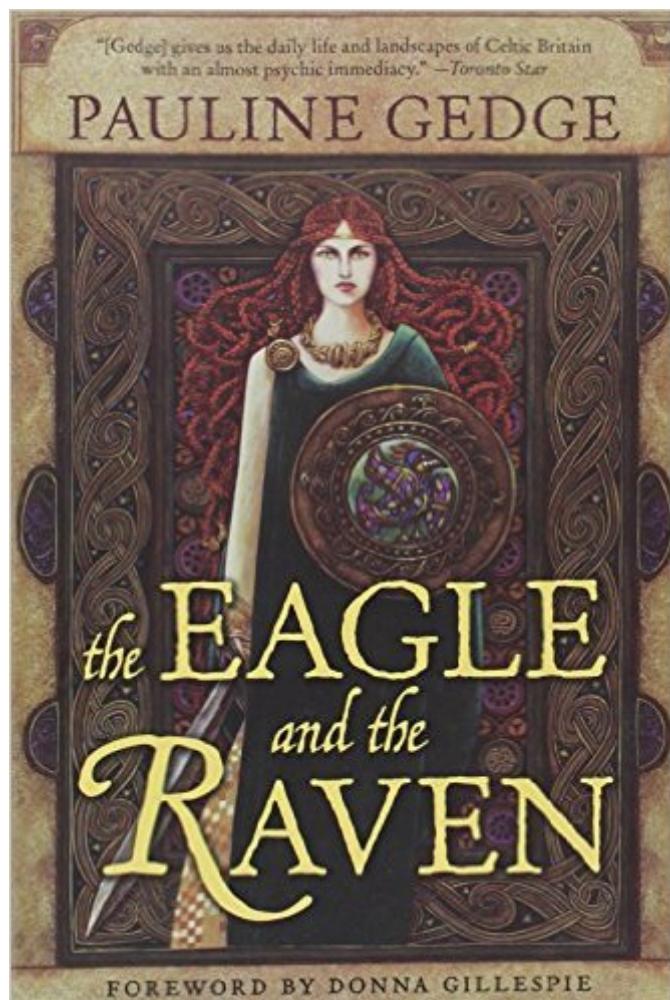


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The Eagle And The Raven (Rediscovered Classics)



Synopsis

Spanning three generations, this historical novel tells the tale of Boudicca, the most famous warrior of ancient Britain, and Caradoc, the son of a Celtic king, who sets out to unite the people of the Raven and lead them against Rome. Caradoc's objective is not easily accomplished as the Roman army advances into Britain, raping Celtic women and burning villages to the ground. His efforts are also met with fierce opposition from Aricia, the vain queen of a northern tribe who swears allegiance to the Romans after Caradoc slighted her, and from Gladys, Caradoc's warrior sister who falls in love with her Roman captor. Unfortunately, Caradoc's endeavors are left unresolved when he is taken prisoner, but Boudicca, a strong-willed woman, ultimately takes up the cause that was Caradoc's legacy.

Book Information

Series: Rediscovered Classics

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (69 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I am French. 25 years ago, I bought an abridged and translated version of *The Eagle and the Raven* and absolutely loved it. Over the following years, I read and re-read it many times until all the characters had become intimately familiar. Then one day, while in a library, I opened an encyclopedia and looked for Boudicca. I knew she had really existed and I wanted to know how much of the story matched reality. Then I looked for Caradoc. And there he was, a real-life character, son of Cunobelin, brother of Togodumnus. I discovered that all the main characters in *The Eagle and the Raven* were based on real-life characters. Even Aricia and her husband had existed. I was astonished. What had started as a novel had become a startling tale of historical

events. Fictionalized, but real nonetheless. When I came to the United States, I looked for a long time for an English and unabridged edition and, after a few years, to my eternal delight, I was finally able to buy a new copy (Penguin edition). I have read it 4 more times since. I guess I will never tire of reading this book anymore than I would tire of seeing the same friends over and over again. This is a magnificent novel that has stirred me and moved me, written by a uniquely gifted storyteller. Her main characters are well drawn out, their evolution well developed and explained, the book spans 30 years. I have read with some curiosity the negative reviews written about this book and must conclude that as with all books, taste is a personal matter. However, regarding the alleged slowness of the first 200 pages, given that the story starts approx. 8 years before the initial landing by the Romans, it gives us time to get acquainted with the main characters of the story.

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