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KEY=ENGLAND - TOWNSEND KANE

Queen Of This Realm

Harper Collins Britain's greatest queen, Elizabeth I, was also the bewildered, motherless child of an all-powerful father; a captive in the Tower of London; a shrewd politician; a brilliant scholar; a lover of the arts; and, eventually, an icon. In this unforgettable fictional memoir, Elizabeth recounts the emotional turmoil of her life: the loneliness of power; the heartbreak of her lifelong love affair with Robert Dudley; and the terrible guilt of ordering the execution of her cousin, Mary, Queen of Scots.

The Lady In The Tower

Harper Collins Anne Boleyn was not beautiful, but she was irresistible, capturing the hearts of kings and commoners alike. The daughter of an ambitious country lord, Anne was sent to the dazzling court of Henry VIII to marry well and raise the family's fortunes. She soon surpassed even their greatest expectations: the king swore he would put his queen aside and make Anne his wife. But Anne was soon caught in the trap of her own ambition, surrounded by political rivals at court and at the mercy of Henry's fatal insecurity and volatile temper.

The Queen's Secret

(Queen of England Series)

Random House At the power and mercy of the court her life was a struggle to keep the Queen's Secret. Katherine of Valois is born a princess, the daughter of King Charles VI of France. But by the time Katherine is old enough to know her father, he is called "Charles the Mad," given to unpredictable fits of insanity. Aged 19, she marries Henry V of England in what was a happy but tragically brief union ending with his untimely death. As Joan of Arc incites the French to overthrow the English, Katherine's loyalty to England is intensely scrutinised so much so her baby son, the new king, is taken from her and she was forbidden to re-marry. The young Queen is alone and desolate. But when she meets handsome Owen Tudor, her life is changed forever as she is drawn into a dangerous but irresistible love...

The Rose Without a Thorn

(Queen of England Series)

Random House From the pen of legendary historical novelist Jean Plaidy comes an unforgettable true story of royalty, passion, and innocence lost. Born into an impoverished branch of the noble Howard family, young Katherine is plucked from her home to live with her grandmother, the Duchess of Norfolk. The innocent girl quickly learns that her grandmother's puritanism is not shared by Katherine's free-spirited cousins, with whom she lives. Beautiful and impressionable, Katherine becomes involved in two ill-fated love affairs before her sixteenth birthday. Like her cousin Anne Boleyn, she leaves her grandmother's home to become a lady-in-waiting at the court of Henry VIII. The royal palaces are exciting to a young girl from the country, and Katherine's duties there allow her to be near her handsome cousin, Thomas Culpepper, whom she has loved since childhood. But when Katherine catches the eye of the aging and unhappily married king, she is forced to abandon her plans for a life with Thomas and marry King Henry. Overwhelmed by the change in her fortunes, bewildered and flattered by the adoration of her husband, Katherine is dazzled by the royal life. But her bliss is short-lived as rumors of her wayward past come back to haunt her, and Katherine's destiny takes another, deadly, turn.

Caroline the Queen

(Georgian Series)

Random House Plaidy has the ability of making history accessible and a joy to read. Caroline's long wait is up. George I is dead, and her husband is King. They immediately make the unfortunate discovery that most of the jewels and inheritance have been leaked away to mistresses of the old King. Catherine, with the assistance of Prime Minister Walpole, slowly begins to repair the damage done to England by previous sovereigns. She does her duty to the best of her ability, monitoring decisions made by her arrogant and insecure husband and stepping in where she feels it necessary. The book emphasises the importance of English Queens throughout history, as Caroline patiently dominates her husband and most of the court from behind the scenes. It is thanks to her that the House of Hanover survived, despite the unpopularity of its Kings.

