

Dante s daughter

[Literature](#), [Russian Literature](#)



Their family is then forced to leave their home town of Florence Italy by the constant dueling of political groups in the cities, between the white Guelphs, who opposed the papacy influence and the black Guelphs, who supported the papacy. Dante, her father, also a white Guelph supporter, went to Rome on "business" to see Pope Boniface VIII, when the black Guelphs take over the city. The Alighieri family knew that they had to escape the city in fear that they would all be killed because of Dante's political standing and the fact that he was not present in Florence.

Antonio was to fool with her brothers out of the city and their mother would meet them later, they had to run out of the city, so she saw many gruesome events of war while she was fleeing the city, she saw the true chaos that came from people during times of war. Their family had to disperse amongst their relatives and some of her brothers even went away to become apprentices. Gina went to their Uncle Francesco, while Pietro and Jacopo became abbots with the Dominicans at Santa Maria.

As for Antonio she went to stay and help with her father's sister, Deviant, and her family, Disco her uncle who was a painter, and her cousins Margarita and Fede in Siena. As for her mother, she had to go to work on her mother's farms. Antonio lived with her aunt and uncle for nearly five years. Her mother visited her as often as she could. She worked along with Disco in his shop learning to paint, and helped out with the housework with Deviant, Margarita and Lecturer, Disco's sister. She had shared a bed with Margarita who was only a couple of years older than her and got to know her real well.

One day Notation's father sends a letter to her, inviting her to come along with him to Paris France since he will be studying at the university there, he already offered her brothers to come with him but they could not. Shortly after Antonio receives the letter her father. Dante arrived so soon that Antonio had barely gotten to make up her mind, but she decided to go along with her father on this journey. Through their travels Antonio gets a new understanding of her father. Antonio along with her inattentive father travel from city to city spending their nights in either inns or with nobles, in their cash tiles. Upon their arrival to Paris, Dante immediately goes to his studies in search of new knowledge, while in the first couple of days Antonio is just sitting around the inn. Eventually, Antonio met up with an old friend of her father's, at a Beguine, a community of single women living under Nun like conditions but could work to make a living and could break free of any vows and leave if they like. Antonio decided to stay with the women of the Beguine while her father studied at the university.

The three ladies Antonio stayed with, Claire, Mated, and Assess, worked as illumination, an art form done to liven up a page of a book or a document, Antonio helped with her prior knowledge of painting. Events quickly went downhill for the group of girls, Assess died, and later her mother Claire. As for Antonio, Dante decided that the knowledge he had sought, could not be obtained at the University and they decided to head back to Italy. Antonio had returned to Siena to stay with her Uncle Disco's family again, who ill Dante had left her to work with the emperor of Germany and Italy.

Disco was on a new commission that had made them much wealthier, and of course everyone was much older than they were previously. Margarita was soon to be engaged with Pitter, and Antonio had also begun to experience her share of romantic relationships, first with Seeing a loving apprentice to Disco, then Titere to Farina, a young man who lived in Florence, when she had moved there to live with her mother and uncle. Yet neither one worked out, she left Siena forgetting about Seeing, and when the emperor failed at capturing Florence, the Alighieri name meant little and was hated in Florence, so Farina didn't want to marry her.

Notation's Family was reunited and continued to live on in a house of their own in Vienna. Antonio struggled with what the true meaning of her life was to be with god. She had gotten malaria, which she was lucky enough to surpass. Imbroglia, one of her best friends from back in Siena had come to visit her in her state of illness and wanted to marry her, Antonio agrees and they live happily, until Imbroglia dies of plague. Antonio then decides, knowing her fate, to join the convent of San Stefan Dogleg Alive.

The Historical fiction novel, Dana's Daughter had gotten many things right with barely any wrongful descriptions, the author, Kimberly Houston surely did their homework. Not only did she write this novel accurately she did it in SST of the different aspects of the book. Whether it was from their lifestyle of different social classes, like what they ate, wore and how they lived, the way they traveled, the events that happened in the time period of the early fourteenth century, their beliefs, and even the fact that most of the characters actually existed in this time period.

The author portrayed the lifestyles of the people in the book very realistically. The roles of women in the 1300' in actuality was to stay home maintain the household, cooking, cleaning and taking care of the children, which was the name roles the author portrayed, the mothers of different households always prepared their food and spent the day cleaning and tidying up the house. Younger girls like Antonio in the novel helped with such chores like the laundry. In the novel they did the laundry down at the river which was common in that era (McKay, John P.). Antonio mother wore a turban when she would clean, which was also accurately explained.

