



Dark History of the Tudors

Judith John

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British history during the Tudor Dynasty where England is transformed from a minor medieval kingdom to a European power on the verge of an empire. Illustrated with 180 photographs, paintings, and illustrations.

Dark History of the Tudors Details

Date : Published 2014 by Amber Books Ltd

ISBN : 9781782741336

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Format : Hardcover 224 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, History, Historical, English History, Tudor Period, Biography

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From Reader Review Dark History of the Tudors for online ebook

Ian Raffaele says

A fairly decent survey of life in England under Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I, and Elizabeth I. I read this to get a foundation in Tudor history in anticipation for reading more in depth books in the future. Most information, I found to my surprise, I already knew from years of reading and studying history. This was the first time I tackled the subject all at once. There are a lot of pictures, both contemporary as well as later interpretations, to ease the less literate of readers and provide substantial padding for the 217 pages. The book is good for light reading even for those whom tend to shy away from history books.

Laura Peregoy says

Eh, got it bargain priced at Barnes and Noble, basically got what I paid for. I knew quite a lot of the information in the book already, even though I have never really researched the Tudors. I also was not a huge fan of the author's writing style, which included restating sentences almost verbatim two sentences later. The author also would not always use the appellate for the Henrys, which was confusing, and sometimes would switch from first to last name while referencing someone.

Éowyn says

This UK edition is entitled The Golden Age of the Tudors, but appears to be the same book published as Dark History of the Tudors. I hate it when they do that!

Other than that, this is a nice looking book with lots of illustrations, but on reading it's just really, really poor. The language makes me think it's aimed at school children and it's full of hyperbole. A lot of the illustrations are Victorian, nowhere near contemporary, and some of the facts are just plain wrong! I don't know how such rubbish gets published!

James says

I did not finish this, as it's more of a flip through when there's time and move on.

The Tudors are a fascination for me because my wife can't get enough of them. I bought this as a kick at Barnes & Noble at a bargain price. It's a bargain book more about the pictures than anything else.

However, the information helps and even though the book is written in a confusing style, I enjoy having it around. it'll probably serve as reference someday.

Till then, adieu.

Katherine ??? says

Buku ini sebenarnya informatif juga untuk mengisi celah-celah kosong ttg pengetahuan saya mengenai Dinasti Tudor di Inggris. Namun sangat disayangkan terjemahannya yg menurut saya kualitasnya buruk padahal harga bukunya lebih dari 100ribu rupiah. Baru buka halaman pertama saja sudah terjadi kesalahan typo di bagan silsilah. Henry VII ditulis Henry VIII, dan berulang-ulang kesalahan yg sama dilakukan di hlm-hlm berikutnya. Ini kesalahan fatal menurut saya krn proofreader sangat tidak berfungsi di buku ini.

Diawali dgn latar belakang Perang Mawar antara keluarga York dan Lancaster, yang diakhiri dgn rekonsiliasi kedua pihak dgn pernikahan Henry VII dgn Elizabeth of York. Dilanjutkan dgn kepemimpinan Henry VIII yang fenomenal, biadab dan penuh skandal. Tampuk takhta beralih ke Edward VI yg msh bocah, diteruskan oleh kakak sulungnya, Mary Tudor yg terkenal sbg Bloody Mary dan terakhir oleh kepemimpinan dan puncak kejayaan Dinasti Tudor, Elizabeth I.

Walau semua sejarah sudah dijelaskan secara lengkap, namun saya merasa ada ganjalan juga dalam pemikiran kritis saya. Angkatan Laut Inggris yg notabene baru dibentuk pd saat pemerintahan Henry VIII, dan sebagaimana dikatakan masa pemerintahan Henry VIII menghabiskan sumber daya kas negara, blm lagi penerusnya spt Edward VI dan Mary I tidak memiliki kemampuan utk mengisi kas negara. Otomatis kas negara baru masuk pd saat pemerintahan Elizabeth I, namun tidak dijelaskan scr agak detail, bgmn angkatan laut Inggris yg masih berusia belia itu bisa mendadak tangguh pd masa Elizabeth? Apa hanya sekedar faktor keberuntungan saja karena Inggris memiliki Francis Drake, sang perompak yg piawai membaca gerakan gelombang dan angin laut? Tidak ada penjelasan.

