

Reading free Catherine the great empress of russia wicked history [PDF]

catherine the great 1729 1796 wrote over two dozen plays and operettas but not until this edition has a complete translation of any of them been available to an english speaking readership oh these times 1772 is a satirical attack on many vices catherine wished to root out from her society religious hypocrisy superstition and slander the main character mrs pious is a superficially religious old woman who resembles moliere s tartuffe catherine again sets her sights on superstition in the siberian shaman 1786 this time by satirizing shamanism as a deceitful profession which preys on the gullible this play was part of a group of three plays usually known as catherine s anti masonic trilogy written as a warning against the growing influence of the freemasons in a comprehensive introduction lurana donnels o malley relates the plays to catherine s status and philosophy for use in schools and libraries only the wicked ways of some of the most ruthless rulers to walk the earth are revealed in these thrilling biographies about men and women so monstrous they make frankenstein look like a sweetheart catherine the great is one of the most influential rulers in russian history though born in prussia she endeavored to gain the throne of russia and went on to be the longest ruling empress in russian history she ruled as an enlightened despot promoting the principles of the european enlightenment as she sought to modernize her beloved country she reformed the educational system of russia creating a national system that utilized modern educational theory in a co educational setting she attracted some of the most brilliant thinkers to her court and engaged their assistance in modernizing the arts and sciences as well as the russian economic system because of her efforts she ruled over what is considered the golden age of russian enlightenment inside you will read about the early life of an empress the dawn of a new era a patron of the arts catherine the warrior catherine s personal life and death and much more catherine the great counted among her successes many glorious military victories which succeeded in expanding russia s realm to over 200 000 square miles she was by all accounts an efficacious leader and reformer in russian history despite her professional successes her personal life was far from ideal catherine never loved her husband and was alleged to have been complicit in his assassination she never remarried instead taking a string of lovers only for as long as they held her interest she had three children none of whom she claimed were fathered by her husband

peter iii despite her promiscuity she was a generous lover and many of her former lovers remained devoted to her throughout her life she lived her life passionately and can even be described as an early feminist doing what she wanted this book tells the story of this unconventional woman in a concise entertaining and informative manner empress catherine ii brought europe to russia and russia to europe during her long and eventful reign 1762 96 she fostered the culture of the enlightenment and greatly expanded the immense empire created by czar ivan the terrible shifting the balance of power in europe eastward famous for her will to power and for her dozen lovers catherine was also a prolific and gifted writer fluent in french russian and german catherine published political theory journalism comedies operas and history while writing thousands of letters as she corresponded with voltaire and other public figures the memoirs of catherine the great provides an unparalleled window into eighteenth century russia and the mind of an absolute ruler with insight humor and candor catherine presents her eyewitness account of history from her whirlwind entry into the russian court in 1744 at age fourteen as the intended bride of empress elizabeth i s nephew the eccentric drunkard and future peter iii to her unhappy marriage from her two children several miscarriages and her and peter s numerous affairs to the political maneuvering that enabled catherine to seize the throne from him in 1762 catherine s eye for telling details makes for compelling reading as she describes the dramatic fall and rise of her political fortunes this definitive new translation from the french is scrupulously faithful to her words and is the first for which translators have consulted original manuscripts written in catherine s own hand it is an indispensable work for anyone interested in catherine the great russian history or the eighteenth century princess sophia of anhalt zerbst became empress catherine ii of russia an indomitable feisty ruler who was very complex and became an infamous historical figure a tale of power perseverance and passion a great story in the hands of a master storyteller the wall street journal the pulitzer prize winning author of peter the great nicholas and alexandra and the romanovs returns with another masterpiece of narrative biography the extraordinary story of an obscure german princess who became one of the most remarkable powerful and captivating women in history born into a minor noble family catherine transformed herself into empress of russia by sheer determination for thirty four years the government foreign policy cultural development and welfare of the russian people were in her hands she dealt with domestic rebellion foreign wars and the tidal wave of political change and violence churned up by the french revolution catherine s family friends ministers generals lovers and enemies all are here vividly brought to life history offers few stories richer than that of catherine the great in this book an eternally