In the Shadow of the Crown

A Novel

Crown As Henry VIII's only child, the future seemed golden for Princess Mary. She was the daughter of Henry's first queen, Katharine of Aragon, and was heir presumptive to the throne of England. Red-haired like her father, she was also intelligent and deeply religious like her staunchly Catholic mother. But her father's ill-fated love for Anne Boleyn would shatter Mary's life forever. The father who had once adored her was now intent on having a male heir at all costs. He divorced her mother and, at the age of twelve, Mary was

banished from her father's presence, stripped of her royal title, and replaced by his other children--first Elizabeth, then Edward. Worst of all, she never saw her beloved mother again; Katharine was exiled too, and died soon after. Lonely and miserable, Mary turned for comfort to the religion that had sustained her mother. In a stroke of fate, however, Henry's much-longed-for son died in his teens, leaving Mary the legitimate heir to the throne. It was, she felt, a sign from God--proof that England should return to the Catholic Church. Swayed by fanatical advisors and her own religious fervor, Mary made horrific examples of those who failed to embrace the Church, earning her the immortal nickname "Bloody Mary." She was married only once, to her Spanish cousin Philip II--a loveless and childless marriage that brought her to the edge of madness. With *In the Shadow of the Crown*, Jean Plaidy brings to life the dark story of a queen whose road to the throne was paved with sorrow.

The Courts of Love

The Story of Eleanor of Aquitaine

Crown When I look back over my long and tempestuous life, I can see that much of what happened to me--my triumphs and most of my misfortunes--was due to my passionate relationships with men. I was a woman who considered herself their equal--and in many ways their superior--but it seemed that I depended on them, while seeking to be the dominant partner--an attitude which could hardly be expected to bring about a harmonious existence. Eleanor of Aquitaine was revered for her superior intellect, extraordinary courage, and fierce loyalty. She was equally famous for her turbulent relationships, which included marriages to the kings of both France and England. As a child, Eleanor reveled in her beloved grandfather's Courts of Love, where troubadours sang of romantic devotion and passion filled the air. In 1137, at the age of fifteen, Eleanor became Duchess of Aquitaine, the richest province in Europe. A union with Louis VII allowed her to ascend the French throne, yet he was a tepid and possessive man and no match for a young woman raised in the Courts of Love. When Eleanor met the magnetic Henry II, the first Plantagenet King of England, their stormy pairing set great change in motion--and produced many sons and daughters, two of whom would one day reign in their own right. In this majestic and sweeping story, set against a backdrop of medieval politics, intrigue, and strife, Jean Plaidy weaves a tapestry of love, passion, betrayal, and heartbreak--and reveals the life of a most remarkable woman whose iron will and political savvy enabled her to hold her own against the most powerful men of her time.

Murder Most Royal

(The Tudor saga: book 5): an unmissable story of bewitchment and betrayal from the undisputed Queen of British historical fiction

Random House If you like Philippa Gregory, you will love this dazzlingly vivid historical novel from multi-million copy and international bestselling author Jean Plaidy. Two Queens at the mercy of a capricious King... 'Jean Plaidy doesn't just write the history, she makes it come alive' -- RNA 'Plaidy excels at blending history with romance and drama' -- New York Times 'Very well researched, informative yet easy to read - brilliant' -- ***** Reader review 'Gripping, captivating, very hard to put down' -- ***** Reader review 'I was hooked from the first page' -- ***** Reader review 'An excellent book to curl up with' -- ***** Reader review 'Riveting' -- ***** Reader review ***** At the decadent French court of King François, the young Anne Boleyn grows into an enigmatic and striking woman, a temptation to many courtiers. But whilst Anne's ambitions are high, she has learned from her sister's unfortunate reputation. Unlike Mary, Anne refuses to become a mistress - even one to a King. So when Anne returns to the English court of Henry VIII, it is the King, captivated by this mysterious young lady, who is forced to do the wooing. Before long Henry is lured away from his stale marriage to Katharine of Aragon. But the new Queen Anne is not loved by the people, and it is only a matter of time before Henry's patience runs out... The Tudor saga continues in *St Thomas's Eve*.