Walau dgn kekurangan tersebut, bagi pembaca awam ttg Dinasti Tudor, buku ini bisa menjadi panduan utk mengenal dan mengetahui sejarahnya yang lumayan pelik dan penuh skandal. Cuma dgn satu syarat: Bertahanlah dgn kalimat-kalimat yg lumayan banyak bikin kening berkerut. Selamat membaca.

Sandra Fulbright-myers says

Deeply average general history that ignores a lot of recent scholarship, especially feminist scholarship. Honestly, I only finished it because I'm a few books behind on this year's reading challenge.

Ty Barnett says

The book read as a history book. But I learn more about the Tudors and the pictures were beautiful. I wish I could find a book about the other people in that era that was behind the kings and queens.

Courtney says

Little more than a synopsis of the Tudor reign. Do not expect a great deal of detail or any new/less well known information about this famous family of monarchs. Also, I find the use of the word 'incest' in this book's subtitle inaccurate and sensationalistic. The only "incest" mentioned in the entire book is one sentence

stating that Anne Boleyn was accused of having an affair with her brother (among others) as justification for Henry's setting her aside. Misleading to use it in such a way that implies Tudor family members were actively involved in such.

Quick and uncomplicated read and a decent introduction to the subject.

Suci says

I love this book. It is full of details. But because of that details, i feel like reading a cambridge book. Haha i feel like studying!!

Yep. It's so lesson book.

Next, I don't like how the texts are written, it kept repeating some texts over and over, but only a bit. So it's not a big 'ouch'.

NEXT, it is not advancedly oriented (?). I mean there are some (or all) the popped-up-mini-facts that suddenly cut the main texts. Then I have to re-read the previous pages to remember where it was lasted. Just, please don't let such a thing block the main texts! And what worse is that the mini-facts are contained of not-yet-being-talked topic or person!!! For example, now I'm reading something about Mary of Scotland.

Suddenly a little article about Hepburn is showed up. I'm confused and questioning 'who is this guy??" Okay forget about it. But yeah it would be explained in the next few pages. Why it is a 'failure', cause it is well, kinda spoiler for the next topics. I already have in mind that ' ah so this is the culprit' 'ah so this guy would be executed' 'ah so this is the successor' blahblah

Oh yeah forgot one thing! I saw another reviewer talking about the subtitle of this book. The INCEST! Yeah I couldn't agree more that it was only mentioned in Anne Boleyn page. Only in ONE page and there was no further about the article. Only the word INCEST that gave a show. shhh! *whispering* and it was only an accusation which couldn't be proved the existence until NOW!

I understand that it's a form of marketing to make the book looks interesting and invite the people's curiosity hoho

WHAT A GOOD THING is this book is full of PICS. I LOVE FREAKING PICS SO MUCH!! But I don't know to whom this book is supposed to read (shit the rate). There are some pictures which are explicit, such as the executions. It will be kinda provocative for under-aged (like me, but I'm mature enough to understand these stuffs). Who cares anyway, as long as there are proves about them. Heehee

okay then XD

Holly Ites says

Judith John doesn't offer any new insights into the notoriously significant dynasty of the Tudors.

Additionally, her prose is uninspired, with the overuse of idioms, such as "nail in the coffin." Thankfully, there is liberal use of illustrations that aren't normally offered in historical accounts, which provides enough interest to keep Tudor enthusiasts engaged... just barely. If you want the condensed version of the Tudors, this book will suffice. But, it's an insult to their legacy to allow this to be the only book you read about a family which had such an impact on world history.

