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CEZANNE'S QUARRY

A NOVEL

Barbara Corrado Pope

A young woman is found murdered...and the clues to her death point to her spurned lover, Paul Cezanne

(Pegasus Books, June 11, 2008) — In this richly atmospheric novel, a mysterious young woman named Solange Vernet arrives in Aix-en-Provence with her lover, a Darwinian scholar named Charles Westerbury, and a year later is found strangled in a quarry outside the city. The young and inexperienced magistrate, Bernard Martin, finds his investigation caught in the crossfires of a raging cultural debate.

Initially assuming that Solange's murder was a simple *crime de passion* by either a jealous Cezanne or a betrayed Westerbury, Bernard soon finds himself on a mission to unravel the secrets of Solange and Cezanne's hidden past—the key to which may be a series of his paintings which depict the strangulation and violation of a woman with golden-red hair.

Exploring the questions of science and religion—and the role of women in these realms—that persist even today, *Cezanne's Quarry* is an impressive debut mystery about life, death, love, and art.

"The author's canvas includes the impact of the theory of evolution, religious conservatism, and the search for justice in the Third Republic of France."

-Karleen Koen, author of Now Face to Face, Dark Angles, and Through a Glass Darkly

"A compelling mystery with strands of love, art science, and religion. A first rate debut."

-David Ball, author of *The Sword and the Scimitar* and *Empires of Sand*

"The sights, sounds, even the scents of the period are brought vividly to life. With elegant exposition the intriguing plot moves effortlessly to its surprising conclusion."

-Ellen Jones, author of *The Fatal Crown* and *Beloved Enemy: The Passions of Eleanor of Aquitane*

