



## Inês: Queens of Portugal Trilogy Book Club or Event Conversation Starters



### SPOILER ALERT: Story Questions

The novel starts with a Prologue involving Pedro and his son, Ferdinand. Did this “give away” too much for you or did it set the context for the first six chapters?

How did you feel about young Pedro watching the punishment of King Afonso’s bastard half-brother João?

Constanza becomes willing to have Inês banished. Was Constance justified? Have you ever become estranged from a long-time, close friendship? Was it a betrayal or a drifting apart?

What gives Inês the capacity to forgive Constance? And care for her friend’s children?

Inês is a woman of her time. Yet, she resists taking the veil even though she has never heard from Pedro.

Gonçalves’s jealousy remains visceral over years. Is that plausible? Think of the news stories of (mainly) men murdering a woman they refuse to share with another despite divorce or rejection. Or the jealousy that festers over time like the murder of the MIT professor by a former fellow student years after they parted. Have you an experience of this level of anger and how could it be managed?

The chronicle of Fernão Lopes makes a reference to Pedro having hallucinations. In our time, Oliver Sachs did seminal work around grief experiences. How would you react if you had an experience like Pedro’s after losing a loved one? Would you believe it, be frightened, or feel comforted?

Revenge drives Pedro. How do you believe he felt after he exercised it? Is revenge satisfying?

What got in the way of your reading experience?

What worked for you in reading the novel?

**RATINGS and/or REVIEWS** (brief or long) are deeply appreciated – by all authors.  
On Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Goodreads or your Facebook Post.

**THANK YOU!**

## **Inês: Queens of Portugal Trilogy**

### Questions for the Author:

How did you find the story of Inês and Pedro?

What was compelling about the story of Inês and Pedro that led you to write this particular story?

How did you do your historical research? Did you travel to Portugal?

When and where do you write?

Why do you think stories from the Iberian world have less representation in fiction; for example, compared to the Tudors.

Are there other characters in the book who you think would anchor a separate novel?

The book says it is a trilogy. Tell us about the remaining two books:



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