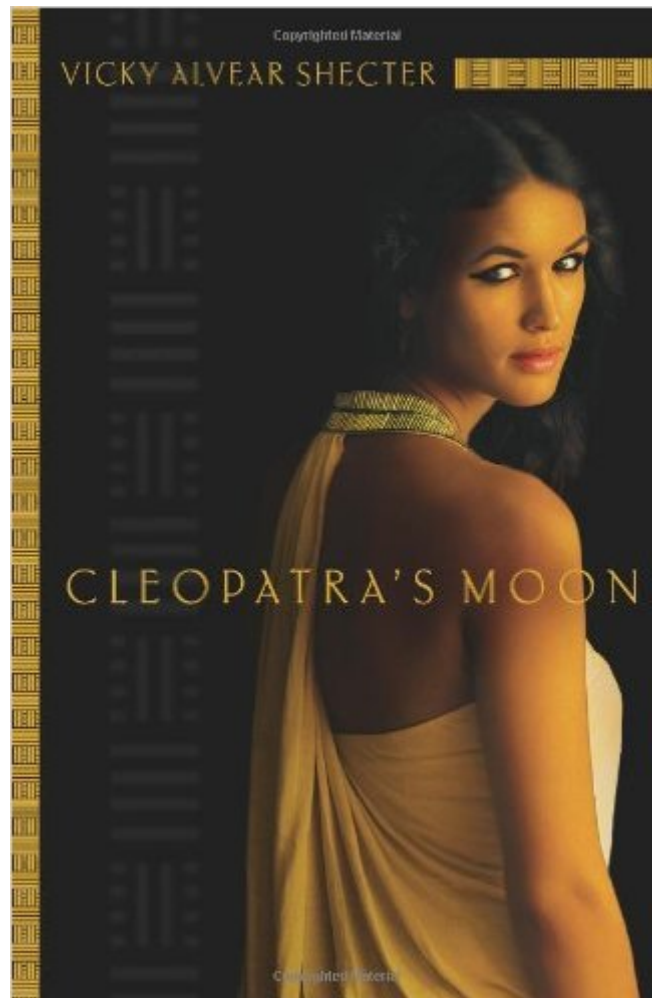


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Cleopatra's Moon



Synopsis

Cleopatra's Moon. The Critically Acclaimed Young Adult Novel Based On The Real Life Of Cleopatra's Daughter, Selene. The only daughter of the last queen of Egypt watches her beloved father--Mark Antony--fall on his sword in front of her. Then she hears the haunting wails of the priestesses of Isis on the island of Pharos and knows her mother died. It is the end of Cleopatra's rule and the start of Selene's nightmare. Her parent's vicious enemy, the snake-like Octavianus, forces Cleopatra Selene to march through the streets of Rome in golden chains and then sentences her, along with her brothers, to live as political prisoners in his own home. There she fights desperately to keep her brothers safe from poisonings and secret assassination attempts. Selene plots furiously to do what she knows her mother Cleopatra would want her to do--reclaim her destiny as the queen of Egypt. While plotting with her mother's agents in Rome, Selene knows her best shot at retaking Egypt's throne is to beguile her despised captor's nephew, Marcellus, the beautiful, golden-haired heir to Octavianus. But Selene unexpectedly falls in love with a fellow political prisoner setting off a deeply personal crisis: Does Selene choose the man she loves over the man who could help her rule Egypt? Selene is determined to live up to her mother's last whispered words to her--"You have the heart of a great and powerful queen," but at what price? Is she doomed to live and die like her mother, trying to use sex and seduction to make strategic alliances to gain power? Or can she take destiny into her own hands and create a future her mother never imagined? Life in Rome has its own surprises and Selene discovers that trying to follow in her mother's footsteps unleashes dangerous and unexpected consequences. Will Selene make the same decisions--and mistakes--as her brilliant but doomed mother? Or will she find a way to forge an identity and future all her own? "Take a trip to mysterious ancient Egypt--where a young Selene learns to follow Isis and curse her enemies with Anubis, the god of death and embalming--and prickly Rome where political intrigues and secret alliances are the currency of survival. LA Times called this young adult historical fiction novel "impressive in that it feels so real." Lose yourself in the exotic world of this critically acclaimed young adult romance novel. -----* Publisher's Weekly on this powerful, epic Teen Romance novel: "Fascinating...Romantic."* The Los Angeles Times On This Young Adult Historical Fiction Best Seller: "Magical. Impressive."-----

Young Adult Romance Book Categories:> Young Adult Historical Fiction> Teen Romance Novel> Young Adult Books

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Customer Reviews

As a historical fiction enthusiast, I'm always excited to see historical fiction on the shelves. More and more lately, I've been excited to see some of this coming to young adult shelves, especially since it's some of my favorite stuff. I'm a huge fan of Egyptian history, specifically the Michelle Moran books for example. When I saw Cleopatra's Moon on the shelves of the Teen section, I was instantly curious. Michelle Moran had already covered the topic of Cleopatra's daughter Cleopatra Selene very well, but I was interested to see what the young adult take on her would be. The results were actually quite interesting. The beginning of the book was very similar to Moran's, to the point that I was almost bored. Honestly, this isn't Shecter's fault: historical fiction is historical fiction. My interest began to rise, however, as Shecter began to make the different decisions, like letting both of Selene's brothers live when they were at Rome. A few other plot twists and differences developed, and I was ecstatic. It really morphed into a different take on who Selene was, while keeping her likeable and relatable. Perhaps the most amusing difference between Moran and Shecter's books is dictated by the shelves I found them on, adult and teen respectively. Though Cleopatra's Moon was on the teen shelf, Shecter's Selene actually makes more adult-ish decisions than Moran's. Whether it's witnessing her father's death or planning to seduce a Roman man just like her mother did, this Selene is far more headstrong. Here is how Shecter gets Selene to transcend time and fit in on the teen shelf. She doesn't hold back. Selene becomes a fighter, a girl determined to retake her homeland at any cost while asserting her pride in her female identity. Don't get me wrong, I adore both books.

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