fascinating woman is returned to life a compelling portrait not just of a russian titan but also of a flesh and blood woman newsweek an absorbing satisfying biography los angeles times juicy and suspenseful the new york times book review a great life indeed and irresistibly told salon named one of the best books of the year by the new york times the washington post usa today the boston globe san francisco chronicle chicago tribune newsweek the daily beast salon vogue st louis post dispatch the providence journal washington examiner south florida sun sentinel bookpage bookreporter publishers weekly bonus this edition contains a catherine the great reader s guide dutiful daughter frustrated wife passionate lover domineering mother doting grandmother devoted friend tireless legislator generous patron of artists and philosophers the empress catherine ii the great was all these things and more her reign the longest in russian imperial history lasted from 1762 until her death in 1796 during those years she built on the work begun by her most famous predecessor peter the great to establish russia as a major european power and to transform its new capital st petersburg into a city to rival paris and london in the beauty of its architecture the glittering splendor of its court and the magnificence of its art collections yet the great catherine was not even russian by birth and had no legitimate claim to the russian throne she seized it and held on to it through wars rebellions and plagues by the force of her personality by her charm and determination and by an unshakable belief in her own destiny this is the story of catherine the woman whom power alone could never satisfy for she also wanted love affection friendship and humor she found these in letter writing in grandchildren in gardens architecture and greyhounds as well as in a succession of lovers which gave rise to salacious rumors throughout europe the real catherine however was more interesting than any rumor using many of catherine s own words from her voluminous correspondence and other documents as well as contemporary accounts by courtiers ambassadors and foreign visitors virginia rounding penetrates the character of this most powerful fascinating and surprisingly sympathetic of eighteenth century women born an obscure german princess who suffered under the control of a domineering narcissistic mother the fourteen year old princess sophie von anhalt zerbst seemed to be destined for a minor marriage and a forgettable career destiny had other plans for her summoned to russia then considered by most europeans to be a vast primitive wasteland devoid of culture or sophistication she became the grand duchess ekaterina wife of the future emperor peter iii what followed her short unhappy marriage was a legendary rise to supreme power at the age of 33 the grand duchess catherine became the empress catherine ii ruler in her own right of the largest empire on earth in this book you will learn how during catherine s lonely years as a neglected wife in the court of the

empress elisabeth she bided her time and amassed the necessary political and military support to overthrow the heir to the romanov dynasty and seize his throne you will also learn why over the course of her 34 year reign which saw rebellions foreign wars popular uprisings and a string of jealous lovers vying for her favor she came to be remembered by history under the name conferred upon her by her own people catherine the great examines all aspects of catherine the great's life and career focusing on her role as mother lover and ruler during her reign as empress of russia from 1762 to 1796 sophie von anhalt zerbst was an intelligent and ambitious girl she first met her cousin karl peter ulrich when she was ten she didn't like him the scheming of others saw both their lives turned around name changes a new country and an unhappy marriage to each other saw peter on the russian throne catherine soon overthrew him ruling russia for 34 years she became known as catherine the great find out more about this legendary ruler in this 15 minute children's biography ages 10 and up reading level 6-9 learning island believes in the value of children practicing reading for 15 minutes every day our 15 minute books give children lots of fun exciting choices to read from classic stories to mysteries to books of knowledge many books are appropriate for hi-lo readers open the world of reading to a child by having them read for 15 minutes a day a portrait of a woman whose complex personality fascinated all who knew her brilliant and ruthless catherine of russia connived for power and subjugated her people but also brought european enlightenment to her land shows this woman's tremendous impact on her 18th century world perfect for readers of hilary mantel alison weir and philippa gregory empress of the night is eva stachniak's engrossing new novel told in the voice of catherine the great as the romanov monarch reflects on her ascension to the throne her rule over the world's greatest power and the sacrifices that made her the most feared and commanding woman of her time a critically acclaimed historical drama and instant #1 international bestseller the winter palace brilliantly reimagined the rise of catherine the great through the watchful eyes of her clever servant varvara now in eva stachniak's enthralling new novel catherine takes center stage as she relives her astonishing ascension to the throne her rule over an empire and the sacrifices that made her the most feared and commanding woman of her time as the book opens the charismatic monarch is in her final hours from the fevered depths of her mind catherine recalls the fateful trajectory of her turbulent life her precarious apprenticeship as russia's grand duchess the usurpers who seek to deprive her of a crown the friends who beg more of her than she was willing to give and her struggle to know whom to trust and whom to deceive to ensure her survival we quarrel about power not about love catherine would write to the great love of her life grigory potemkin but her days were balanced

