

Featured Review:

“I particularly recommend this... to teachers.”
~ [CHEYANNE MURRAY, medieval historian](#)



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Advance Praise for *The Kiss of Death*:

“A tale worthy of the label: epic!”
~ JERRY THIEL, Crystal Lake Central High School English Department

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“Prepare to travel back in time... *The Kiss of Death* is redolent with history and tradition, but the story moves forward at a contemporary clip. You will find yourself caring about the characters, and you will miss them at story's end.”
~ MEGAN BROWN, Associate Professor of English, Drake University

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“Quite stunning... Writing historical fiction accurately yet still making it readable and interesting is a remarkable talent.”
~ KRISTINE HALL, Woodstock Fine Arts Association

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“A seamless balance between fact and fiction. Elizabeth and the other characters are richly drawn; you breathed life into them; you made them real! Your introduction of romance in the midst of relentless tragedy is a masterstroke. Tore my heart out!”
~ JERRY THIEL, Crystal Lake Central High School English Department

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Reviews:

“Research: Your manuscript is infused with elements of your research. Given the time in history, this is a monumental achievement!

Character Development: Elizabeth and the other characters are richly drawn; you breathed life into them; you made them real!

Plot development: You produced a seamless balance between fact and fiction . . . and you did it in mere weeks. Nicely done!

Dialogue: Throughout the story, you captured the flavor of the language of the time . . . in dialogue and in the narrative.

Miscellaneous: Sarah, you absorbed the history and crafted a thoroughly credible tale around it. Superb work!

Final Comments:

Sarah,

You have composed a tale worthy of the label: epic! There are layers of stories at play here. The plague, of course, drives the story. Your employment of medical language and knowledge of disease symptoms further bolsters the storyline. You even adopt the English spellings (humours, flavouring, etc.) of words, which lends additional credibility to the manuscript.

Your introduction of romance (Elizabeth and Matty) in the midst of relentless tragedy is a masterstroke, further drawing the reader into the story by creating empathy and sympathy for the doomed lovers. Tore my heart out!

You are a master storyteller, Sarah. Thank you for your devotion to the art of writing. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to experience your abundant talent and craft!"

~ JERRY THIEL, Crystal Lake Central High School English Department

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"Sarah Natale is young, this was her debut book, and it was surprisingly good. Sarah is for sure an author to keep an eye on because she might just end up as the next big author... I recommend this book to anyone who wants to learn more about both the plague and medieval times. I particularly recommend this as a potential read to teachers or homeschooling parents."

~ [CHEYANNE MURRAY, medieval historian](#)

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"An excellent first novel... the author captures a time in history that most people know little about."

~ Amazon reviewer

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"The writing made me... curious about this time period and the author gave me a [clear] picture of what it must have been like to live during that century."

~ Amazon reviewer