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"The Curse of the Voynich" by Nicholas Pelling

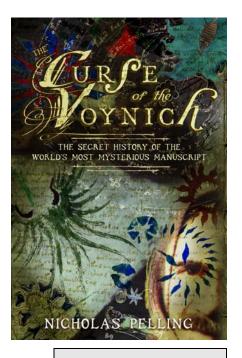
The Italian Renaissance: a time of invention and intrigue, of patronage and power – a time when states and individuals guarded their secrets not with swords, but with ciphers.

This was also the time that one desperate man, driven by ambition but betrayed by his leaders, left Italy behind to start a new life in the East.

Yet to do this, he faced a problem: how to carry his own precious collection of secrets on such a dangerous journey?

His solution was to transform it into a strange book, full of bizarre plants, naked women and unreadable text – an enigma that has endured right to the present day, where it is better known as "The Voynich Manuscript".

But now Nick Pelling's fascinating new book "The Curse of the Voynich" strips away the many layers of deception and illusion to reveal the secret history of "the world's most mysterious manuscript" – a time capsule sent to us half a millennium ago...



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