

**Chapter 1 : Poison Study (Study #1) read online free by Maria V. Snyder**

*Poison Study follows a young woman named Yelena, who has been in the Commander's dungeons for almost a year upon killing a man. The day she is set for execution, she is given a choice. She could either go through with Oh wow, like, really.*

Snyder lives in Pennsylvania with family. She was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and originally wanted to be a meteorologist. She has been writing since and published numerous articles and other works. She published her first book, *Poison Study*, in , about a young food taster and magician. She enjoys writing, traveling, playing volleyball and taking pictures as hobbies. She has several short stories and a list of her works can be found on her website: She also has a blog at: Unfortunately, she lacked the necessary forecasting skills. So she worked as an environmental meteorologist until boredom and children drove her to write down the stories that have been swirling around in her head. Writing, proved to be more enjoyable than meteorology, and Maria returned to school to earn a Master of Arts degree in fiction writing from Seton Hill University. Unable to part company with Seton Hill and its wonderful writing program, Maria is currently a teacher and mentor for the MFA program. And to prove it to her parents To research for the Glass books, Maria attended several glass blowing classes. There is no need to worry that she will change careers to glass artist anytime soon. Maria does not possess the hand-eye coordination and would need years of practice to produce a piece worth displaying. However, the whole experience was educational, and she now owns an extensive collection of misshapen paperweights, tumblers, and bowls. One thing they got right in one otherwise messed-up world! After writing the Insider series of books, Maria decided to write another fantasy series in a new world and featuring a magical healer who can heal others with just a touch. As a mother of two, this idea appealed to Maria as bandages and kisses only go so far. As you can guess, Maria was quite excited about that. Between writing her books, Maria has also written several short stories that have been published in a number of anthologies to learn more click here: Writing for anthologies is a fun challenge and creative break from writing longer stories. Maria never would have considered writing a vampire tale until she was asked to write one for an anthology. Once she learned her vampires could be bad guys i. As you can see, Maria is a stickler for research. She takes classes and experiences as much as possible so her stories are realistic. She has learned how to ride a horse, pick a lock shhh Playing volleyball, taking pictures, and reading are her hobbies. Maria just recently started playing the cello again after a 20 year hiatus. She was into scrapbooking until she fell hopelessly behind. The pile of photos and stickers are all waiting for the scrapbooking fairy to arrive. She loves to travel and go on cruises with her family. Her list of destinations grows each year and she never says no to a trip. Maria lives with her family and a black cat name Valek a. Kitty the bug assassin! Maria always says one of the most gratifying aspects of being a published author is hearing from readers, and she prides herself on answering all her emails

*Poison Study by Maria V. Snyder Study #1 Published on March 1, by Mira Pages: Genres: Fantasy, Young Adult Choose: A quick death Or slow poison About to be executed for murder, Yelena is offered an extraordinary reprieve.*

A quick death Or slow poison About to be executed for murder, Yelena is offered an extraordinary reprieve. And so Yelena chooses to become a food taster. As Yelena tries to escape her new dilemma, disasters keep mounting. Her life is threatened again and choices must be made. But her past comes back to haunt her in the form of Brazell, who wants revenge, and a master magician named Irys who discovers that Yelena has magic and warns her to control it. Everyone thinks the Commander is beyond help, but Yelena uses her magic to help him recover, while at the same time uncovering a his deepest secret. Once the Commander recovers, he banishes Yelena from Ixia, never to set foot in his territory again. Add to that the fact that Yelena knows his secret, her fate is sealed. She sets off to Sitia with Irys, who has taken the kidnapped orphans under her care, and vows to reunite them with their families. Yelena accepts the offer and begins training in toxicology. But then, when Brazell arrives at court, he sets out to avenge his son, and sends his soldiers after Yelena, who evades them. She recalls how Reyad had tortured her cruelly, trying to draw her into performing magic, which she is convinced she cannot. Magic, fyi, has been forbidden in Ixia ever since the military came to power. Brazell sends a gift to the Commander, a sweet that quickly becomes his favourite. During the fire festival, Yelena is ambushed by Southerners who attempt to murder her, but is rescued by Valek. The Generals arrive at court for a meeting, where Brazell announces the completion of a factory for producing his now famous sweet, Criollo. His partner, Mogkan, attempts to kill Yelena, but Valek steps in again. A Sitian delegation arrives at court, with the woman who attacked Yelena as their ambassador. They discover that the poison was meant for Yelena, by General Brazell. Irys offers to take Yelena with her when she leaves, and train her to use her magic. Brazell invites the Commander to inspect his factory. She is convinced that Mogkan is using extra power, and urges Yelena to find and destroy the source. Valek, having stealthily followed the entourage, reveals himself, and they search for the source of magic. Yelena breaks the connection with her magic, and together with Valek, Irys and their friends, they manage to kill Brazell and Mogkan, and capture their soldiers. How did it end? Yelena attempts to enter his mind and guide him to reality. Once the Commander recovers, he is thankful to Yelena for her help, but recognises the threat she poses to his position, both due to her power, as well as her knowledge of his secret. He banishes her from Ixia. Yelena travels with Irys to Sitia. A territory that was only a generation ago taken over by the military, and is now divided into eight military districts, each governed by a general. Magic is forbidden in Ixia, and all magicians put to death. Territory south of Ixia, where there is magic abound.

