

MAGDA'S LADY is the second volume in the series of *Tales of Catalonia and Scotland* which Mercedes Clarasó began in 1995 with *Teresa's Decision*. Of the previous collection and its author, Alexander Linklater wrote in the *Herald*:

‘Born of a Catalan father and Scottish mother, her background is in itself tidy evidence that things aren’t the way some casual Scottish *independistas* would have them. She uses subject matter from both places to evoke palpably different landscapes, histories and attitudes. In fact it is from the structural strength of this collection that we get a sense of movement between different styles of writing just as the stories alternate between divergent national characteristics . . .

‘ . . . the charm of *Teresa's Decision* lies in its concise narrative crafting. As she lovingly doubles up her two native countries Mercedes Clarasó achieves simplicity, directness, and a delicately communicated sense of locality.’

There were 25 tales in *Teresa's Decision* and here are a further 25 in *Magda's Lady*. The author’s unique combination of sensitivity, versatility and universal accessibility is manifest also in her novels, brief details of which are given on the back flap.

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