The Vintner's Legacy

Book Three in the internationally bestselling Vintner's Daughter Series

In this gripping sequel to The Vintner's Daughter and The California Wife, four related families confront the turmoil of the First World War, a deadly influenza epidemic and a looming American Prohibition.

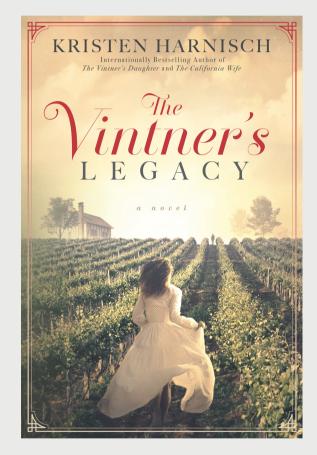
France, 1918. Vintner Luc Lemieux enters the fight as his fellow Americans join forces with the Allies. At his Vouvray vineyard, he leaves behind his grandparents and two parentless siblings rendered homeless by the advancing German troops. Meanwhile, his sister Adeline, serving as a surgical nurse on the front, makes the fateful decision to save an injured German medic who is struggling to reclaim his humanity during one of the deadliest wars in history.

Back in America, Sara and Phillippe Lemieux battle to save their Napa vineyard and world-renowned wines from the blight of prohibition while their daughter Pippa Lemieux strives for independence as a devastating secret surrounding her birth is revealed.

From the pristine vineyards of California to the warravaged battlefields of France, **The Vintner's Legacy** is a vividly crafted testament to hope and the resilience of the human spirit, as experienced by four families whose daring and sacrifice will shape generations to come.



Photo Credit: Alix Martinez Photography



Feel free to reach out to me with any other questions you have using the contact details below.

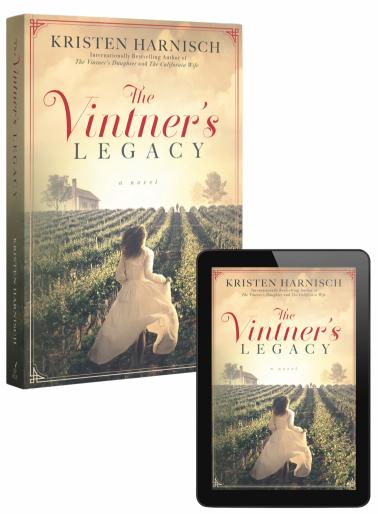
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Quick Facts

Full Title: The Vintner's Legacy, Book 3 of The Vintner's Daughter Series

Page Count: 479 pages

Genre: Historical Fiction

Publisher: Wenham Lake Press

Publication Date: 05/10/2022

SBN: Print 979-8-9856509-4-5 Ebook 979-8-9856509-5-2

Price: \$19.99/\$9.99

Available formats: Digital & softcover

Where to buy: Your local bookstore, Amazon, Barnes and Noble and all major booksellers

Excerpt

June 14, 1918
On the outskirts of Bouresches, France

Mortar shells whistled and whizzed over the half-meter-wide dugout where Luc Lemieux cowered. They landed far too close, rutting the earth and spraying dirt. The narrower the trench, they said, the less likely a soldier was to suffer a direct hit and be blown to bits.

Luc dozed in snatches until a wet sensation, like a sprinkle of morning rain, woke him. The sweet and spicy scent of lilacs mixed with horseradish settled in his foxhole. Then his nostrils began to burn as if someone were singeing the tender flesh inside with a lit match.

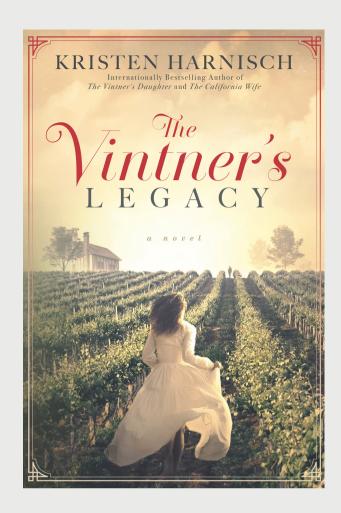
Tin mess pans clattered. "Wake up! Gas! Gas!"

Luc clamped his eyes and mouth shut.

Holding his breath, he scrambled to his feet and reached for his canteen. He swigged water, gargled, swished and spit. He splashed more water on his face, then tipped his head back, the liquid streaming into his nostrils.

Blowing hard, he tried to expel the poison from his nose.

Luc pulled his gas mask from its satchel, fastened it over his face and secured his helmet. He sprang from the dugout and charged back down the Gobert ravine with only the silvery haze of moonlight to guide him.



Over 1,000 Five-Star International Reviews

Praise from readers in France:

"This latest installment (in the series) moved me enormously. The characters are very endearing. I liked following this new generation, so courageous and full of humanity."

"I have a huge crush on these three novels. I won't forget them anytime soon, and I highly urge you to read them...don't hesitate to rush to this sequel...these are books that I will reread with pleasure."



Praise from readers in Germany:

"This book is a treasure...If you want to know what life and death, sadness and joy, pain and hope, war and peace mean, you should definitely read this book. You are right in the middle..."

"Congratulations, Ms. Harnisch, I have rarely read such a well-researched, but also exciting, emotional and informative trilogy. May I have some more please?

Thank you very much."

"Fascinating and captivating...On the one hand, through the story about this dramatic time of war and on the other hand, through always new twists and events that one could not have foreseen."

Biography

Kristen Harnisch is the author of the award-winning, internationally bestselling novels The Vintner's Daughter, The California Wife and The Vintner's Legacy. She drew upon her extensive research and experiences living in the San Francisco Bay Area and visiting the Loire Valley to create the stories for the three historical novels in the series. Ms. Harnisch earned a degree in economics from Villanova University and currently resides in Connecticut. Visit her online at www.kristenharnisch.com or follow her on Twitter @KristenHarnisch or Instagram @kharnischauthor.