The Complete Tudors

Nine Historical Novels

Crown The nine Tudor novels by beloved novelist Jean Plaidy are now available as one complete series spanning sixteenth-century England. This exciting collection includes a brand-new character guide, along with reading group guides for seven books. Read all nine novels in order for the first time digitally and delve into the lives of this fascinating dynasty--full of intrigue, betrayal, marriages, and deaths, in a complete package, never before available. 1. *To Hold the Crown* In this sweeping tale of marriage and power, love and heartbreak, Henry VII and Elizabeth of York's troubled ascension to the throne of England ultimately launches the Tudor dynasty. 2. *Katharine of Aragon* Katharine of Aragon held her husband Henry VIII's affection--but only for so long. 3. *Murder Most Royal* One powerful king. Two tragic queens. Sophisticated Anne Boleyn and innocent Catherine Howard meet with the all-consuming--and fickle--passions of tempestuous King Henry VIII. 4. *The King's Confidante* The King's servant, but God's first. The English lawyer Sir Thomas More rises to become King Henry VIII's most trusted advisor, but his refusal to recognize Henry as the supreme head of the Church of England ends his political career . . . and leads to his trial for treason. 5. *The Sixth Wife* Dangerous court intrigue and affairs of the heart collide during the story of Katherine Parr, the last of Henry VIII's six queens. 6. *The Thistle and the Rose* The story of Princess Margaret Tudor, whose life of tragedy, bloodshed, and scandal would rival even that of her younger brother, Henry VIII. 7. *Mary, Queen of France* The story of Princess Mary Tudor, a celebrated beauty and born rebel who would defy the most powerful king in Europe--her older brother. 8. *For a Queen's Love* Power-hungry monarch, cold-blooded murderer, obsessive monster--who could love such a man? Set against the glittering courts of sixteenth-century Europe, the Spain of the dreaded Inquisition, and the tortured England of Bloody Mary, this is the story of Philip II of Spain--and of the women who loved him as a husband and father. 9. *A Favorite of the Queen* Torn between her heart's passion and duty to her kingdom, Elizabeth I must make a decision that will shape her country and place her name in history forever.

Epitaph for Three Women

(Plantagenet Saga)

Random House The lives of three women who transformed history are brought vividly to life in this unforgettable novel. On the death of Henry the fifth, a nine-month-old baby is made King of England. Ambitious men surround the baby king, including his two uncles, the Dukes of Bedford and Gloucester. Shrewd and clever, Bedford seeks to uphold all his late brother had won and preserve it for young Henry the sixth. Gloucester, a man of poor judgment, greedy for wealth and power, has other ideas. In Lancastrian England and war-torn France, there are three women whose lives are to have a marked effect on the future. Katherine de Valois, haunted by an unhappy childhood, finds love in an unexpected quarter and founds the Tudor dynasty; Joan of Arc leaves her village pastures on the command of heavenly voices; and Eleanor of Gloucester is drawn into a murder plot and becomes the centre of a cause célèbre. Murder, greed and ambition flourish alongside sacrifice, dedication and courage. These are turbulent times as the defeated become the victorious...

Passage to Pontefract

(Plantagenet Saga)

Random House Jean Plaidy's popular Plantagenet series continues with this, the tenth volume. Richard of Bordeaux, young heir to the throne after Edward the Third, is surrounded by ambitious uncles who believe it would be better for the country if they could take the crown. While Richard shows himself capable of reckless bravery in defeating the Peasants' Revolt, his extravagance soon brings him into conflict with his people. Before long the king's most powerful opponents confront Richard and threaten to depose him. Here is a vivid picture of Richard's court, his devotion to his favourite Robert de Vere, his love for two Queens, clever Anne and the little Isabella, and of his headlong journey towards disaster. He is determined to take his revenge on the five lords who have humiliated him, but while he succeeds with four of them, the fifth proves to be far more of a challenge. Henry of Bolingbroke, son of John of Gaunt, is clever, subtle and absolutely set on achieving what his father had failed to ...

The Murder in the Tower

(The Stuart saga: book 1): passion and peril collide in this dazzling novel set in the 1600s from the Queen of English historical fiction

Random House Let multi-million copy and international bestselling author Jean Plaidy transport you back in time with this beautifully evocative, enthralling and enchanting novel of murder and mystery. If you like Philippa Gregory, you will not be disappointed. 'Jean Plaidy conveys the texture of various patches of the past with such rich complexity' -- Guardian 'Full-blooded, dramatic, exciting' - Observer 'Entertaining, intelligent and engrossing' -- ***** Reader review 'Jean Plaidy is just a master storyteller. Absolutely brilliant!' -- ***** Reader review 'Very well written, makes you feel like you are really an insider as to what most likely was taking place.' -- ***** Reader review 'Couldn't put it down...!' -- ***** Reader review *****
The dashing Robert Carr is a well-known favourite of King James I and he rises quickly through the ranks. A glorious future seems assured... But when he is married to the cunning and beautiful child-bride, Frances Howard, everything changes. Frances emerges as a headstrong force of nature - determined to have her way, no matter what the cost. Her attempts to rid herself of an unwanted husband, and later to ensnare a lukewarm lover, lead her deep into the world of spell-makers and treachery. This is a woman to underestimate at great peril. When Robert finds himself ensnared in one of Frances's plots he finally learns what she is truly capable of... The Stuart saga continues in The Wandering Prince.

