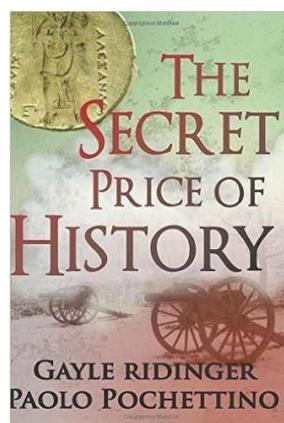

The Secret Price of History – Gayle Ridinger and Paolo Pochettino

BITS ABOUT BOOKS

Book Reviews by Caroline Vincent

NETGALLEY MEMBER



AUG 03 2016- POSTED BY CAROLINE

Join me in a fascinating and captivating journey taking you to many places on Earth across different times. It will bring you to America during the Civil War, witnessing the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg as well as its 2008 re-enactment. You will also find yourself in Italy's Piedmont and Rome, in 2008 and in the mid 1800's during the years of Risorgimento, the period of establishing general Garibaldi's dream of a unified Italy by force. In Rome a mysterious medallion can be found, its origins tracing back to Alexander the Great – King of the Ancient Greek – who found two treasures on his conquest in Persia. Several mysterious events suggest a third, even bigger treasure to be hidden. How to find that treasure that can turn a beggar into a billionaire? Follow the Mithraic symbols on the medallion but beware: it's a dangerous quest

When 21-year-old weather girl Angie Cebrelli attends the 2008 re-enactment in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, little does she know that soon her happy mood will be disturbed. She's all dressed up to present the weather in a Civil War style clothing – What has brought a cheesemaker from Piedmont in Italy to the battlefields of Gettysburg? Come with me to the year 1849, when Italy is thrown into a war between the Austrians, the French and the Papal army on the one side and the fighters for a democratic Italian Republic under General Garibaldi on the opposite site. When an Austrian deserter, the Hungarian officer Sandor Kemeny, seeks refuge in Goffredo Morelli's cheeseshop, they become friends for life.

Sandor and Goffredo set out to join Garibaldi in Rome, follow him wherever he will go, fighting for freedom and democracy. In Rome they meet Eleonora Serlupi, a beautiful redhead that escaped her rich family and found refuge with the American painter James Freeman. A truly unique, inspiring and touching friendship is born between the Hungarian officer, the Piemonte cheesemaker and the rich Roman girl. When Goffredo and Sandor witness a brutal attack on a priest, they come to the rescue – too late for the priest, but not to fulfil his dying wish: keep his medallion safe. Thus the friends come into the possession of Alexander the Great's gold medallion – with on it Mithraic symbols, referring to a hidden treasure.

The secret of the gold medallion will forever change the lives of Eleonora, Sandor and Goffredo. It is the reason that during their lifetime and even that of their offspring, our friends are threatened with torture and murder, will never be free from being hunted. More than ever they are bound by love, trust and loyalty holding through times, even when they are oceans apart. Together they encounter battles and murders, deceit and betrayal. Theirs is an adventurous story that brings them from Italy to America, always following the cause of freedom, their conscience and dreams, strong-willed to survive whatever life throws at them.

No wonder that the gold medallion Angie is wearing in 2008 has made it across the oceans from Italy to America. Still people are desperate to find the treasure the Mithraic symbols on the medallion are referring to, as Angie is about to find out. Among those is ruthless American businessman Marc-Alexandre Brandeau and his manipulative daughter Susanne. Susanne knows her own brother Damian, who has cut off his family ties, is capable of locating the treasure. He's the scholar, who studied ancient and Mithraic culture and history.

After being shot at in Gettysburg, Angie reaches out to Damian's friend Arjan Gupta, to learn about the history of the medallion. The search for the truth is a dangerous one, leading her on an adventurous and exciting trip to Europe: from Utrecht in the Netherlands, where she meets Arjan, to Milan and Rome in Italy. Around her, nasty and gruesome murders are taking place. En route Angie is told the fascinating tale of the gold medallion, from its find in ancient Persia to its travel across the world and the treasure it refers to. Arjan and Angie have arranged to meet Damien in Rome, but with murderers on their trail, will they reach Rome alive?

This is a fascinating tale of a gold medallion, of those who fight for what they believe in, of a unique friendship between three people, brought together by fate. What I absolutely love about this novel is that it entwines the facts of history through the fictitious tales, combines historical characters and existing sites and cities with touching and inspiring tales of life in the mid 1800's and a thrilling story in the present. I am thrilled and overwhelmed after being taken on this engrossing time travel, a combination of history with an imaginative and compelling story. The book shows the profound interest for the Italian, American and classic history of both the authors, the American Gayle Ridinger and her Italian husband Paolo Pochettino.

For more information on the book, the Italian and American as well as the classic history, the towns and sites mentioned and many other things, you can visit and exp (<http://i1.wp.com/www.bitsaboutbooks.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/paolopochettino.jpg>)lore the **website** (<http://www.secretpriceofhistory.com>)dedicated to the book (<http://i0.wp.com/www.bitsaboutbooks.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/gayleflowers.jpg>).

Gayle Ridinger and Paolo Pochettino have spent five years researching the facts of history for this brilliant book. Before becoming a Mechanical Engineer Paolo studied Classics in University and his fascination for history could well be originated with his Piedmontese ancestor – an Italian Guard in Napoleon's army. Gayle has also Italian roots, her ancestors originate in Italy and have crossed the oceans to make a living in Gettysburg, America. She is a former journalist, now not only teaching English and Translation Techniques at an Itaklian University, but also renowned for her translations of Italian poetry. Gayle Ridinger and Paolo Pochettino have spent five years researching the facts of history for this brilliant book.



BITS ABOUT BOOKS

Book Reviews by Caroline Vincent



(<https://www.amazon.com/Secret-Price-History-Searching-Alexanders-ebook/dp/B00KR0Z5OY>)

