



Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba

Christina Vella

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba

Christina Vella

Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba Christina Vella

Born into wealth in New Orleans in 1795 and married into misery fifteen years later, the Baroness Micaela Almonester de Pontalba led a life ripe for novelization. *Intimate Enemies*, however, is the spellbinding true account of this resilient woman's life -- and the three men who most affected its course.

Immediately upon marrying Célestin de Pontalba, Micaela was removed to his family's estate in France. For twenty years her father-in-law attempted to drive her to abandon Célestin; by law he could then seize control of her fortune. He tried dozens of strategies, including at one point instructing the entire Pontalba household to pretend she was invisible. Finally, in 1834, the despairing elder Pontalba trapped Micaela in a bedroom and shot her four times before turning his gun on himself.

Miraculously, she survived. Five years later, after securing both a separation from Célestin and legal power over her wealth, Micaela focused her attention on building, following in the footsteps of her late, illustrious father, Andrés Almonester. Her Parisian mansion, the Hôtel Pontalba, is today the official residence of the American embassy in France; and her Pontalba Buildings, which flank Jackson's Square in New Orleans, form together with her father's St. Louis Cathedral, Presbytere, and Cabildo one of the loveliest architectural complexes in America.

As for Célestin, he eventually suffered a total physical and mental breakdown and begged Micaela to return. She did so, caring for him for the next twenty-three years until her death in 1874.

In *Intimate Enemies*, Christina Vella embroiders the compelling story of the Almonester-Pontalba alliance against a richly woven background of the events and cultures of two centuries and two vivid societies. She provides a window into the yellow fever epidemics that raged in New Orleans; the rebuilding of Paris, the Paris Commune uprising, and the Second Empire of Napoleon III; European ideas of power, class, money, marriage, and love during the baroness' lifetime and their inflection in the New World setting of New Orleans; medical treatments, legal procedures, imperial court life, banking practices, and much more.

Combining the historian's meticulous research with the biographer's exacting knowledge of her subject and the novelist's gift for narrative, Vella has crafted a rare cross-genre work that will capture the imagination and admiration of every reader.

 [Download Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Po ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba

Christina Vella

From reader reviews:

Floretta Simmons:

What do you think of book? It is just for students as they are still students or the item for all people in the world, what best subject for that? Just simply you can be answered for that query above. Every person has distinct personality and hobby for each and every other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't want do that. You must know how great as well as important the book Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba. All type of book would you see on many solutions. You can look for the internet solutions or other social media.

Andrew Joy:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be update about what going on or info even knowledge to make these keep up with the era that is certainly always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe may update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what type you should start with. This Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and wish in this era.

Robert Russell:

This Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba is great guide for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who all always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it data accurately using great plan word or we can say no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read this hurriedly you can have whole info in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but hard core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no guide that offer you world in ten or fifteen minute right but this guide already do that. So , it is good reading book. Hello Mr. and Mrs. occupied do you still doubt that will?

Kelly Mays:

Reserve is one of source of knowledge. We can add our information from it. Not only for students and also native or citizen want book to know the upgrade information of year in order to year. As we know those ebooks have many advantages. Beside most of us add our knowledge, could also bring us to around the world. By the book Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba we can consider more advantage. Don't someone to be creative people? To get creative person must prefer to read a book. Only choose the best book that ideal with your aim. Don't be doubt to change your life with that book Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba. You can more appealing than now.

**Download and Read Online Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of
Baroness de Pontalba Christina Vella #0SUENW15VIF**

Read Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba by Christina Vella for online ebook

Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba by Christina Vella Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba by Christina Vella books to read online.

Online Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba by Christina Vella ebook PDF download

Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba by Christina Vella Doc

Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba by Christina Vella Mobipocket

Intimate Enemies: The Two Worlds of Baroness de Pontalba by Christina Vella EPub