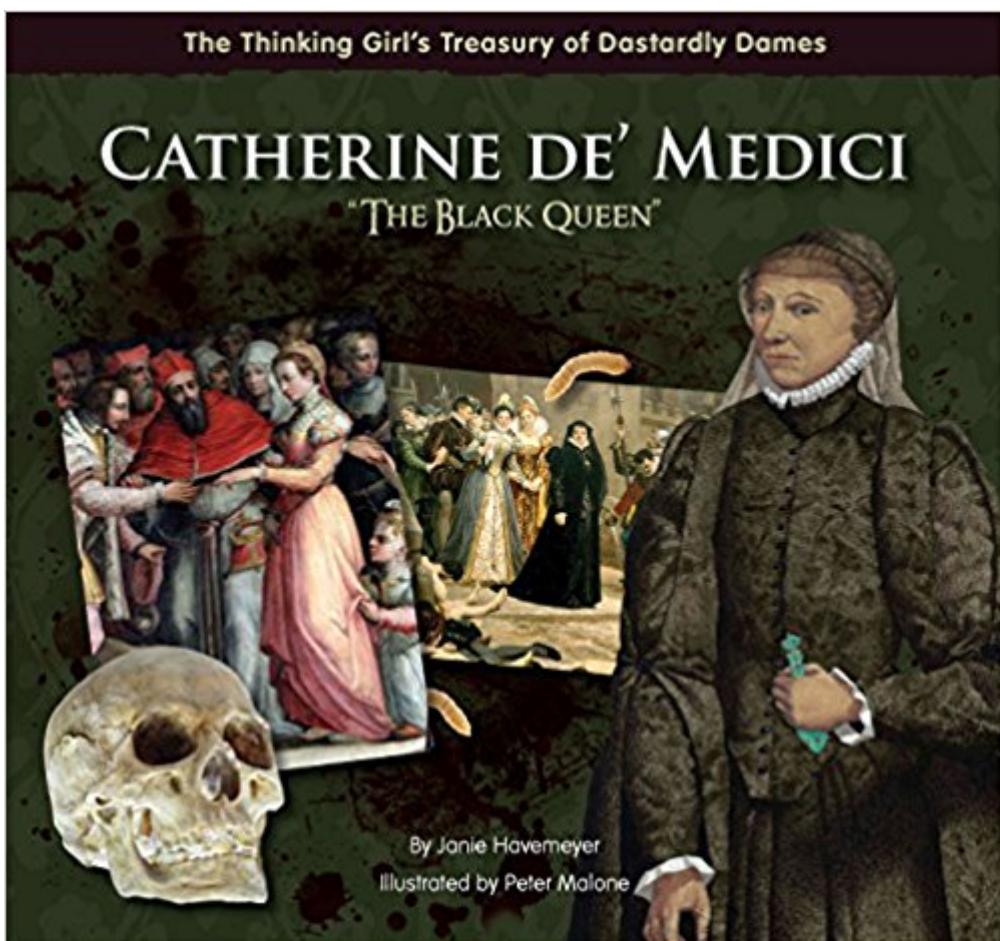


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# Catherine De' Medici "The Black Queen" (The Thinking Girl's Treasury Of Dastardly Dames)



## Synopsis

Queen of France, Catherine de' Medici would do anything to keep her family in power, including using poison and black magic. A nation-wide killing spree during her rule earned her the name, The Black Queen. But was she really that bad? Gorgeous illustrations and an intelligent, evocative story bring to life a real dastardly dame who fought to keep her children in power, but ended up blackening their names instead.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 950L (What's this?)

Series: The Thinking Girl's Treasury of Dastardly Dames

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Goosebottom Books (October 3, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0983425639

ISBN-13: 978-0983425632

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #628,844 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Renaissance #256 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Europe #286 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Movements & Periods > Renaissance

Age Range: 9 - 13 years

Grade Level: 3 - 8

## Customer Reviews

Janie Havemeyer has worked as a museum educator at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, an elementary school teacher in the San Francisco Bay Area, and a social studies curriculum designer. For the past six years, she has been working as a literacy tutor. She writes narrative, nonfiction picture books for children, and is busy thinking about the next eccentric character whose story she wants to tell. Janie is the author of Catherine de' Medici & The Black Queen, and Njinga "The Warrior Queen," both in The Thinking Girl's Treasury of Dastardly Dames. Peter Malone has illustrated over twenty children's books for such publishers as Chronicle, Knopf, Putnam, Running Press, and Scholastic. In addition to creating gorgeous

illustrations, he wrote the book, Close to the Wind, about the use of the Beaufort scale for measuring wind force at sea. School Library Journal called it "informative and utterly charming." He lives in Bath, England, with his wife, a restorer of paintings, and their two grown daughters.

Well written book as an introductory for young girls. I (senior) enjoyed reading it too.

continued my French History. very good book

Here's a book that can get young girls interested in history. This is not a child's book, there are adult events discussed (murders by poison, adultery, and beheading). But it is discussed without embarrassing details. The book is very thorough in covering Catherine's life from birth, to teen marriage, Queen, her children's fate, and her desire for control. This is a quick read, not an in-depth study. Along the way some very interesting situations develop. Pictures help show what she wore, ate, her family, and her animal collection. Here's a peek inside the book: "If it were not for Catherine, the French may not have the side saddle, the high heeled shoe, forks for eating, the folding fan, the ladies' handkerchief, the violin, modern ballet and opera, and the custom of wearing underpants."

Did you know that?

Havemeyer takes readers back five centuries to learn the captivating details and dastardly deeds of French Queen Catherine, wife of King Henry II (1519-1589). Born into the powerful Italian family of Medici, Catherine endured a turbulent childhood and was married off into the French Monarchy at age 14. Once in France, her dreams of happiness were never fulfilled but she boldly persevered as a powerful yet often brutal leader who stopped at nothing to protect her family, hence earning her name "The Black Queen." The collaged illustrations combine period masterpieces, a timeline, maps and photos of artifacts with well-placed captions to enhance the story. Tweens will be left pondering; was Catherine evil or was she a courageous survivor who maintained devotion to her fate?

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