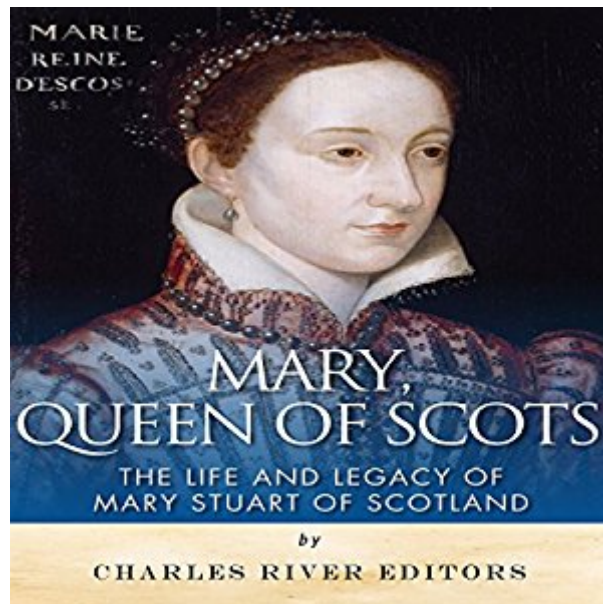


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Mary, Queen Of Scots: The History And Legacy Of Mary Stuart Of Scotland



Synopsis

"Did I not tell you this would happen? I knew they would never allow me to live, I was too great an obstacle to their religion." - Mary, Queen of Scots

The position in history of Mary Queen of Scots is a paradoxical one. Her fame as a monarch lies less in her personality or achievements than in her position within the dynastic maneuvers and political-religious upheavals taking place in northwest Europe in the 16th century. Most monarchs spend their early years learning in preparation to rule and then spend the latter part of their lives wielding power and status. Mary was thrust upon the throne when she was only a week old, and she ceased to be queen nearly 20 years before her death. Mary's was an unusual reign in a tumultuous period, and her tragedy was intertwined with her country's transformation. In Mary's case, she was a second cousin once removed of England's Queen Elizabeth I, which made her a rival for the throne. Mary was the granddaughter of Margaret Tudor, Henry VIII's sister, and her Catholicism made Mary the true and rightful Queen of England in the eyes of many Catholics and the Vatican. These facts, coupled with the realization that several English supported Mary, made Elizabeth I uneasy. Mary also did not help herself when she married James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, who was widely accused of raping her. The Scottish people rebelled, and Mary abdicated and fled southwards towards England. Elizabeth I was unsure at first what to do with Mary, so she kept Mary imprisoned in several castles and manor houses inside England (making escape difficult and thus unlikely). After 18 years in Elizabeth's custody, it became clear that the situation was becoming untenable.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book provides a brief and concise discussion of Mary, the Queen of the Scots and her legacy. She is a very tragic figure and was unable to obtain the same domination over Scotland that Queen Elizabeth had over England. The book describes a lot of under handedness and betrayals that Mary underwent. At least her bloodline would flow through future kings of Great Britain. If you do not know much about this era this book is for you.

Mary, Queen of Scots, was a tragic figure that seems to have had happiness taken from her time and again. As ruler of Scotland she wielded little real power and was forced several times into monumental decisions or circumstances. A nice quick read, this book was enjoyable and easy to follow.

Best part was the wealth of detail that fleshed out the woman who became Queen of the Scots. Not quite as good was the number of pictures which looked remarkably similar and yet were labeled with different names.

A very good and informative read. I have heard, read and watched many versions of Poor Mary's life I was unsure of what is true. Not sure this is, but seems true enough. I recommend it to anyone interested in British Royal history.

This book gives good, basic history. It does not give a religious view. However, it shows clearly how Queen Mary was likely forced into a third marriage, which doesn't really help beyond protecting her virtue, something which might not be otherwise considered correctly.

Very informative read! Loved all the facts about Mary that I never knew. Such a tragic life for such a true royal. Had not all these tragedies occurred in Mary's life, wonder how or if history would be different??

Historically accurate. Well written article about the tangled web Mary found herself involved in. I don't know how much was of her own doing or as a result of being a political pawn used and then deserted without anyone on her side.

MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS Thanks to all readers who corrected my original review. (some days it's

better to stay in bed or off the computer) Buy, read, rate and review; your opinion is important.

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