Clothing worn by characters was only described for the females, it was always gowns with different colors, always handmade by the mothers of the household, and silk as very dressy and expensive. In history, it was common for families to make their own clothing and women only really wore gowns, silk was of the most valuable cloth in this time frame as well (McKay, John As for the common diet of Italians in the thirteen hundreds, consisted mostly of bread, which was the most important staple of their diet and stews, made of whatever ingredients they could get.

Houston wrote about what they would eat, they would always eat bread with olive oil, and Notation's mother would always have the best soups made from the best ingredients she could mind, which would have been correct for the time period and the wealth of the Aligner family. Between the pair of Antonio and Dante, when they were traveling they had a mule and horse, which only the higher class could afford since many poor pilgrims could only travel on foot which was accurate for the time too.

The Nobility that Dante and Antonio stayed with also had a very descriptive lifestyle differing from the Aligner family. The upper class lived in large palaces or castles and had feasts very often, in which they ate exotic foods, crayfish, eels in plum sauce, asparagus, cheese tarts, green beans eked in almond milk, roast venison with garlic, partridge stewed with lentils and shallots, chicken cooked with pears and brandy, tiny spring lettuces dressed with olive oil and perceive, junket, strawberry tarts, and many other dishes.

The nobility also had the ability to house many subjects they sought useful for their skills. There were two major patrons of Dante, lady Cluenice, and Can Grandee. In history little is known about the true paths Dante had taken, there is no account of him staying with a lady Cluenice, but there is documentation of him staying with Can Grandee for the reason of Can Grandee's interests in the importance and reasoning behind The Divine Comedy, that Dante was writing the evidence is found in the letter that Dante had written to Can Grandee explaining the books (Aligner, Dante).

Dante Aligner was a famous poet in the time period who had written many books the three parts that make up The Divine Comedy, Inferno, Purgatorial, and Paradise, all mentioned in the book plus his writings of other books, and The Banquet, although over fifty poetic works are known from Dante.

Antonio was very fascinated by the large structures of the gigantic cathedrals in Paris, mainly Notre dame. She was very intrigued, and found peace amongst its' large mosaics held together by lead.

This account was very accurate, Notre dame is famous for its' large mosaics, and it started its construction in 1160 and finished in 1345, well within

Notation's lifetime. Kimberly Houston portrayed the lifestyles of different social groups very accurately throughout the novel. There was one common disease that multiple people contracted throughout the happening of the book, and it was malaria, a disease carried by mosquito. Antonio had contracted it, and during the time it was almost a death sentence (McKay, John P. , yet she survived through it.

Antonio had experienced immense pain and was deathly ill, for a couple of weeks, then would endure eight hour long fevers and intense pain that would go away and return two days later. Antonio went through series of pains much like the actual symptoms which were, headaches, fever, lethargy, chills, abdominal pains, sickness, muscular pains, diarrhea, and coughing fits. Kimberly Houston had shown the symptoms characters were experiencing accurately as they would be in the real world. The common scientific beliefs of people in the novel were also of accurate details in the novel.

Accurately for this time, people in the story believed in the Ptolemaic system. Which stated that the heavens rotated on big crystal spheres around the earth. This was the common belief until 1543, when Copernicus published *On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres*, which proved the earth was not at the center of the universe (McKay, John Many of the events that took place in the book happened in real life. In the book, King Phillip's armies had harried Boniface VIII to death, and engineered Clement VII into office, and brought the papacy into France.

While written accurately, the papacy was stationed in Avignon, France in 1309, in the time frame covered in the book, and in fact it was King Philip IV that that is responsible for both moving the papacy and bringing in a tradition of having French popes. Another event including King Philip IV of France is that there is a scene from the book where the Knights Templar and everyone associated with them are being arrested for the King's benefit. What the book failed to mention is the reasoning behind Philip IV's actions and motives of this action.

King Philip IV was very much in debt to the Templar, whereas in the novel had explained it as the 'Templar were engaged in unnatural and illegal activities offensive to God...' (Houston, Kimberley Burton), which was not true since the Templar were a strictly ran group, by the pope, to be a religious army, but King Philip did have them arrested in real history for his own benefit. The Templar, described by Houston, were very large, muscular men, with the knowledge of scholars, which is an accurate description of the way the Knights Templar would have been since they were knights.

