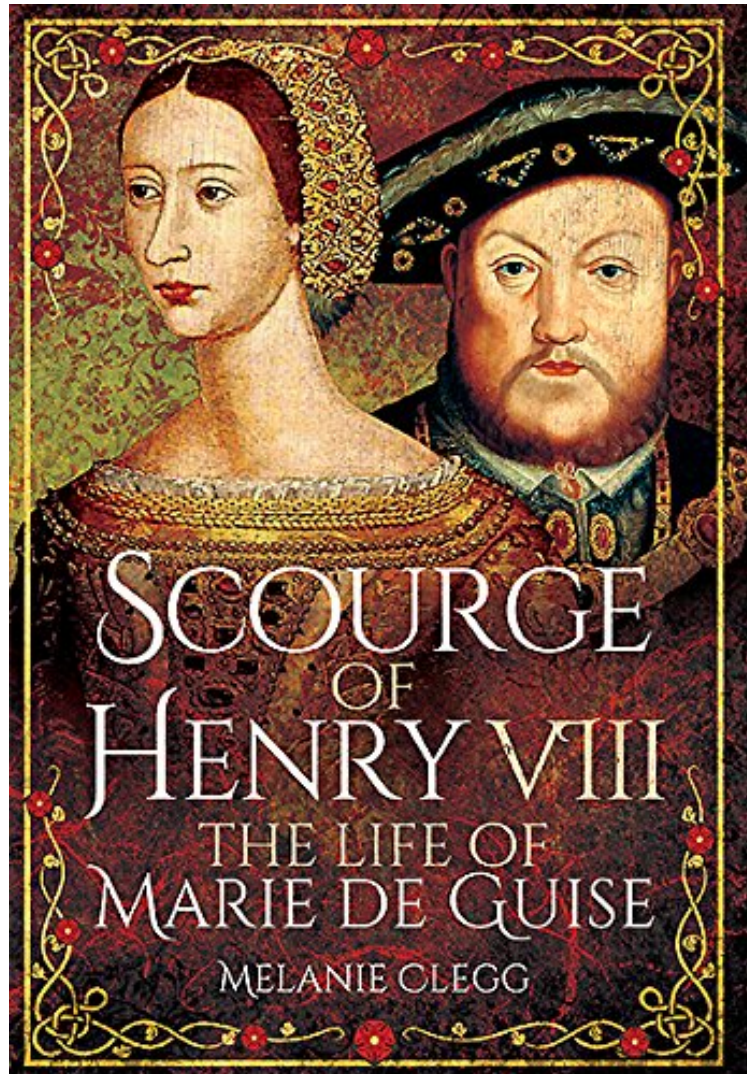


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Scourge of Henry VIII: The Life of Marie de Guise

Melanie Clegg

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Melanie Clegg : Scourge of Henry VIII: The Life of Marie de Guise before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Scourge of Henry VIII: The Life of Marie de Guise:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Had a Few Errors, but Still a Good Biography!By LauraleeMarie de Guise was mother and regent of Mary. Queen of Scots. Even though she ruled Scotland effectively, her accomplishments have largely been overshadowed by Mary, Queen of Scots failures. In the first biography of Marie de Guise in over thirty years, Scourge of Henry VIII brings Marie de Guises story to light. Marie is portrayed as a woman of keen intellect, charm, hard-working, and energetic as she continually fought to secure Marys inheritance.

