

Ricochet

Kellyn Carni

CamCat Publishing (Feb 4, 2025)

Hardcover \$19.99 (320pp)

978-0-7443-1105-1

In *Ricochet*, Kellyn Carni's fresh take on the mysterious circumstances surrounding the murder of Russia's last ruling family, Anastasia Romanov takes the reins and tells her own story.

Anastasia and her brother Alexei always had a close relationship with magic. Alexei, the tsarevich, was saved by Rasputin's magic when he was young, and Anastasia grew up in the shadow of her younger brother. When their family is exiled and murdered, Anastasia and Alexei are spared by the magic stored inside of a garnet pendant gifted to Anastasia by Rasputin. This pendant has the power to transport the two to alternate versions of reality, allowing them the chance to redefine their own fates.

The siblings learn what forces are truly at play in their country's politics on their journey through an alternate reality where the Russia they know hangs in the balance—even stranger, Anastasia discovers she does not exist at all in this reality. Alexei sees an opportunity in this new reality to take the power he always craved but runs into humbling setbacks along the way.

Ricochet toes the line between fantasy and historical political thriller, weaving the excitement of magical interdimensional travel through a plot focused on the real historical conflict between Russia's royal family and those against them. Its tension remains high throughout thanks to surprises and political intrigue aplenty. There's even a sprinkle of romance. Each character learns important lessons about politics, love, and family against the backdrop of a brewing revolution.

Ricochet is an exciting, satisfying fantasy novel in which a princess and a prince learn what it means to claim their power—and about the dire consequences of allowing that power to corrupt them beyond recognition.

CIERA COX (January / February 2025)

Disclosure: This article is not an endorsement, but a review. The publisher of this book provided free copies of the book to have their book reviewed by a professional reviewer. No fee was paid by the publisher for this review. Foreword Reviews only recommends books that we love. Foreword Magazine, Inc. is disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.