boleyn family members other than Anne, Queen of England, this novel gives a feeling of continuity, of completion. The primary character here is Catherine Carey, the child of Anne Boleyn's sister Mary and (most historians presume), King Henry VIII. While not publicly acknowledged by the king, Catherine is brought to court and is very much favored by Henry. Even after the execution of her aunt Anne, Catherine is called back to court and serves as a lady in waiting through several more of Henry's queens. Ultimately, she becomes a trusted confidant to her younger half sister, Queen Elizabeth. Throughout these upheavals, Catherine maintains a very loving marriage to a courtier chosen by her father, and the reader is both warmed and moved by that family life. This book is well written in terms of grammar, syntax, and historical context, and I look forward to finding and reading more of this author's work.

I found this to be a well written book. The author showed heart and soul, as well as a knowledge of the Tudor and Elizabethan period. Catherine and Francis were three dimensional characters, not just paper dolls reciting historical facts. Refreshingly, the dynamic between the women was as interesting as the love story. That is a rare quality.

once you start reading this book you will not be able to put it down. I have read several of Allison Weir's books. this book caught my interest as I have been reading Elizabeth of York. Elizabeth of York might be Catherine's grandmother. this caught my interest. even though this book is fiction Catherine Carey is a real person. she married Frances who became a knight. they had 13 or 16 children. They were very much in love with each other and never cheated on each other. I felt Catherine's pain as each time she gave birth having to leave that baby behind when it was time to go back to serve at court. The book is written in first person. Catherine tells her own story and goes into great detail about her private life and her life at court. This book is very well written. If you like English history especially The Tudor era you will love this book.

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