**Chapter 3 : Poison Study - Wikipedia**

*Poison Study is an entrancing novel by budding author Maria V. Snyder. The fantasy setting and charismatic characters capture the reader as the plot follows the adventures of Yelena, a criminal who barely escapes execution and becomes poison taster for the Commander, ruler of the country of Ixia.*

Poison Study fell into the latter group for me. Yelena is given the choice: Both have the same ultimate fate but she chooses to extend her life a bit longer. The story moved at a decent pace, a bit slow at times for my liking but otherwise alright. The writing is simplistic and clean – again, nothing special but not necessarily bad either. And the plot, well, it just happened. Poison Study is an easy read and while the writing style may be suited for readers moving from middle grade to young adult books, the content is definitely young adult and features a few themes that are not suitable for a younger audience. Yelena has a past full of violence and abuse, with themes of rape, that are explicitly explained here and there throughout the book as her backstory comes out. They are written in such a way that may be triggering to some so please be aware of this prior to reading this book. The world was not as fleshed out as I had hoped for in a fantasy. There are a lot of elements, like how the land is lorded over by the Commander and it seems to have helped equal out the role of men and women in society, but outside of seeing a couple women fight, this is only mentioned. How does the magic work, for example. It becomes a reoccurring plot point but I never understood it to care. That was my general mentality through most of the world-building, to be honest. As far as characters go, Yelena was alright. She was, like the rest of this book, average. At one point, Yelena wants to learn to fight and enlists the help of Janco and Ari. Plus, their dynamic was so contagious. I loved that they were both lighthearted but also deadly serious when it came to their friends. Sure, Yelena had certain traits I look for in a heroine like her strong will and independence, but these two held my attention and were in all my favorite scenes. Despite the initial originality of the idea the plot soon became predictable and less captivating, at least for someone like me who primarily reads fantasy. Never miss another book recommendation! Book dragons love comments! This site uses Akismet to reduce spam. [Learn how your comment data is processed.](#) Enter a search query Rating Scale Well, there went my day. I think it destroyed any hope of reading other books I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book. It shall receive high recommendations. Now go read it. This book was average. Neither good nor bad. Well, I finished it. Definitely do not recommend. Science teacher in training. Ready to give you your next book recommendation!

**Chapter 4 : Recaptains » Poison Study by Maria V Snyder**

*SYNOPSIS: About to be executed for murder, Yelena is offered an extraordinary reprieve. She'll eat the best meals, have rooms in the palace and risk assassination by anyone trying to kill the Commander of Ixia.*

