

## SYNOPSIS



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Sequel to: Christina von Eibingen and the Grail of the Teutonic Order.  
Template: Screenplay, approx. 140 pages, German and English  
Format: Cinema film/ TV movie miniseries  
Genre: Historical Drama and Mystic thriller  
Main topic: Gnosticism vs. Christianity  
Side topic: The Apocrypha and their significance in the Roman Catholic Church  
The Albingensian War 1209 to 1229. 1244, the surrender of the last 200 Cathars at Montségur Castle and their suicide  
Playtime: 1313  
Locations: Abbey of Saint-Nicodeme; Montségur Castle, Carcassonne, Albi

Logline: Gnosticism, the true Christian faith?

Storyline: In 1313, while traveling to the Council of Constance, the French Dominican Gabriel d'Aquin loses his life in an arson attack at the German monastery of Saints Peter and Paul on Reichenau Island. Since then, a special book known as the \*Malleus Gnosticarum\* (The Gnostic Hammer) has been considered lost.

Pope Clement V is determined to recover the book. He assigns the case to his most formidable inquisitor, Raphaël d'Albi. Armed with sweeping powers, the inquisitor travels to Reichenau. The investigation is marked by his brutal methods. Left with no other recourse, the monastery's abbot turns to Christina von Eibingen for help.

Following her previous mission to locate the Holy Grail, Christina had retired to the Salem convent near Lake Constance to devote herself entirely to the study of scholasticism. Initially, she shows little interest in leaving the convent. However, upon learning the identity of the inquisitor and realizing that the entire community faces the threat of the stake, she relents.

Raphaël dares not take direct action against Christina—a member of the House of Luxembourg, niece of Emperor Henry VII, and a former papal legate. Instead, he demonstrates his power by threatening to have Heinrich von Salem—currently imprisoned in Carcassonne and facing the Inquisition—burned at the stake as a heretic unless she cooperates. A race to recover the \*Malleus Gnosticarum\* ensues.

Christina immediately travels to southern France to save Heinrich from execution by fire. From Carcassonne, the two make their way to Albi. A faint lead points toward the Dominican monastery of Saint Nicodemus (\*Abbaye de Saint-Nicodème\*). When Christina and Heinrich stop in a nearby village, the locals warn them against entering the Dominican monastery—known to the villagers as the Abbey of the Immortals (\*Abbaye des Immortels\*).

Christina must fend off formidable adversaries who attempt to conceal the truth through traps, deceptions, and even the summoning of spirits. Meanwhile, Heinrich realizes he cannot protect Christina, as he is powerless against these supposedly immortal creatures. Yet, the greater the adversity, the more determined Christina becomes; she discovers not only the \*Malleus Gnosticarum\* but also a forbidden text: the apocryphal \*Gospel of Nicodemus\*. Christina realizes that the Dominicans are, in fact, Cathars—a sect believed to have been wiped out in 1244.

Furthermore, Christina comes to understand the reasons behind her wavering faith—particularly those moments when she exposed relics as fraudulent. She recognizes that she shares more in common with the Cathars. This leads to an open conflict with Heinrich, a Crusader and Knight Hospitaller whose own faith is unwavering. Christina faces a fateful choice: Christianity or Gnosticism, Heinrich or solitude, love or peace of soul.