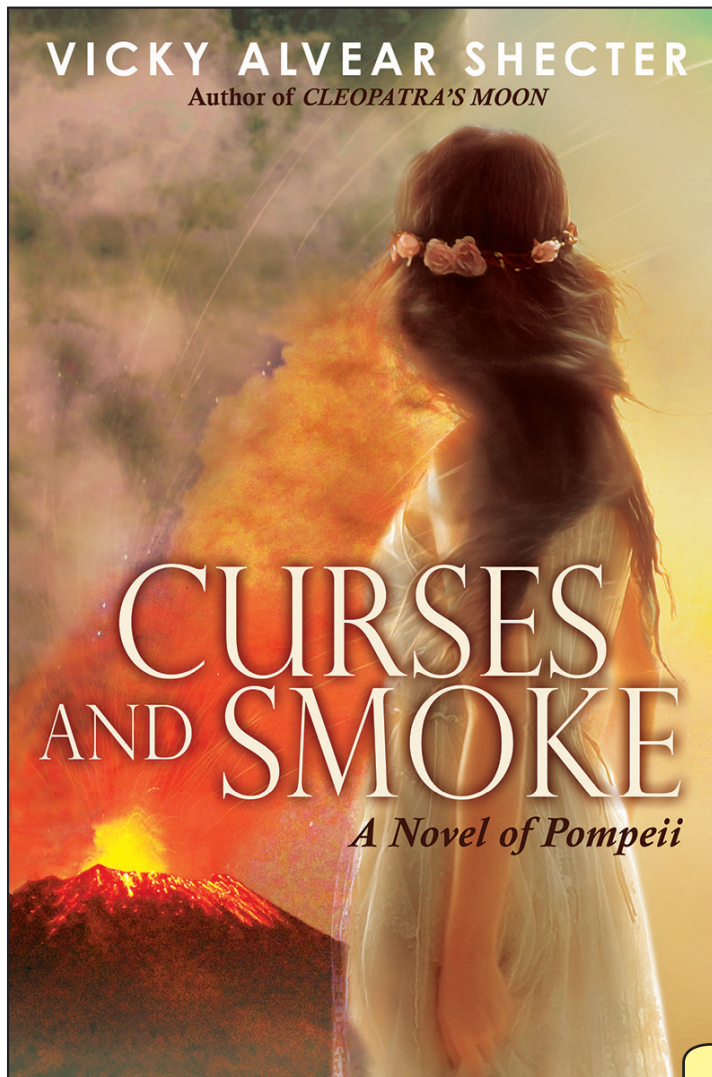


Book Talk

Books We Love This Month



ISBN: 978-0-545-50993-0 HC

Curses and Smoke: A Novel of Pompeii

By Vicky Alvear Shecter

This love triangle with a twist is told in a voice that is contemporary for a historical novel. In this version, two childhood friends reconnect and fall in love. The trouble is that one is the daughter of the owner not only of the Gladiator training center but also of the other half of the doomed couple, Tag. Lucia is a compelling and interesting character whose thirst for knowledge sets her apart and makes her a very relatable protagonist. We root for this couple knowing it cannot end well, but you are still surprised.

Ages 12 & up

If you enjoy historical fiction and the writing of Meg Cabot, you'll devour *Curses and Smoke!*

“I love this book because it gripped me from the beginning and surprised me throughout, and into the ending!” — Susan

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