Often described as a rat in human disguise, she spent a year in a rat-infested dungeon waiting to be hanged as punishment for murdering Reyad who was also the son of a prominent official. She has an outgoing nature suppressed by years of abusive experiments performed on her by Brazell, the prominent official and her father figure, and his son Reyad, making up for her initial physical weakness by learning to fight, wield various weapons, and pick locks. Throughout the novel as Yelena gets into various difficult situations, a "buzzing" sensation is described that seems to save her from her predicaments. This seemingly impossible magical potential is explained after Yelena discovers that as a child, she was kidnapped from Sitia, the magical counterpart to Ixia, and that she belongs to a powerful magical family. Yelena also develops romantic feelings for her friend and mentor, Valek. Valek Edit 33 years old. Valek is highly intelligent, often discovering plots and various conspiracies before they are even realized. Valek has the same feelings towards Yelena that she has towards him. Commander Ambrose Edit Almost 40 years. The Commander is powerful and focused, and never a fool for anybody. Even if the Commander has the power over all of Ixia, it never corrupts him. He is a fair and logical man, and when it comes to employing people, he never looks at gender or age, but at capability and intelligence. He cares for his people, and ensure that they have everything they need to survive. Commander Ambrose is, as nobody knows, biologically female. He feels like a man, but a mutant body, as he names it, he can never live the life he was born to. So he dressed up as a boy early, and Yelena is the only one to know the whole truth. Edit A carefree spirit, but strong, intelligent and skilled in everything he does. This has helped him raise in rank. One half of the power twins. Edit A witty and light-footed man who loves talk and a good fight. He is known to be a prankster, and many people underestimate him and are taken by surprise by his skills. He is a skilled dueler and sings to distract his opponents. Ari is the one that has to hold Janco by the neck, because Janco sometimes has the habit of picking a quarrel with someone, or he jests of them. He may seem like a carefree guy who have no worries, but if you threaten one of his friends you can be sure to be on his black-list. He, along with Ari loves Yelena as a sister and puts his life in her hands on multiple occasions. Rand previously worked for the King before the takeover. He befriends Yelena and suspects Valek of killing her predecessor, Oscove. General Brazell Edit He kidnapped Yelena with the help of Mogkan and kept her in his orphanage, and is the father of Reyad, whom Yelena killed. He is determined to seek revenge. When Yelena turned sixteen, she was selected to help Brazell and Reyad in their experiments. She initially saw this as an honor, but soon realized that the often brutal experiments would eventually mentally and physically cripple her. Brazell tested her for magical ability; he wanted to use her for the circle of magic that Mogkan needed to increase his power.

**Chapter 5 : Books And Excerpts.**

*Poison Study read online free from your Pc or Mobile. Poison Study (Study #1) is a Fantasy novel by Maria V. Snyder.*

His wants for her death causes Valek, the assassin and right-hand man to the Commander, who rules Ixia with an iron fist without ever bending the rules, to take her under his protection, despite having fed her Butterfly Dust to prevent her escape: But unfortunately for Yelena, she is developing strong magical abilities that she cannot control, which are illegal and a cause for death in Ixia. But she must use her abilities to protect herself not only from other magic users coming into Ixia, but against those who plot against the commander and against Valek, who she is slowly developing feelings for. In the end, she and Valek discover that General Brazell and a rogue magician from Sitia are behind the plot, as well as the kidnapping of many children from Sitia, including Yelena, for their magical abilities. She discovers that the Commander was born a woman and promises to keep that secret. But for her use of magic in the inflexible land of Ixia, she must be put to death. Valek delays the death order long enough to let her and other stolen children return to the south lands

