



## Setting the World on Fire (Hardback)

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By Shelley Emling

Palgrave MacMillan, United Kingdom, 2016. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 210 x 139 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. One of only two patron saints of Italy, the other being St. Francis of Assisi, St. Catherine was ahead of her time. As a political powerhouse in late 14th century Europe - a time of war, social unrest and one of the worst natural disasters of all time, the plague - she worked for peace between Christians while campaigning for a holy crusade against Muslims. She was a peacemaker during Siena's revolution of 1368, sometimes addressing huge crowds; she convinced Pope Gregory XI to return the papacy to Rome at a time when the Catholic Church was unravelling. She was illiterate but grew into a great writer by dictating to assistants. She was frail and punished herself mercilessly, often starving herself. It's easy to see why feminists through the years have sought to claim the patronage of St. Catherine. From her refusal to marry to her assertion that her physical appearance was of no importance, the famous Saint is ripe for modern interpretation. How did this girl, the second-youngest of 25 children of a middle-class dyer, grow to become...



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