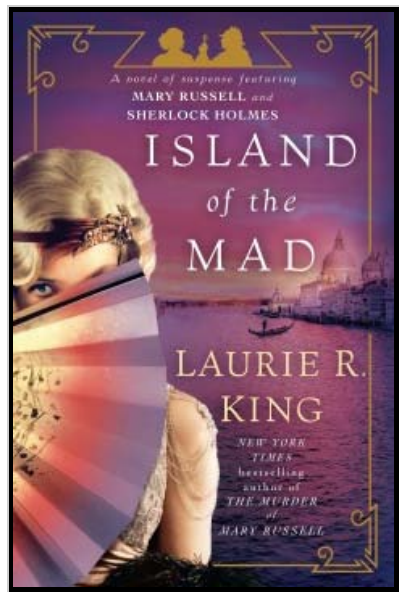


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## Island of the Mad

A novel of suspense featuring Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes

by Laurie R. King

**Price: \$28.00**(Hardcover)

Published: June 12, 2018

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 Rating: 0.0/5 (0 votes cast)

From the Publisher: Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes are back in Laurie R. King's *New York Times* bestselling series—"the most sustained feat of imagination in mystery fiction today" (Lee Child). With Mrs. Hudson gone from their lives and domestic chaos building, the last thing Mary Russell and her husband, Sherlock Holmes, need is to help an old friend with her mad and missing aunt. Lady Vivian Beaconsfield has spent most of her adult life in one asylum after another, since the loss of her brother and father in the Great War. And although her mental state seemed to be improving, she's now disappeared after an outing from Bethlem Royal Hospital . . . better known as Bedlam. Russell wants nothing to do with the case—but she can't say no. And at least it will get her away from the challenges of housework and back to the familiar business of investigation. To track down the vanished woman, she brings to the fore her deductive instincts and talent for subterfuge—and of course enlists her husband's legendary prowess. Together, Russell and Holmes travel from the grim confines of Bedlam to the winding canals and sun-drenched Lido cabarets of Venice—only to find the foreboding shadow of Benito Mussolini darkening the fate of a city, an era, and a tormented English lady of privilege.

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### About The Author

**Laurie R. King** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of fifteen Mary Russell mysteries, five contemporary novels featuring Kate Martinelli, the Stuyvesant & Grey novels *Touchstone* and *The Bones of Paris*, and the acclaimed standalones *Lockdown*, *A Darker Place*, *Folly*, *Califia's Daughters* (written under the pen name Leigh Richards), and *Keeping Watch*. She lives on California's Central Coast.

### Release Info

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**List Price:** \$28.00 (Hardcover)  
**Published:** June 12, 2018  
**Publisher:** Bantam  
**Pages:** 320  
**ISBN 10:** 0804177961  
**ISBN 13:** 9780804177962

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### What We Say

Author Laurie R. King follows one of her strongest entries in the Mary Russell/Sherlock Holmes series with a water-treading tale set in Venice. 2016's "The Murder Of Mary Russell" was a slam-bang volume that turned on the inconspicuous

housekeeper Mrs. Hudson. King's refusal to "reset" the story at the end and return things as they were proved most satisfying. Before that, "Dreaming Spies" had fun with its Japanese setting. But here the action and especially the mystery feel rote. Russell and Holmes head to Vienna -- Russell to track down a seemingly mad heiress who may simply be a lesbian fleeing "Bedlam" to make a life for herself; Holmes to scout out the rise of fascism for brother Mycroft. Little suspense can be found in either quarter since fascism is most definitely on the rise and the woman of means with her lover proves to be just as suspected, or should I say hoped for. Russell learns to drive a speedboat and coach a gay pal in the new fad of water skiing. Holmes dons a Zorro costume and charms Cole Porter to the point where Russell cheekily wonders if Porter is hoping to misbehave with the great detective. It's all rather low-key and almost beside the point, more an idyll than an adventure. With King having substantially raised the stakes last time around, she may have to choose between simply ending the series or pushing it again into bolder, uncharted territory. -- Michael Giltz

## What Others Say

### Praise for the award-winning novels of Laurie R. King

"The great marvel of King's series is that she's managed to preserve the integrity of Holmes's character and yet somehow conjure up a woman astute, edgy, and compelling enough to be the partner of his mind as well as his heart." — *The Washington Post Book World*

"A lively adventure in the very best of intellectual company." — *The New York Times*

"Erudite, fascinating . . . by all odds the most successful re-creation of the famous inhabitant of 221B Baker Street ever attempted." — *Houston Chronicle*

"Will have [fans diving in] with reckless abandon." — *Booklist* (starred review)

"Whip-smart, suspenseful and intricately plotted." — *Shelf Awareness*

"Captivating." — *Us Weekly*

"Highly entertaining." — *The Denver Post*

"Deliciously rich." — *Santa Cruz Sentinel*

"Extremely exciting." — *Chicago Tribune*

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