Characters[ edit ] Yelena – An orphan with unexplained origins, Yelena is an intelligent, twenty-year-old [1] woman working as a food taster for Commander Ambrose. Often described as a rat in human disguise, she spent a year in a rat-infested dungeon waiting to be hanged as punishment for murdering Reyad who was also the son of a prominent official. She has an outgoing nature suppressed by years of abusive experiments performed on her by Brazell, the prominent official and her father figure, and his son Reyad, making up for her initial physical weakness by learning to fight, wield various weapons, and pick locks. Throughout the novel as Yelena gets into various difficult situation, a "buzzing" sensation is described that seems to save her from her predicaments. This seemingly impossible magical potential is explained after Yelena discovers that as a child, she was kidnapped from Sitia, the magical counterpart to Ixia, and that she belongs to a powerful magical family. Yelena also develops romantic feelings for her friend and mentor, Valek. Valek – 33 years old. Valek is highly intelligent, often discovering plots and various conspiracies before they are even realized. Valek has the same feelings towards Yelena that she has towards him. Commander Ambrose – Almost 40 years. The Commander is powerful and focused, and never a fool for anybody. Even if the Commander has the power over all of Ixia, it never corrupts him. He is a fair and logical man, and when it comes to employing people, he never looks at gender or age, but at capability and intelligence. He cares for his people, and ensure that they have everything they need to survive. Commander Ambrose is, as nobody knows, biologically female. He feels like a man, but a mutant body, as he names it, he can never live the life he was born to. So he dressed up as a boy early, and Yelena is the only one to know the whole truth. Ari – A carefree spirit, but strong, intelligent and skilled in everything he does. This has helped him raise in rank. One half of the power twins. Janco – A witty and light-footed man who loves talk and a good fight. He is known to be a prankster, and many people underestimate him and are taken by surprise by his skills. He is a skilled dueler and sings to distract his opponents. Ari is the one that has to hold Janco by the neck, because Janco sometimes has the habit of picking a quarrel with someone, or he jests of them. He may seem like a carefree guy who have no worries, but if you threaten one of his friends you can be sure to be on his black-list. He, along with Ari loves Yelena as a sister and puts his life in her hands on multiple occasions. Rand previously worked for the King before the takeover. He befriends Yelena and suspects Valek of killing her predecessor, Oscove. General Brazell – He kidnapped Yelena with the help of Mogkan and kept her in his orphanage, and is the father of Reyad, whom Yelena killed. He is determined to seek revenge. When Yelena turned sixteen, she was selected to help Brazell and Reyad in their experiments. She initially saw this as an honor, but soon realized that the often brutal experiments would eventually mentally and physically cripple her. Brazell tested her for magical ability; he wanted to use her for the circle of magic that Mogkan needed to increase his power. He haunts and occasionally talks to Yelena as a ghost.



**Chapter 7 : Poison Study (Study #1)(4) read online free by Maria V. Snyder**

*Maria V. Snyder is the New York Times bestselling author of the Study series, the Glass series, the Healer series, Inside Out, and Outside In. Born and raised in Philadelphia, she earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Meteorology from Penn State and a Master of Arts degree in fiction writing from Seton Hill University.*

Let me start by saying that Poison Study is written in a very elemental fashion. If you are a reader who likes flowery, descriptive writing, this might throw you for a loop initially. When I met Yelena, she was taken out of her prison cell, where she had languished for the better part of a year, and was prepared to meet the executioner. I was hooked right then and there. Instead of seeing Yelena get executed, she is taken to the office of the man who will cause a profound change in her life, Valek. Yelena was offered the opportunity to escape a quick execution. She could undertake the training as a food taster, which was not without risk, and if she survived, she would spend her life risking death on a regular basis. Typically the life of a food taster is very short. She never made excuses for her actions, although the reasons were valid. With the murder she committed, she felt as though her soul had been lost. And yet, some part of her refused to give up. This book brings to mind the aphorism that "Justice is Blind. Those who enforce the law make their verdicts on cases based on the evidence presented. In the eyes of an omniscient deity, this makes perfect sense, because that Supreme Being sees all things. Is it fair for a woman to be sentenced to death for trying to protect herself and her loved ones, for killing a man who brutally tortured and raped her? According to the strict laws of Ixia, murder outside of war is considered a capital offense. From the moment that Yelena took the life of the son of General Brazell, her life was forfeit. I believe in second chances. I know that we all fall and fail, and while I think some crimes are extremely heinous, I cannot let go of my belief that everyone deserves the right to make amends. I was happy that Valek gave Yelena the opportunity to live. Yet, Yelena will face more trials with her second chance. And she is put in a position to save the Commander who she serves as food-taster, and to prevent Ixia from falling prey to a conspiracy that involves key members of the government. Poison Study was a very readable, fascinating, enjoyable adventure. I loved seeing Yelena come into her own. Instead, she was honed by those fires and made stronger. I have my own way of looking at things, and it makes my interpretation of political stances, parties, affiliations, and governmental structures very against type. In many ways, going from a monarchy to what appeared to be a dictatorship was an improvement. However, there were many restrictions imposed on the people as a result of that same government. The government was set up to encourage fairness and to discourage waste. So this system was not perfect. I started this review by saying that this book was written with a simple use of language. I found that this narrative style was a bit deceptive. There is a lot going on here. I liked that Ms. Snyder left it up to the reader to interpret the events through her own eyes. I like how she slowly reveals aspects of the characters until the fullest picture comes to mind. That was the best way to write about a character like Valek. He seems like a puppet in the political structure of Ixia. But, if I had continued to see him that way, I would have been missing out on a lot. You see, Valek is not the puppet. He is an extremely intelligent and cunning spymaster, a swordsman without equal, and a deadly assassin. That he cannot see justice done in his own way. I fell in love with him as Yelena did. I loved the burgeoning relationship between Yelena and Valek. In my opinion, it took a lot of writing skill to convey this to the reader, and Ms. Snyder did an excellent job. Poison Study was a grand adventure in the style of the classic adventure novels. The fight scenes are well-written, and the danger elements are exciting and involving. Being Yelena is a dangerous proposition, because Brazell is determined to see her dead for killing his son, and continually uses underhanded methods to do it. Also because she lives in dangerous times, and in an environment fraught with intrigue. I liked that Valek saved Yelena several times, because it showed the intensity of his regard for her, but I also liked that many other times, Yelena was able to save herself through her intelligence, quick-thinking, and through her developing skills at self-defense. Yelena views herself as a small person in the scheme of things, but she had an important role in preventing a very ugly conspiracy from