The Reluctant Queen

The Story of Anne of York

Crown In 1470, a reluctant Lady Anne Neville is betrothed by her father, the politically ambitious Earl of Warwick, to Edward, Prince of Wales. A gentle yet fiercely intelligent woman, Anne has already given her heart to the prince's younger brother, Richard, Duke of Gloucester. Unable to oppose her father's will, she finds herself in line for the throne of England—an obligation that she does not want. Yet fate intervenes when Edward is killed at the Battle of Tewkesbury. Anne suddenly finds herself free to marry the man she loves—and who loves her in return. The ceremony is held at Westminster Abbey, and the duke and duchess make a happy home at Middleham Castle, where both spent much of their childhood. Their life is idyllic, until the reigning king dies and a whirlwind of dynastic maneuvering leads to his children being declared illegitimate. Richard inherits the throne as King Richard III, and Anne is crowned queen consort, a destiny she thought she had successfully avoided. Her husband's reign lasts two years, two months, and two days—and in that short time Anne witnesses the true toll that wearing the crown takes on Richard, the last king from the House of York.

The Heart of the Lion

(Plantagenet Saga)

Random House The third book in Jean Plaidy's epic Plantagenet series. At the age of thirty-two, Richard the Lionheart has finally succeeded Henry II to the English throne. And, against his father's wishes, he intends to make Berengaria, daughter of the King of Navarre, his Queen. But first he must fulfil his vow to his country to win back Jerusalem for the Christian world. Leaving England to begin his crusade, Richard's kingdom is left in the hands of his brother, John, who casts covetous eyes on the crown, and his sister, Joanna, who is willing to defy even a king.

Myself, My Enemy

(Queen of England Series)

Random House One of the country's most widely read novelists - the first volume in the Queens of England series. Despite the dangers of practicing her faith in the staunchly Protestant England, pretty Queen Henrietta Maria refuses to cast aside her Catholicism, so she finds little favour among the people. She is impetuous and loving, fond of fashionable clothes and gossip, and Charles, a family man of principle and integrity, is entirely devoted to her. But their happy if controversial marriage is soon under threat when Henrietta is renounced as a puppet of Rome and charged with leading Protestant England back to Rome. Soon her enemies swarm and the spies in her household prove too much. Only her loyalty and love for Charles can hope to keep him from the road to regicide.

The Widow of Windsor

(Queen Victoria: Book 4)

Random House The final title in the captivating Victorian series. Albert is dead and the queen is preparing to spend the rest of her life in mourning. Yet the last years of her reign are to be momentous years. Palmerston, then Gladstone and Disraeli, govern her empire through the high noon of its heyday. The court at Windsor, Balmoral, Osborne or Buckingham Palace is perpetually shocked by the Prince of Wales, forever in pursuit of horses, women and scandal, the heady harbinger of Edwardian years to come.

Sequels

An Annotated Guide to Novels in Series

American Library Association A guide to series fiction lists popular series, identifies novels by character, and offers guidance on the order in which to read unnumbered series.

The Sixth Wife

(The Tudor saga: book 7): The stirring story of Henry VIII's final marriage brought to life by the undisputed Queen of British historical fiction

Random House Delve deep into a superb, fictionalised account of Henry VIII's sixth Queen, the mysterious Katharine Parr, written by multi-million copy and international bestselling author Jean Plaidy. This vibrant and captivating historical page-turner, perfect for fans of Philippa Gregory, is guaranteed to have you hooked from page one... 'Jean Plaidy doesn't just write the history, she makes it come alive.' -- Julia Moffat, RNA 'Plaidy excels at blending history with romance and drama' -- New York Times 'Full-blooded, dramatic, exciting' - Observer 'A must read' -- **** Reader review 'I could not put this book down once I started reading' -- **** Reader review 'A pleasure to read' -- **** Reader review 'She makes history come alive' -- **** Reader review
 ***** Katharine Parr has unwittingly become the last pawn in King Henry VIII's ambitions for an heir. Already twice widowed, Katharine finally dares to hope that she might find love with the dashing Thomas Seymour - but Henry has decided he must have a sixth wife and Seymour's intentions to marry Katharine have not gone unnoticed. Unable to refuse the King of England, Katharine becomes his reluctant bride. Once again it seems only a matter of time before another wife's fate leads her to the Tower of London. Will fate be kind to her...? The Tudor saga continues in The Thistle and the Rose.

