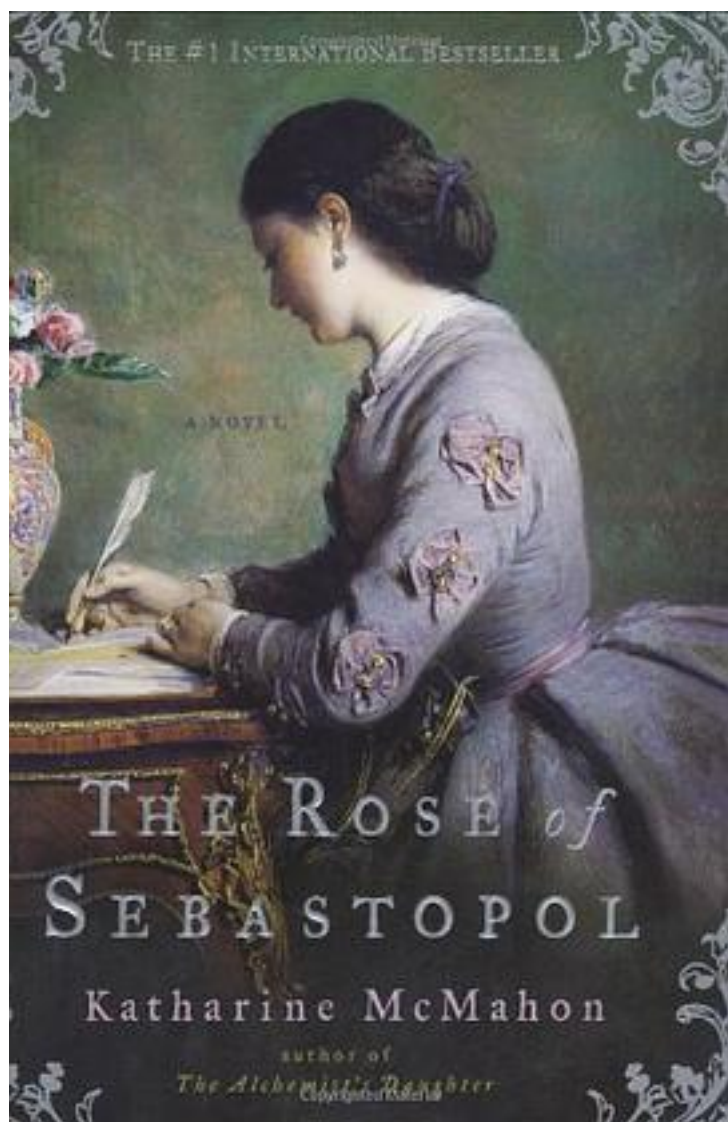


The Rose of Sebastopol



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著者:Katharine McMahon

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Russia, 1854: the Crimean War grinds on, and as the bitter winter draws near, the battlefield hospitals fill with dying men. In defiance of Florence Nightingale, Rosa Barr - young, headstrong and beautiful - travels to Balaklava, determined to save as many of the wounded as she can. For Mariella Lingwood, Rosa's cousin, the war is contained within the pages of her scrapbook, in her London sewing circle, and in the letters she receives from Henry, her fiancé, a celebrated surgeon who has also volunteered to work within the shadow of the guns. When Henry falls ill and is sent to recuperate in Italy, Mariella impulsively decides she must go to him. But upon their arrival at his lodgings, she and her maid make a heartbreaking discovery: Rosa has disappeared. Following the trail of her elusive and captivating cousin, Mariella's epic journey takes her from the domestic restraint of Victorian London to the ravaged landscape of the Crimea and the tragic city of Sebastopol, where she encounters Rosa's dashing stepbrother, a reckless cavalry officer whose complex past - and future - is inextricably bound up with her own. As her quest leads her deeper into the dark heart of the conflict, Mariella's ordered world begins to crumble and she finds she has much to learn about secrecy, faithfulness and love. But, in the thick of a war fought on more fronts than one, she also discovers a strength and passion she never knew she possessed.

作者介绍:

Katharine McMahon was born in northwest London and studied English and Drama at Bristol University. She is the author of 5 novels, has taught English and drama in secondary schools, written and performed in local theatre and at the Edinburgh Festival, and dabbled in lyric writing. She lives with her family in Hertfordshire.

Her new novel, *The Rose of Sebastopol*, set during the Crimean War, will be published in July 2007. Katharine has taught creative writing, appeared at festivals across the country and on *Woman's Hour* for BBC Radio Four. Her book *The Alchemist's Daughter* was one of Waterstone's Paperbacks of the Year for 2006 and has also been published in the United States and across Europe.

Katharine wrote a report, *What's Going on with Students' Writing?*, in which she explored the state of writing in British universities. This work was developed further when she was a co-author of the RLF report *Writing Matters*.

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