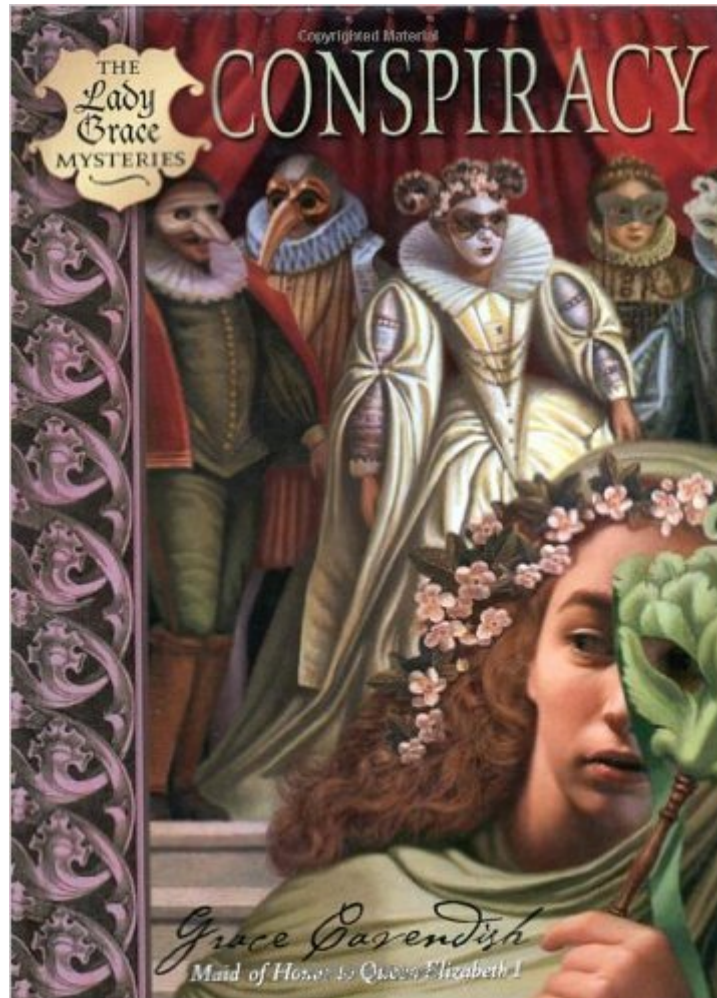


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# Conspiracy (The Grace Mysteries)



## Synopsis

When Margaret Cavendish, one of Elizabeth I's Gentlewomen of the Bedchamber, lost her life in a bungled attempt to kill the Queen, her daughter, Lady Grace, became a protégée to the monarch, who takes her under her wing. Now Grace, a spunky girl who romps through the gardens with the laundry maids and court tumblers and rolls her eyes at her fellow ladies, chronicles the court intrigues that swirl around her. . . . The Royal Court is on its summer travels and Lady Grace is sure something strange is going on. As Queen Elizabeth narrowly escapes a series of mysterious accidents, Grace must investigate just who might be behind the conspiracy. Could it really be one of the Queen's faithful friends—or even her latest suitor? Delve into the daybooke of Lady Grace, Queen Elizabeth's favorite Maid of Honor, to discover a deadly dangerous plot.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 980L (What's this?)

Series: The Grace Mysteries (Book 3)

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Delacorte Books for Young Readers; First Edition edition (February 8, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385731531

ISBN-13: 978-0385731539

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #885,616 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Renaissance](#) #636 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe](#) #998 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Royalty](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

This is the third book in the Lady Grace Mysteries series, about Lady Grace Cavendish, a thirteen-year-old Maid of Honour at the court of Queen Elizabeth I. Thirteen-year-old Lady Grace Cavendish and the rest of the Maids of Honor are on summer progress with Queen Elizabeth I and many other members of her court. While they are staying at the home of the Earl of Leicester, the

Queen's old suitor, a series of mysterious accidents happen, all apparently targeting the Queen. Are they truly accidents -- or is someone trying to damage the Earl's reputation? Could it be the Queen's latest suitor, a Swedish prince, whose chances at winning Elizabeth's hand in marriage would be better if she was to become angry with the Earl, believed by many to be her one true love? Grace, with the help of her friends Ellie the laundry maid and Masou the tumbler, is determined to get to the bottom of this mystery before more damage is done. Readers who enjoyed the first two mysteries featuring Grace are sure to like this third book in the series. I highly recommend this series to readers who enjoy mysteries set in historical times. The Elizabethan setting is very interesting, and the characters are very likable. I can't wait to read the next book in this series.

For all of you that haven't read the first book in the series, ASSASSIN, I think that you should read that and BETRAYAL first. But, I think that CONSPIRACY is definitely up there with ASSASSIN. Just to let you know the difficulty of the mystery, I figured it out right away, but it wasn't easy. I just had this feeling that it was that person who was making all of the accidents happen. You just kind of have to put the book down for a minute and think, "Hey. Who can I rule out now?" And if you keep doing that, you'll use the process of elimination to figure out the culprit. Yeah, I know. It sounds really confusing, but it worked for me. Anyway I would consider CONSPIRACY to be a must read for kids and adults alike. Not only is it a great mystery, but it also has a lot of historical fiction included as well. (Grace is a Maid of Honour for Queen Elizabeth I)

The plot is much better developed than in the first volumes. The author is doing a better job of knowing her YA audience. However, the strength of the other elements of character, pacing, and locale more than carry this delightful book. I'll definitely look forward to the next installment.

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I read this book because I really like Historical Fiction, and I was hoping for a different kind of book. Instead of only reading about royalty, I wanted to read about the other people. I thought it was a good book in that way, and the plot wasn't bad, although it was pretty easy to figure out who was behind the accidents. I guess it was designed more for younger kids, like the 9-13 range. It's just that it was pretty obvious plot-wise and aside from that it was just your standard historical fiction book. So, I think the younger set would like it, but teens might want to look elsewhere for a good Historical Fiction book.

Wow! Maybe not as good as the other books in the story (don't get me wrong, i LOVE romance), This story still takes you to Queen Elizabeth's Court, filled with romance and... Conspiracy. As a prince comes to the court to court for the Queen's hand, though it seems to be already taken by the rather devoted Earl of Leicester. Yet, Lady Grace just knows there is more to these fruitless events than simple "accidents" that have been happening, for they all seem to point suspiciously to the Earl, but Grace knows that he is much too smart, cautious, and in love to ever hurt the Queen... Or is he? These accidents have all been hurting others, yet all of them also seem to effect the Queen. Surely no one would want to kill the Queen besides those hateful Scottish. Would they?

I already have the first two books of the series and the third installment keeps getting better. Good suspense and shows that even girls can do great snooping. But the way she writes the happenings in a diary is what really makes me like the book. Something I haven't seen before.

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