The Goldsmith's Wife

Pan

The Murder in the Tower

Katharine of Aragon

A Novel

Broadway Books An evocative historical novel chronicles the life of Henry VIII's first wife, Katharine of Aragon, from her early days in England after being sent from Spain to marry Henry's sickly older brother, through her subsequent marriage to Henry, to the divorce that ignited a storm of controversy that changed history. Reprint. 30,000 first printing.

The Writers Directory

The Readers' Advisory Guide to Historical Fiction

American Library Association Whether set in ancient Egypt, Feudal Japan, the Victorian Age, or Civil War-era America, historical fiction places readers squarely at the center of fascinating times and places, making it one of the most popular genres in contemporary publishing. The definitive resource for librarians and other book professionals, this guide Provides an overview of historical fiction's roots, highlighting foundational classics, and explores the genre in terms of its scope and style Covers the latest and most popular authors and titles Discusses appeal characteristics and shows how librarians can use a reader's favorite qualities to make suggestions Includes lists of recommendations, with a compendium of print and web-based resources Offers marketing tips for getting the word out to readers Emphasizing an appreciation of historical fiction in its many forms and focusing on what fans enjoy, this guide provides a fresh take on a durable genre.

Uneasy Lies the Head

(The Tudor Saga: book 1): a wonderfully evocative and beautifully atmospheric novel bringing the Tudors to life from the Queen

of English historical fiction

Random House If you like Philippa Gregory, you will love this vibrant and captivating historical page-turner from multi-million copy and international bestselling author Jean Plaidy - the perfect blend of history with romance and drama. 'Full - bloodied, dramatic, exciting' - THE OBSERVER 'Plaidy, by the skilful blending of superb storytelling and meticulous attention to authenticity of detail and depth of characterization has become one of the country's most widely read novelists.' - THE SUNDAY TIMES 'It is hard to better Jean Plaidy . . . both elegant and exciting' - DAILY MIRROR 'Excellent. Jean Plaidy really knows how to bring history to life.' -- **** Reader review 'Great, exciting. Couldn't put down' -- **** Reader review ***** In the aftermath of the bloody Wars of the Roses, Henry Tudor has seized the English crown, finally uniting the warring Houses of York and Lancaster through his marriage to Elizabeth of York. But whilst Henry VII rules wisely and justly, he is haunted by Elizabeth's missing brothers; the infamous two Princes, their fate in the Tower forever a shrouded secret. Then tragedy strikes at the heart of Henry's family, and it is against his own son that the king must fight for a bride and his throne... The Tudor Saga continues in Katharine, the Virgin Widow.

The writers directory

1992-94

Saint James Press

Madame Serpent

A Catherine De' Medici Novel

Simon and Schuster A fictional account of Catherine de' Medici, the fourteen-year-old reluctant Italian bride to the second son of the King of France, Henry, during the sixteenth-century.

The Sun in Splendour

(Plantagenet Saga)

Random House Jean Plaidy's hugely popular Plantagenet series draws to a dramatic close with this final volume. Reckoned by those about him to be the most handsome man in the country, Edward the fourth has risen to the throne with the help of Warwick, the kingmaker. But even Warwick's trusted advice cannot convince the King to ignore his passion for the beautiful widow, Elizabeth Woodville - and when she refuses to become his mistress the two are married. Beloved of the people, Edward proves himself to be a strong king, but his love of luxurious living soon begins to impact on his royal duties. Despite his mistresses, Elizabeth is loyal to the illustrious king, providing him with many children, among them Edward the fifth and Richard Duke of York. But Edward lived recklessly and on his death an incident from his past comes to light that will change the course of history ...