Antonio along with the other women of the Beguine, had done work for the Templar illuminating comments, which would have been against the code of the Templar to have any contact with women (Temporarily. Com). Another event that took place was the newly elected emperor Henry VII, who in the novel was convinced by Dante Alighieri to march on Florence to capture it amongst his empire and to hopefully redeem the Alighieri name in Florence, Italy.

The holy roman emperor Henry VII of Germany historically had the support of Dante, and did wage war on Romancer since they were part of the Gulfs, both Dante and Henry VII were Gibberellins (McKay, John P). Yet another event that occurred in he book happened in Verona, Italy, it was that the palace that Can Grandee lived in was frescoed by an artist named Ghetto, nothing is known of his work in Verona, Ghost's Personality in the book was that he was very enthusiastic and compassionate towards art, he also had a very high pitch girl laugh, Not much is known of his personality although he did work on many frescoes.

In addition, the Aligner Family was forced to leave their hometown of Florence by cause of the dueling political parties, the Gibberellins and the Gulfs, which were actual groups at the time which either liked the pope's influence on everything or despised it.

Lastly, the fall of Rome to the Byzantines and barbarians who began to construct huge basilicas with large mosaics on the interior, was mentioned towards the latter part of the book, the Byzantines had actually built these large basilicas although it was really the decline of the holy roman empire that brought in these Byzantines and barbarians to influence Rome (McKay, John The options a women could take throughout their life was described in the book as, if they did not get married, they could use their dowry from their parents to join a convent and become a nun, join a Beguine, or become a requisite.

This statement made in the book by Antonio is not completely true, not only could women become housewives, nuns, or prostitutes, but they could also

work as servants or join a Beguine. In the book none of the younger people had known about Beguines, and even when Antonio had found out she only thought that they existed in France. Although many of the surviving Beguines exist in Belgium albeit there was one in France, and many of the ancient Beguines had existed on the outskirts of Paris, the Beguine described in the book, sounded like it was nearly in the center Of

Paris, because it was within a short walking distance to important areas like shops and Dante could be there quickly to visit, plus there were buildings they went to on both sides of the Beguine. The tools and procedures used by the different artistic professions were described briefly in the novel, it had listed the linoleum, what processes they would make paints and glues for frames, and the different layers in a fresco. The linoleum was a moon shaped knife meant for preparing parchment by scraping the excess skin and hairs off of pelts.

This linoleum knife was actually used almost exclusively for illuminating because illuminating required a special type of medium to be written on ("Illumination parchment). Antonio had known the preparation steps to make this parchment from learning it from Disco he uncle, who was an artist, one would take calf skin stretch it out, scrape the excess skin and impurities from it, then split it into separate sheets until of desirable thickness, and then scrape it again with the linoleum to get rid of any shiny surfaces.

This process of manufacturing parchment was common through the middle ages and into the Renaissance (Differences teens Parchment, Vellum and Paper.). When Disco was working on the Masses;, an actual painting done in

sienna by the real Disco (Disco Did Obnoxiousness, Masses; Altarpiece), him and his apprentices, would always be asking for egg whites from the girls to mix with pigments from plants, and asking for cheeses which they would use to make their glues to put together frames. Egg whites were in fact used to make the popular paint tempera during the Renaissance, and so was cheese used inn glues during this time period.

The base layers of frescoes described in the novel, by Houston, was Ricoh, and intonation, these were the easiest and required the least artistic ability out of the whole Fresco process, and they were the top finishing layer and the base starting layer (" Categories Terms".). The author had gotten every detail right, when it came to the tools and procedures that had been used in the making of the artwork in the story. The river systems as described in the novel were the Aaron River of Florence, and the Adage River of Verona.

The Main character Antonio had described the Aaron River as Very muddy and not very navigable whereas the Adage River in Verona was better navigable and as a result had more trade coming in. The Aaron River in Florence has many tributaries which makes it harder to navigate and the Adage River does not making it easier to navigate. In Conclusion, the author, Kimberly Houston, did a very good job in the development of Dent's Daughter. She had gotten about ninety-nine percent of the detail, events and people right in the development of this book.

She had made the fiction life of actual characters very accurate and convincing for the time period. She had gotten the tools and procedures for certain artistic jobs right or the time frame, the correct people doing the

right events in the right year, correct descriptions of travel and the river ways, the ways certain groups acted, the food they ate, the clothes they wore, the ideology of the common people, the side effects of malaria, artistic terms, and even the existence Of certain characters and their connection in history.