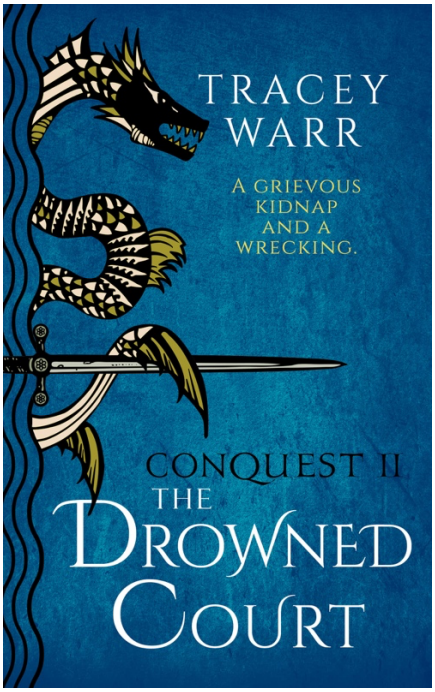
advance information



CONQUEST BOOK II

The Drowned Court

Tracey Warr

A grievous kidnap and a wrecking

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1107. A kidnap and a devastating shipwreck. King Henry I reigns over England, Normandy and Wales, but his rule is far from secure. He faces treacherous assassination attempts and rebellion. Nuns and bards are tasked as spies to carry dangerous messages across the kingdom. The Welsh noblewoman, Nest ferch Rhys, is settled in Wales with her Norman husband but her brother is gathering support to reclaim his kingdom, and another Welsh prince has not forgotten that he was once betrothed to marry Nest. While dissent grows, a secret passion is revealed, and Nest and her Cambro-Norman children are placed in dire peril. Book II in the Conquest trilogy centring on Nest ferch Rhys and the reign of King Henry I.

Praise for The Drowned Court

'The second volume of a trilogy based on the life of Nest ferch Rhys, the Welsh princess who was one of the many mistresses of the English king, Henry I. The resurgence of the Welsh resistance to Norman rule threatens to destabilise her life. A subplot focuses on the nun Benedicta and her involvement in the network of spies run by King Henry's politically astute sister, Adela de Blois. Tracey Warr's meticulous research conjures vividly the domestic life, the courtly intrigue and the brutality of the age. I thoroughly recommend this book, which immerses the reader so deeply in its world.' Mary Fisk, *Historical Novels Review*

'Nest ferch Rhys' brother Gruffudd ap Rhys is gathering support in an attempt to reclaim his Welsh kingdom, putting further strain on Nest's loyalties as she becomes torn between her Welsh past and her Norman present. I knew nothing at all about Nest before reading these books and I have resisted looking up the details of her life, so I never had any idea what was going to happen next and could just enjoy watching her story unfold and knowing that I was learning something new along the way.' *She Reads Novels*

Author Bio

Tracey Warr was born in London, lived in southwest Wales and now lives in southern France. The castles and landscapes of Wales and France inspire her historical fiction. She is the author of five historical novels set in medieval Europe and centred on strong female leads. She draws on old maps, chronicles, poems and objects to create fictional worlds for readers to step into. Her writing awards include an Author's Foundation Award, a Literature Wales Writer's Bursary, the Rome Film Festival Book Initiative and a Santander Research Award. Before becoming a full-time writer she worked as a contemporary art curator and art history academic.