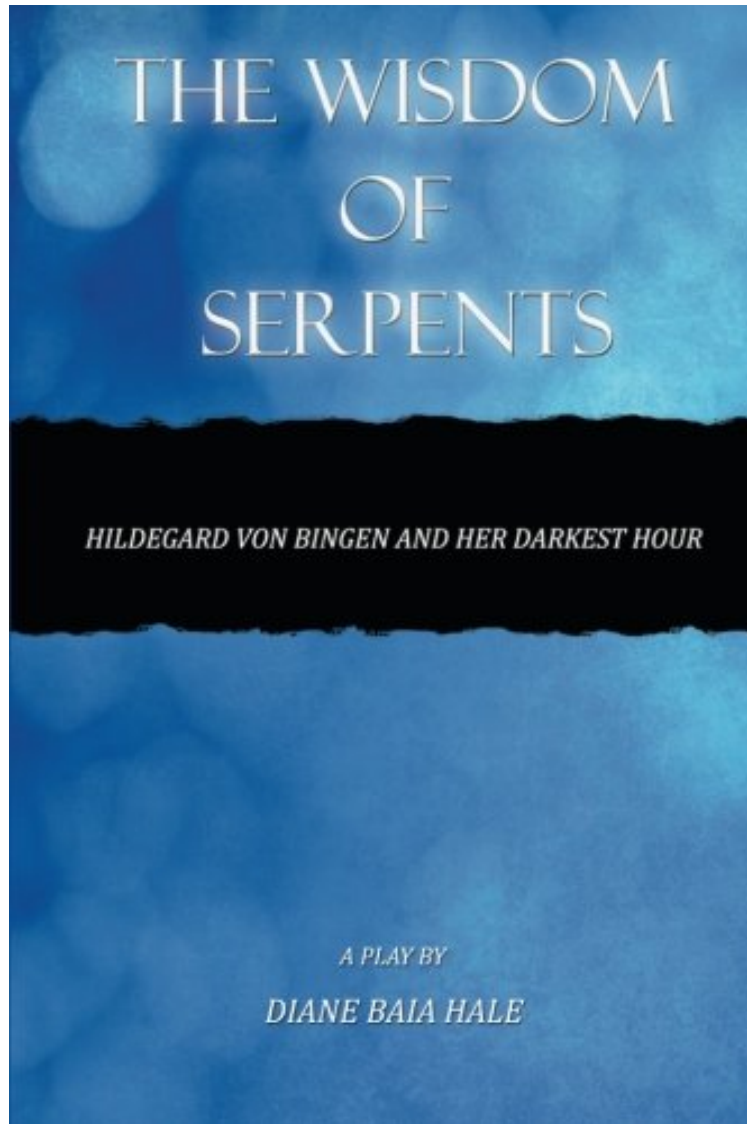


(Free pdf) The Wisdom of Serpents: Hildegard von Bingen and Her Darkest Hour

# The Wisdom of Serpents: Hildegard von Bingen and Her Darkest Hour

*Diane Baia Hale*

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#5960927 in Books Ingramcontent 2014-05-27 2014-05-27Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .29 x 6.00l, .40 #File Name: 1499013698116 pagesThe Wisdom of Serpents | File size: 47.Mb

**Diane Baia Hale : The Wisdom of Serpents: Hildegard von Bingen and Her Darkest Hour** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Wisdom of Serpents: Hildegard von Bingen and Her Darkest Hour:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An amazing, dramatic look into the life of Saint Hildegard ...By John GaffneyAn amazing, dramatic look into the life of Saint Hildegard von Bingen, this 12th century German mystic

is brought to life by playwright Diane Baia Hale in a most divine way. From the monk Brother Volmar to the seventeen-year-old Decima of Flanders, each character is brought to life with profound meaning and value. I had the utmost pleasure of seeing this performed in Chicago. An absolute must-read!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. do not overwhelm this work in some fantastic splendor. Instead

By IvanEwertDiane Baia Hale is a rare talent. She blends accurate, dedicated historical research with dramatic tension and realistic dialogue. The Wisdom of Serpents draws the reader into the lives of one of history's most misunderstood saints. Hildegard von Bingen was undoubtedly a polymath, gifted in the arts of music, medicine, and rhetoric. She was also a mystic, given to visions - but the visions, while a critical part of her story, do not overwhelm this work in some fantastic splendor. Instead, it is a story of politics and theology, of powerful men and of the women who dare to stand up to them in a dangerous age. The work is equally informed by inspired feminism and realistic understanding of the age in which Hildegard lived - how much freedom was permissible, and how much danger both church and state threatened to bring down upon her abbey. I highly recommend The Wisdom of Serpents to anyone interested in medieval politics and theology, or in modern gender studies.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A jewel of a read

By kelly shannonI thoroughly enjoyed "The Wisdom of Serpents." I was not familiar with Saint Hildegard von Bingen and now have a deep appreciation of her contributions to religion, politics, and ethics after reading the play. Imagining life as a female religious leader - yes leader - respected by kings and the Pope, but threatening to most other males in positions of power (religious or otherwise) is hard to fathom, but author Diane Baia Hale did a wonderful job of celebrating her life and her legacy. It was a quick and fascinating read. I have not read many plays and wondered if the flow would be disruptive. Instead, I found that the setting backgrounds added interest to the reading process. The cast of characters section was very helpful and I earmarked those pages for reference as I ventured into the play. I love learning about strong females who uphold their truth above all consequences. Realizing that Hildegard held on to her truth in a world of men, power struggles, and repercussions was inspiring. I highly recommend "The Wisdom of Serpents."

Famed real-life German poet and prophetess, musician and mystic, author, artist, preacher, and founder of two abbeys, Hildegard von Bingen is one of the most influential personalities of the twelfth century. Yet woman in such a position of power is bound to have enemies, and Hildegard's penchant for telling the truth, especially regarding the corruption of the clergy, has made her more than a few. Thus when she dares to defy both church and state in defense of a heretic knight, it might take more than a miracle to save her. Based on a true story.

About the Author Diane Baia Hale is a Chicago playwright specializing in historical drama and the theatre of the heroic, focusing on the inspiration that can be drawn from people of the past and the dilemmas that they faced. Her play The Wisdom of Serpents was a finalist for the 2009 Jane Chambers Award. Other full-length dramas include Rake (finalist, 2013 Arch and Bruce Brown Foundation Play Competition; semi-finalist, 2013 Pride Films and Plays Contest), The Marble Muse, The Lion's Share, Dragon's Teeth, and The Fencing Lesson. To learn more about her work, please visit [www.DianeBaia.com](http://www.DianeBaia.com).