Lord Robert

(Tudor Saga)

Random House Perfect for fans of Philippa Gregory, this is the wonderfully atmospheric, enthralling and vivid depiction of Elizabeth I's ardent and emotional love affair with Robert Dudley from international multi-million copy bestseller Jean Plaidy. 'Full-blooded, dramatic, exciting' -- Observer 'Outstanding' -- Vanity Fair 'It is hard to better Jean Plaidy when she is in form' -- Daily Mirror 'I couldn't put it down' -- **** Reader review 'A compelling read' -- **** Reader review 'I was gripped from the first page' -- **** Reader review ***** In the grim recesses of the Tower of London, two captives begin a passionate love affair that will last years but is destined to destroy them; one is Robert Dudley, the other is the future Queen of England, Elizabeth I. Pardoned by Queen Mary, Dudley and Elizabeth are freed, but their mutual longing must be from a distance: Dudley is married, and as the next heir to the throne, Elizabeth must tread carefully...

Royal Road to Fotheringay

(Mary Stuart)

Random House Jean Plaidy's Tudor/Stuart series continues with the story of Mary Stuart's turbulent years of reign before her 19 year imprisonment by Elizabeth I. At just six days old, Mary Stuart became Queen of Scots. At just six years old she was betrothed to the Dauphin François, the future King of France. Reluctantly leaving Scotland, Mary is raised in the decadent French court in preparation to become the Queen of France. But her reign with François is short-lived. Widowed at just eighteen years old, Mary is once again forced to leave her home to return to Scotland. Now a Catholic queen of a Protestant country, Mary must rule with caution and choose her next husband prudently...

World Historical Fiction

An Annotated Guide to Novels for Adults and Young Adults

Greenwood Publishing Group An annotated bibliography covering the best in historical fiction set all around the world

The Red Rose of Anjou (Plantagenet Saga)

Random House The Earl of Warwick, known as the 'Kingmaker' had the power to make a king... and to unmake him. When Henry VI becomes king, it is soon clear that he would be better suited to a quiet life than to ruling the country. Richard, Duke of York, is convinced that he would make a better king and has more right to the crown, and he will stop at nothing to claim it. But Margaret of Anjou, Henry's new French wife, is a formidable woman who is just as determined to keep Henry on the throne. Most powerful of all is the Earl of Warwick, the kingmaker, and with his support of Richard of York the War of the Roses begins. When Henry VI lapses into madness and eventually meets his mysterious end in the Wakefield Tower, Margaret directs all of her ambition towards her young son, Passionate and impulsive she begins scheming for him, and in doing so dashes headlong into disaster ...

Queen Jezebel

A Catherine de' Medici Novel

Simon and Schuster The final novel in the classic Catherine de' Medici trilogy from Jean Plaidy, the grande dame of historical fiction. The aging Catherine de' Medici and her sickly son King Charles are hoping to end the violence between the feuding Catholics and Huguenots. When Catherine arranges the marriage of her beautiful Catholic daughter Margot to Huguenot king Henry of Navarre, France's subjects hope there will finally be peace. But shortly after the wedding, when many of the most prominent Huguenots are still celebrating in Paris, King Charles gives an order that could only have come from his mother: rid France of its "pestilential Huguenots forever." In this bloody conclusion to the Catherine de' Medici trilogy, Jean Plaidy shows the demise of kings and skillfully exposes Catherine's lifetime of depraved scheming.

Catalog of Copyright Entries. Third Series

1977: July-December

Copyright Office, Library of Congress

A Court Affair

HarperCollins UK Passion, Treachery, Betrayal. The virgin queen has arrived... Uncovering the love triangle between Queen Elizabeth I, Robert Dudley, and his wife Amy, and her mysterious death, A Court Affair is an unforgettable story of ambition, lust and jealousy.