coming to fruition. She effects change by doing what she feels is right, and because of that, she gains the respect of those who had previously viewed her as a cold-blooded murderess. The fantastic elements are subtle but integral. I loved seeing her become a capable and deadly fighter. She hates the idea of killing, but killing is necessary in the dangerous world she lives in. *Poison Study* was a book that I thoroughly enjoyed. Like many unexpected favorites, it snuck in there on me. But when I finished this book, I had a big smile on my face.

**Chapter 8 : Maria V. Snyder Archives | NovelKnight**

*The Poison Study Short Story Collection: Assassin Study, Power Study, Ice Study.*

Poison Study Study 1 4 Author: Snyder The overpowering desire to bathe flashed like fire on my skin. Energized, I ripped the prison robe off and raced to the washing area. Hot water poured down in a cascade when I opened the duct above my head. I stood for a long time, hoping the drumming on my head would erase all thoughts of poisons. Obediently I washed my hair and body twice. I scrubbed two more times, rubbing hard at the stubborn spots of dirt on my skin, stopping only when I realized they were bruises. I felt unconnected to the body under the waterfall. I stepped back, reflexively jerking my hands up to block him. The image disappeared, leaving me shaking. It was an effort to dry off and wrap a towel around me. Even clean, my snarled hair resisted the comb. As I searched for a pair of scissors, I spotted another person in the baths from the corner of my eye. I stared at the body. A corpse looked back at me. The green eyes were the only signs of life in the gaunt, oval face. Thin stick legs looked incapable of holding the rest of the body up. Recognition shot through me like a cold splash of fear. It was my body. I averted my eyes from the mirror, having no desire to assess the damage. Coward, I thought, returning my gaze with a purpose. In my mind I tried to reconnect my spirit to my body. Why did I think my soul would return if my body was still not mine? It belonged to Commander Ambrose to be used as a tool for filtering and testing poisons. Pulling clumps of knotted hair out with the comb, I arranged the rest into a single long braid down my back. The clothes were obviously sized for a man. I wrapped the belt three times around my waist and rolled up the sleeves and pant legs. The seamstress, Dilana, laughed gaily at my appearance. Her heart-shaped face had a halo of curly blond hair. Honey-colored eyes and long eyelashes enhanced her beauty. She admonished Margg for not spending the time to find me better-size uniforms. Margg pushed her lips together tighter. I envisioned us becoming friends. She probably had many acquaintances and suitors who came to bask in her attentions like cave dwellers drawn to a blazing hearth. I found myself aching to reach out to her. After writing my measurements down, Dilana searched through the piles of red, black and white clothing stacked around the room. Everyone who worked in Ixia wore a uniform. Advisers and higher-ranking officers usually wore all black with small red diamonds stitched on the collars to show rank. The uniform system became mandatory when the Commander gained power so everyone knew at a glance who they were dealing with. A housekeeper wearing black with small purple diamond-shapes on her apron therefore worked in Military District 3 or MDâ€”3. A sad expression gripped her face for a moment before she shook her head as if to rid herself of an unwanted thought.

**Chapter 9 : Poison Study by Maria V. Snyder â€” Rian Reads**

*The overpowering desire to bathe flashed like fire on my skin. Energized, I ripped the prison robe off and raced to the washing area. Hot water poured down in a cascade when I opened the duct above my.*