Marie de Guise was from the powerful de Guise clan. When she was eighteen, she married the Duc de Longueville. She gave birth to Francois d'Orleans. The marriage was happy, but short-lived. Louis fell ill and died, leaving Marie de Guise a widow at the age of 21. Marie de Guise was happy enough to remain single. Unfortunately, she had two royal kings seeking her hand in marriage, James V and Henry VIII. According to this biography, Marie de Guise was inclined to marry Henry VIII. However, she left the decision to King Francis of France. King Francis wanted to keep up the alliance between Scotland and France and agreed to let James V have Marie. Marie married James V through a proxy marriage and sailed for France. Her marriage to James was short-lived. She had five children, but only Mary, Queen of Scots survived. Defeated by the English at the Battle of Solway Moss, James fell ill and died leaving his daughter Mary queen at 6 days old. The regency of Mary, Queen of Scots fell to the Earl of Arran instead of Marie. It would take twelve years for her to be Regent, in which she ruled for eight years. She struggled with the rise of Protestantism, her conflict with England, and keeping her daughters inheritance secured. Thus, Marie De Guises struggle for power was long, but she continued to hold power till her death. Overall, this biography showed Marie de Guise to be a capable and politically-adept ruler. Scourge of Henry VIII is a comprehensive and light read for the general reader. There were a few historical errors, and I thought that there should be a more appropriate title for this biography. Nevertheless, it sheds light on Marie de Guises accomplishments. Marie de Guise learned from her mother-in-law Margaret Tudors failures. While Margarets marriages made her lose her authority as regent, Marie de Guise did not remarry so that she could still keep her authority. Mrs. Clegg compares her to Elizabeth because the two made sacrifices for their realm. Thus, Marie de Guise was a better ruler than her daughter, who has largely eclipsed her in fame. Hopefully, Marie de Guises story will be more known and she will be given the attention and credit of a capable ruler as she deserves. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Marie of Guise...Marie the Wise By Linds the Winds What a woman she must have been...constantly being betrayed (by family, countrymen, and external enemies alike), yet still maintaining an equanimity rare among the ruling elite. Unfortunately, everyone (except her parents) failed her; through betrayal, unfulfilled promises, foolishness, and old fashioned greed. She was most certainly one of the greatly incredible women of that incredible era! Awesome. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Scottish politics By horseneck I've read so much of Mary Queen of Scots and of the Scottish kings but never had any exposure to Marie De Guise, Mary's mother. She came from the sumptuous French cord into the rough and tumble of Scottish politics . One must have had to tiptoe around the tumultuous French English and Scottish environment . This was a good book if you're into UK history.

Although Mary, Queen of Scots continues to fascinate both historians and the general public alike, the story of her mother, Marie de Guise, is much less well known. A political power in her own right, she was born into the powerful and ambitious Lorraine family, spending her formative years at the dazzling and licentious court of Francois I. Although briefly courted by Henry VIII, she instead married his nephew, James V of Scotland, in 1538. James' premature death four years later left their six day old daughter, Mary, as Queen and presented Marie with the formidable challenge of winning the support of the Scottish people and protecting her daughters threatened birthright. Content until now to remain in the background and play the part of the obedient wife, Marie spent the next eighteen years effectively governing Scotland, devoting her considerable intellect, courage and energy to safeguarding her daughters inheritance by using a deft mixture of cunning, charm, determination and tolerance. The last serious biography of Marie de Guise was published in 1977 and whereas plenty of attention has been paid to the mistakes of her daughters eventful but brief reign, the time has come for a fresh assessment of this most fascinating and under appreciated of sixteenth century female rulers.

...brings this remarkable woman vividly back to life. Her passion for the era is evident and her investigation into the blazing feud between Marie and the Tudors shows a keen and evocative eye for drama. This is not just a biographical account of Marie de Guise's life, however, as Clegg also includes a fascinating look at how the queen regnant influenced Renaissance art and architecture. A selection of photographs from the author's own collection and other sources illustrate not only this influence, but also the players in this remarkable tale. The book is opened by a dramatis personae that will prove handy to those who might be new to some of the characters, and Clegg writes with an informative, entertaining and enthusiastic tone that draws her readers straight into the heart of the story. Marie de Guise has not been the subject of a complete biography in almost 30 years, and Melanie Clegg has more than made up for lost time with Scourge of Henry VIII. This is a book that will fascinate anyone who loves a simmering, twisting tale; it's a pleasure to see Marie finally heading the bill. (All About History) Whilst Mary, Queen of Scots is a familiar historical figure her mother, Marie de Guise, is relatively unknown. The historian and blogger Melanie Clegg delves into the relationship de Guide had with her French family, The Lorraines, with imaginative fervour which sees this lively biography often stray into the realms of fiction. (Scottish Field) Despite the title, Clegg's book is in fact a fairly conventional biography - and as biographies of de Guise are in rather short supply, it's one that's most welcome. (History of Royals, January 2017) About the Author Fascinated by history from a very early age, Melanie Clegg graduated from the University of Nottingham with a degree in History of Art. She originally turned to writing

historical fiction and her womens history blog, Madame Guillotine, as a means of escaping from the dull admin jobs that she found herself doing, before becoming a full time writer and historian.