The Italian Woman

A Catherine de' Medici Novel

Simon and Schuster From the grande dame of historical fiction, the second novel in the classic trilogy—back in print after more than twenty years—brilliantly depicts the life of the powerful Queen who was loved by few and feared by many. The second book in the classic Catherine de' Medici trilogy from Jean Plaidy, the grande dame of historical fiction When Catherine de' Medici was forced to marry Henry, Duke of Orleans, her heart was not the only one that was broken. Jeanne of Navarre once dreamed of marrying this same prince, but, like Catherine, she must comply with France's political needs. And so both Catherine's and Jeanne's lives are set on unwanted paths, destined to cross in affairs of state, love, and faith, driving them to become deadly political rivals. Years later Jeanne is happily married to the dashing but politically inept Antoine de Bourbon. But the widowed Catherine is now the ambitious mother of princes, and she will do anything to see her beloved second son, Henry, rule France. As civil war ravages the country and Jeanne fights for the Huguenot cause, Catherine advances along her unholy road, making enemies at every turn.

The Queen's Governess

Random House Katherine Ashley, the daughter of a poor country squire, happily secures an education and a place for herself in the Tudor court of Henry VIII. As a dying favor to the doomed Anne Boleyn, Kat becomes governess and surrogate-mother to the young Elizabeth Tudor ... ultimately emerging as the lifelong confidante to Queen Elizabeth I.

The Rose Without a Thorn

A Novel

Crown From the pen of legendary historical novelist Jean Plaidy comes an unforgettable true story of royalty, passion, and innocence lost. Born into an impoverished branch of the noble Howard family, young Katherine is plucked from her home to live with her grandmother, the Duchess of Norfolk. The innocent girl quickly learns that her grandmother's puritanism is not shared by Katherine's free-spirited cousins, with whom she lives. Beautiful and impressionable, Katherine becomes involved in two ill-fated love affairs before her sixteenth birthday. Like her cousin Anne Boleyn, she leaves her grandmother's home to become a lady-in-waiting at the court of Henry VIII. The royal palaces are exciting to a young girl from the country, and Katherine finds that her duties there allow her to be near her handsome cousin, Thomas Culpepper, whom she has loved since childhood. But when Katherine catches the eye of the aging and unhappily married king, she is forced to abandon her plans for a life with Thomas and marry King Henry. Overwhelmed by the change in her fortunes, bewildered and flattered by the adoration of her husband, Katherine is dazzled by the royal life. But her bliss is short-lived as rumors of her wayward past come back to haunt her, and Katherine's destiny takes another, deadly, turn.

Hugh and Bess

Sourcebooks, Inc. "A delightful novel full of chivalry, romance, and real-life terrors." Historical Novels Review Forced to marry Hugh le Despenser, the son and grandson of disgraced traitors, Bess de Montacute, just 13 years old, is appalled at his less-than-desirable past. Meanwhile, Hugh must give up the woman he really loves in order to marry the reluctant Bess. Far apart in age and haunted by the past, can Hugh and Bess somehow make their marriage work? Just as walls break down and love begins to grow, the merciless plague endangers all whom the couple holds dear, threatening the life and love they have built. Award-winning author Susan Higginbotham's impeccable research will delight avid historical fiction readers, and her enchanting characters will surely capture every reader's heart. Fans of her first novel, *The Traitor's Wife*, will be thrilled to find that this story follows the next generation of the Despenser family.

The Six Wives and Many Mistresses of Henry VIII

The Women's Stories

Amberley Publishing Limited For a King renowned for his love life, Henry VIII has traditionally been depicted as something of a prude, but the story may have been different for the women who shared his bed. How did they take the leap from courtier to lover, to wife? What was Henry really like as a lover? Henry's women were uniquely placed to experience the tension between his chivalric ideals and the lusts of the handsome, tall, athletic king; his first marriage, to Catherine of Aragon, was on one level a fairy-tale romance, but his affairs with Anne Stafford, Elizabeth Carew and Jane Popincourt undermined it early on. Later, his more established mistresses, Bessie Blount and Mary Boleyn, risked their good names by bearing him illegitimate children. Typical of his time, Henry did not see that casual liaisons might threaten his marriage, until he met the one woman who held him at arm's length. The arrival of Anne Boleyn changed everything. Her seductive eyes helped rewrite history. After their passionate marriage turned sour, the king rapidly remarried to Jane Seymour. Henry was a man of great appetites, ready to move heaven and earth for a woman he desired; Licence readdresses the experiences of his wives and mistresses in this frank, modern take on the affairs of his heart. What was it really like to be Mrs Henry VIII?

To be Continued

An Annotated Guide to Sequels

Greenwood Publishing Group Main entries by author, then series. Title and subject index also included.