Sophie Constable says

This is a very interesting book about the Tudors. It builds on the basic knowledge of them to give a clear picture of each monarchs reign and what they were like. Each monarch has their own chapter with the most well known, Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, having two. It's very well researched especially the bits on the less well-known monarchs. There is a lot of information and it's a very good read for anyone wanting to know more about the Tudors.

Margret says

The illustrations are great. The book is interesting and enjoyable. A few details I didn't know about them, however I was expecting more. A few times I went back to checked which Henry they was referring to. Otherwise, I enjoy the book.

LeeAnn says

This was a decently done book with some new information I had not read before. The beginning was confusing by the author referring to the various Henrys without the appellate number.

Certain names were common and the author made the text much more difficult by not including surnames and numbers each time. I realize that the current custom is to name them once and then only refer to them with a single name, but it leads to serious confusion in the case of the many men who shared either first or last names, i.e. King Henry VI, VII, and VIII with occasional mentions of King Henry V. Thomas and Edward Seyword and the multiplicity of Marys were among the troublesome parts of the narrative.

Otherwise, this is a concise narrative with some lesser known facts presented. I thought the history was fairly presented.

Scorpiandomuse says

There wasn't much more than I already knew about the Tudor era. It is fascinating to learn that had Edward VI lived past 15, he was well on his way to being a great king.

For a family reign that lasted little over 100 years, they certainly left their mark. Of the five rulers of the Tudor clan (omitting Lady Jane Grey), three (Henry VIII, "Bloody" Mary I, and "The Virgin Queen," Elizabeth I) left their prints on History for all the ages.

C. J. says

I originally reviewed this on my website C.J. Leger. Anyone who is a fan of medieval and Renaissance history must encounter the Tudors somewhere along the way; and whether partial to them or not, it cannot be

said that this family was not a staple in the word history itself. As a Tutor fan myself, I look for many writings that cover the rein of the Henry's and their successors, and thus I nabbed this book by Judith Jones. I cannot say that I am in love with this book, because I simply am not.

This book, like many of the others I have reviewed, is a reference book more than a novel type book. I contains many of the picture references expected of a Sterling Metro Book and informational side tables; much like those of A World History by Phillip Parker, for which I also did a review.

However, where Parker's book offers cohesive and well timed reference panels, John's book does not. This book offers great information in terms of the early years of the Tutor rein and circumstances and of the dynasty as a whole, however it is not put together well, or written in a way that flows well.

This book is written in a fashion, as to say, a writer who has so many collected thoughts and wants to express them to you, but stops every so often to talk about something else, as not to forget it later. While this works well in a conversation, it is horrible in a book. Constantly bouncing back and fourth between the main text and "oh let me just tell you this detail before I continue", just makes it seem like the author did not properly outline her work well before she started and was just writing off the top of her head. And I am astonished that an editor at Sterling Publishing did not capture this.

Again, the information offered is good and different from what most books have in ways, but it does not offer a compelling difference, enough to endure the torturous lack of formatting.

The information panels in this book are also horribly formatted, often starting in the middle of a sentient on one page, to locate the panel on the next page, and then finishing the sentence in the following page; rather than locating the panels at the end of sections, or paragraphs like most Metro Books.

So,e of the information is inaccurate as well, which seems that the production team on this book did not bother to fact check. On one page a photograph of a letter is described by the author as a letter from King Henry VII to Queen Isabella, in reference to the betrothed of their children. When in fact, any Spanish, Italian, Latin, Portuguese, or French speaking person can read on the document, that is it a love letter to Catherine of Aragon by Prince Arthur.

It saddens me that this book is available for sale to readers who may not know much of the Tutors and are going to be fed erroneous information within bad, confusing formatting.

My final thought: this book needs an overhaul. I do not recommend it. Purchase a more accurate reference book that flows well. This is a sad addition to the "A Dark History" collection and a sad day for the Tutors.

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