Photo Credit: Alix Martinez Photography

Press Release

The Vintner's Legacy, the third book in the internationally bestselling Vintner's Daughter series, will be released on May 10, 2022!

(Darien, CT, May 10, 2022) Beginning over a decade after Kristen Harnisch's second novel ended, **The Vintner's Legacy** takes us back to 1918 to a world at war, when the Americans are mobilizing to send troops to France. In this gripping sequel to **The Vintner's Daughter** and **The California Wife**, four related families confront the turmoil of the First World War, a deadly influenza epidemic and a looming American Prohibition.

Sara and Philippe Lemieux's adopted son and vintner Luc Lemieux enters the fight as his fellow Americans join forces with the Allies. At his Vouvray vineyard, he leaves behind his grandparents and two parentless siblings rendered homeless by the advancing German troops. Meanwhile, his sister Adeline, serving as a surgical nurse on the front, makes the fateful decision to save an injured German medic who is struggling to reclaim his humanity during one of the deadliest wars in history.

Back in America, Sara and Phillippe Lemieux battle to save their Napa vineyard and world-renown wines from the blight of prohibition while their daughter Pippa Lemieux strives for independence as a devastating secret surrounding her birth is revealed.

From the pristine vineyards of California to the war-ravaged battlefields of France, **The Vintner's Legacy** is a vividly crafted testament to hope and the resilience of the human spirit, as experienced by four families whose daring and sacrifice will shape generations to come. Kristen Harnisch presents a poignant read for this 2022 Memorial Day Weekend.

Award-winning and internationally bestselling author Kristen Harnisch drew upon her extensive research and experiences living in the San Francisco Bay Area and visiting the Loire Valley to create the stories for the three historical novels in the series. Ms. Harnisch earned a degree in economics from Villanova University and currently resides in Connecticut. Visit her online at www.kristenharnisch.com or follow her on Twitter @KristenHarnisch or Instagram @kharnischauthor.

RE: THE VINTNER'S LEGACY

By Kristen Harnisch Wenham Lake Press Pub Date: May 10, 2022

ISBN: 979-8-9856509-4-5, Paperback, 479 pages, \$19.99, 6 x 9, Fiction

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Interview Questions

How did you decide when and where this third novel in The Vintner's Daughter series would take place?

As the author of a series, I always seek ways to challenge and evolve my characters, beyond what even they believe possible. At the end of *The California Wife*, the second generation of the Lemieux and Donnelly families-primarily, Adeline, Luc and Pippa--are on the cusp of adolescence. In *The Vintner's Legacy*, we see them (and some new characters) journey into adulthood during one of the most tumultuous times of the twentieth century when the First World War and the Spanish influenza are raging. How will they survive physically and emotionally? As a storyteller and history lover, it excites me to choose settings and circumstances that answer these questions while engaging my -- and my readers' -- imaginations.

Given that The Vintner's Legacy takes place from December 1917 to December 1918 and so much has already been written about World War I, how did you lend a fresh perspective to the events of this time period?

It took two years for me to complete my research for *The Vintner's Legacy* and to begin writing this tale of wine, war, romance and redemption. I used some little-known but fascinating tidbits of history to bring this world to life in a unique way. For example, the Hello Girls, over two hundred female bilingual wire experts, were recruited into the U.S. Army and sent to France by General John Pershing to keep the U.S. command connected with the troops on the front lines. When the phone lines failed, the U.S. Army actually used homing pigeons to keep the commanders in Paris and Tours informed of troop positions and victories. When troops were facially wounded by unprecedented modern weaponry, artists like American Anna Coleman Ladd banned together at the Studio for Portrait Masks in Paris to construct lifelike masks for these facially disfigured soldiers to wear home. Perhaps the sliver of history that surprised me the most was the fact that Kaiser Wilhelm had offered to broker a peace agreement with Britain and France in 1916, but both countries refused because they would accept nothing less than Germany's military defeat. Therefore, the war continued for another two years.

Tell us about the new characters you introduce into the story and their importance.

I wrote *The Vintner's Legacy* for my American and international audiences, especially those in France and Germany, so I wanted to present a balanced perspective through the eyes of American, French and German characters who endured so many tragedies and triumphs during this time. Therefore, I introduce Ondine and Michel Marchand, two orphans from Lille who have suffered the unthinkable, and Heinrich Sommer, a German medic forced into service, but desperate to return to his family in Cologne. These new arrivals challenge Luc and Adeline's preconceived notions of right vs. wrong, of duty vs. desire.

Although half of the story takes place on the battlefields of France, the other half takes place in Napa and San Francisco, where the Lemieux family is working to protect its winemaking dynasty against the threat of Prohibition and the Donnelly family is supporting the war effort at home. Billy Hudson arrives on the scene just as Pippa Lemieux's beloved friends Adeline Donnelly and her father, Matthew Donnelly, are sent to war and as she discovers a devastating secret surrounding her birth. Billy is the catalyst for Pippa to question everything she believes about herself and what her future could be.

We have to ask: what wine pairings do you suggest for your novels?

The Vintner's Daughter pairs very well with a Carneros/Napa Pinot Noir or Chardonnay or a Vouvray Chenin Blanc.

The California Wife pairs best with a Napa Valley old vine Zinfandel, or a sparkling Rosé.

The Vintner's Legacy pairs nicely with a Vouvray or Lodi, California Chenin Blanc or a full-bodied Napa Valley Cabernet. For more information on wine pairings or to schedule me for a book club appearance, <u>click here</u>.