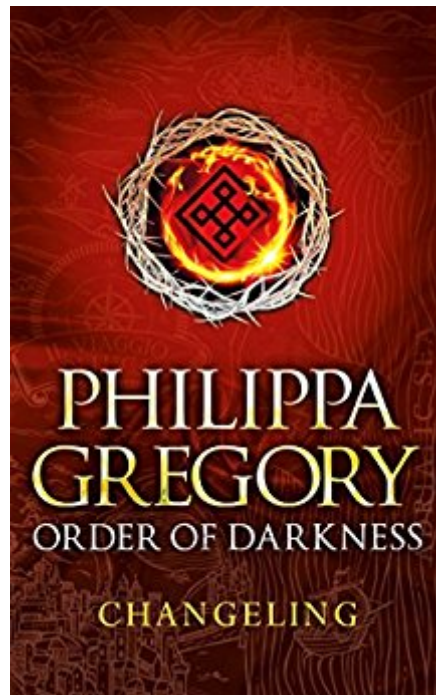


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# Changeling (Order Of Darkness Book 1)



## Synopsis

Dark myths, medieval secrets, intrigue, and romance populate the pages of this first in a four-book teen series from the #1 bestselling author of *The Other Boleyn Girl*. The year is 1453 and all signs point to it being the end of the world. Accused of heresy and expelled from his monastery, handsome seventeen-year-old Luca Vero is recruited by a mysterious stranger to record the end of times across Europe. Commanded by sealed orders, Luca is sent to map the fears of Christendom and travel to the very frontier of good and evil. Seventeen-year-old Isolde, a Lady Abbess, is trapped in a nunnery to prevent her from claiming her rich inheritance. As the nuns in her care are driven mad by strange visions, walking in their sleep, and showing bleeding wounds, Luca is sent to investigate and driven to accuse her. Forced to face the greatest fears of the dark ages—witchcraft, werewolves, madness—Luca and Isolde embark on a search for truth, their own destinies, and even love as they take the unknown ways to the real historical figure who defends the boundaries of Christendom and holds the secrets of the Order of Darkness.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is Gregory's first venture into the world of Young Adult. I know she can write adult historical fiction novels I love, so I decided to give her Young Adult novel a try and see if she could write that genre as well. As it turns out, she can. 17-year-old Luca has grown up in the monastery, but when he starts asking questions, he's cast out and accused of heresy. He is recruited by a mysterious order to travel and investigate the evils and dangers people are seeing in the world around them. He must do as he is told and not question his orders, although in his role of inquisitor he will be asking many questions of others. He agrees to become a part of the order; understanding that he is one step away from death and this is his salvation. Isolde is only 17 when her father dies, leaving her to her brother's care. Despite being raised to know how to run the home just as well as any man, upon his death her father had changed his will to say she would either marry or be sent to the nunnery. She chooses to be sent to the nunnery, but as soon as she arrives, strange things begin to happen that make everyone in the nunnery frightened. It is these strange occurrences that bring Luca to Isolde, but it is a respect for each other and the truth that keeps them together. I'm glad there's a slow build between these two. I think anything else wouldn't feel right, especially given the time period in which the story takes place. I think I can see where this relationship is going and I think I'm going to like it. The plot is interesting and has me drawn in. I want to see where Luca and Isolde travel and what they face. There were only a couple inquisitions in this novel, but Luca clearly has a level head and thinks things out before taking action. He might be serving the Pope, but he is not going to let emotions cloud his judgment. It will be interesting to see where Gregory takes these characters next. *Changeling* is Gregory's first Young Adult novel, but not her first historical fiction. I knew she'd be able to get the historical feelings across, and I'm happy to say she can write Young Adult just as well as she writes for adults. Gregory has proved, once again, why she's one of my favorite authors to read.

This would be a great book for people interested in history and interested in the world view of those who lived it. Luca Vero has been kicked out of his monastery for being too smart, too beautiful, and too curious. He is recruited into a secret order founded by Pope Nicholas V. His charge is to investigate the strange occurrences that are becoming common in 1453. The Pope is convinced that mankind is nearing the ends of days. He sends Luca out to make a map of the fears of the world. In his first investigation, Luca, his clerk Brother Peter, and his servant Frieze are sent to investigate an abbey where the nuns seem to be going mad. The new Lady Abbess is Isolde who should be the heiress to the Castle of Lucretili but her brother forced her out after her father's death saying that her father changed his will and left everything to his son after all. Isolde and her servant

Ishraq, Moorish and brought home from the Holy Land as a child, are sent to the abbey but Isolde is still grieving for her beloved father and isn't able to take charge with all the plots surrounding her. While Luca does solve the mystery at the abbey, it is too late for Isolde who has been convicted of witchcraft and disowned by her "grieving" brother. She and Ishraq manage to flee before they are burned at the stake. They meet again on the road and decide to travel together until their paths part. Luca to investigate as he is commanded and Isolde to travel to Hungary to ask her godfather to help her regain her inheritance. The historical detail was wonderful. The characters spanned a broad spectrum of medieval society and thought. But this didn't feel like a novel. It is clearly the beginning of a series of books that will have further adventures of Luca, Isolde, and crew as they wend their way through medieval Europe. This was just the first two episodes of that greater journey.

Awful. I am a huge Philippa Gregory fan but this was terrible . I bought the CD and the reader is so boring and monotone. I bought it used so it would cost more to ship it back so it is going in the trash.

Easy to read, young adult book. Good characters. Interesting story line. You will want to go ahead and get the next two books in the series.

Please see my review of the Stormbringers book by the same author. This is the first book in the series of medieval mysteries. Gregory is a wonderful writer and her books are rigorously researched which is why they are so enjoyable. You always learn something new. The other review gives you a sense of the characters who meet in this first book and are carried along on a journey together. In this book the heroine is disinherited by her brother and sent to a monastery where there are some odd goings on, blamed on the poor girl, but due to the conniving of someone else in league with her brother who wants to end her life and threats to his proprietary interest in their father's property. The setting in Italy is different from Gregory's other books which focused on the English Royal houses. Great book to take to the beach. Gramster A

She is great. every book she wrote was wonderful

I didn't realize this was a YA book when I bought it. I saw Philippa Gregory and bought it right away. While Philippa Gregory is certainly one of my favorite authors, this book just didn't hook me. I found it lacked the passion, excitement and suspense usually present in a Gregory novel. I didn't care much for the characters, and I found myself knowing what would happen well before things were revealed.

I also found the ending to be a bit rushed, and it dropped off without much resolution. I know this is the first in a series, but I think it could have been rounded off a little more. This book is a great novel for younger readers who will eventually grow into the typical Phillipa Gregory style, but this one just wasn't for me.

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Jeaniene Frost Books Checklist and Reading Order : Night Prince series in order, Night Huntress series in order, Broken Destiny series in order and Night Huntress World series in order Changeling (Order of Darkness Book 1) Order of Darkness Volumes I-III: Changeling; Stormbringers; Fools' Gold Wild Invitation: A Psy-Changeling Collection (Psy/Changeling Series Book 11) Charlaine Harris Schulz Books 2017 Checklist: The Aurora Teagarden Series in Order, Cemetery Girl Series in Order, Harper Connelly Series in Order, Lily Bard Series in Order and more! Changeling Rites of Spring \*OP (Changeling: The Lost) Changeling Players Guide \*OP (Changeling: The Dreaming) Changeling Screen and Story Secret \*OP (Changeling - the Dreaming) Changeling Storytellers Guide \*OP (Changeling: The Dreaming) This Present Darkness/Piercing the Darkness: Piercing the Darkness Stephen King Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: The Dark Tower series, Shining series, Talisman series, The Green Mile series, stand-alone novels, ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 30) Anne McCaffrey Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Dragonriders of Pern series, Acorna series, Catteni sequence, Brainships, The Talent series, ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 21) W.E.B. Griffin Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Presidential Agent series, Badge of Honor series, The Corps series, Honor Bound series, Brotherhood ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 14) Dale Brown Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Patrick McLanahan series, Acts of War series, Independent series, Dreamland series (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 24) J.A. Jance Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: J.P. Beaumont series, Joana Brady Mysteries series, Ali Reynolds series, Walker Family series (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 13) Robert Ludlum Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Jason Bourne series, Covert-One series, Janson series, Stand-alone novels (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 15) Alexander McCall Smith Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency, 44 Scotland Street, Isabel Dalhousie, Portuguese Irregular ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 31) Mail Order Bride: The Mail Order Bride and the Hunted Man: Sweet, and Inspirational Western Historical Romance (Mail Order Brides and the Marriage Agent Book 4) SERIES READING ORDER: DIANA GABALDON: Reading Order of Entire Outlander universe in reading order, Outlander series only, Lord John Grey series, short stories, novellas Out of Darkness - Book 8 (Out of Darkness Serial (An Amish of Lancaster County Saga))

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