on the razor s edge of choosing her head over her heart power she learns is about resolve strategy and direction love must sometimes be secondary as she marshals all her strengths to steer her volatile country into a new century and beyond to grow the romanov empire to amass a vast fortune and to control a scheming court in order to become one of history s greatest rulers gorgeously written with vivid detail and lyrical prose empress of the night is an intensely intimate novel of a woman in charge of her fortunes who must navigate the sorrows triumphs and hopes of both her soul and a nation praise for empress of the night eva stachniak s absorbing novel opens readers hearts to an extraordinary and misunderstood woman wonderfully lyrically written stachniak s story vibrates with passion drama and intrigue this is a feast for fans rt book reviews stachniak s insight into the opulent lives of russia s rulers continues in this reflective second novel historical fiction fans will appreciate this personal account of a formidable and indeed infamous ruler library journal the book takes on a dreamlike quality ambitious moving structurally complex and psychologically intense vivid descriptions quill quire stachniak brings to life one of the most fascinating and controversial female rulers of all time dujour empress of the night casts light on catherine s life with unflinching honesty and intimacy this fun novel of lovers intrigue and malicious and manipulative nobility keeps readers enthralled with every page virtuoso life europe and great britain have had many sovereign queens in the course of history in ancient china there was none of that only one empress ever ruled china in her own name oco empress wu given her startling performance in a world of deadly intrigue and shifting loyalties wu is still respected as an effective and clear sighted ruler catherine and the making of russian foreign policy prussia poland and the northern system 1762 74 austria the ottoman empire and the crimea 1774 89 catherine and the french revolution chapter 9 epilogue power transferred and transformed the death of an empress further reading index a fascinating life of a ruler who was deservedly styled the great the first in depth study of catherine the great s plays and opera libretti this book provides analysis and critical interpretation of the dramatic works by this eighteenth century russian empress these works are shown to be remarkable for their diversity frank satire topical subject matter and stylistic innovations o malley reveals comparisons to and influences from european traditions including shakespeare and molière and sets catherine in the larger field of russian literature in the period further illuminating her relationship to the aesthetic debates of the period the study investigates how catherine expressed her social ideas throughout her drama and exploited the stage s power to promote political ideals and ideology o malley sets close textual analysis within an historical framework analyzing the major plays

according to content style themes characters and relation to catherine s life and political aims this exhibition showcases the truly spectacular collections of catherine the great one of russia s most successful rulers she was also one of the greatest art collectors of all time excerpt from the great empress dowager of china times have changed since then we have read in recent years many whole hearted eulogies of the old empress dowager both before and after her death two years ago for some reason which i cannot profess to explain it is from american pens that the warmest praise has come yet it cannot be denied that there has been a general revulsion of feeling among europeans as well those who have com mitted themselves most deeply in writing against the late dowager have no doubt retained their prejudices but others have come in to swell the court sitting in judgment upon her who have drawn their impres sions from the period 1902 8 after she began to purge herself so completely of her sin in befriending the boxers and proclaimed herself a sympathizer with reform it is now by no means certain how a ver dict on her character would be cast if it could be taken from the mouths of all westerners interested in modern chinese history about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works recounts the story of the eighteenth century empress of russia describing her life as wife mother and ruler a times best book of 2022 so far shortlisted for the pushkin house book prize 2022 sparkling history with a fairytale atmosphere of sleigh rides royal palaces and heroic risk taking the times a killer virus an all powerful empress an encounter cloaked in secrecy the astonishing true story within living memory smallpox was a dreaded disease over human history it has killed untold millions back in the eighteenth century as epidemics swept europe the first rumours emerged of an effective treatment a mysterious method called inoculation but a key problem remained convincing people to accept the preventative remedy the forerunner of vaccination arguments raged over risks and benefits and public resistance ran high as smallpox ravaged her empire and threatened her court catherine the great took the momentous decision to summon the quaker physician thomas dimsdale to st petersburg to carry out a secret mission that would transform both their lives lucy ward expertly unveils the extraordinary story of enlightenment ideals female leadership and the fight to promote science

over superstition a rich and wonderfully urgent work of history tristram hunt a biography of the german born russian empress who was one of the most influential of the eighteenth century rulers this is a new release of the original 1954 edition excerpt from the great empress dowager of china when i went out to china to edit the hongkong daily press the boxer troubles were just approaching their acutest point it was customary then for foreign journalists and other residents on the china coast to speak of the empress dowager as a bloodthirsty old harridan a murderous hearted hag and the like i well remember the outcry aroused by an american missionary whose name however i forget when soon after the return of the chinese court to peking he ventured to couple her name with those of the recently dead queen victoria and of queen elizabeth of england speaking of them as the three most remarkable women who had occupied thrones in those days it was more usual to compare her imperial majesty with jezebel messalina and such pleasing characters and the missionary s bold innovation was greatly resented and when ladies from the legations and other foreign households in peking were seen accepting invitations to call at the palace with their little sons and daughters there was much fiery indignation expressed especially as they did not refuse presents from hands stained with the blood of european children about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works neither a comprehensive life and times nor a conventional biography this is an engaging and accessible exploration of rulership and monarchical authority in eighteenth century russia its purpose is to see how catherine ii of russia conceived of her power and how it was represented to her subjects simon dixon asks essential questions about catherin es life and reign and offers new and stimulating arguments about the enlightenment the power of the monarch in early modern europe and the much debated role of the great individual in history perfect for readers of hilary mantel alison weir and philippa gregory empress of the night is eva stachniak s engrossing new novel told in the voice of catherine the great as the romanov monarch reflects on her ascension to the throne her rule over the world s greatest power and the sacrifices that made her the most feared and commanding woman of her time in this newly translated excerpt from his five volume course kliuchevsky 1841 1911 provides a colourful description of russian court life in the 18th

century a dramatic narrative of the coup d'etat that brought catherine ii to power a portrait of the empress herself and an analysis of her foreign conquests and her major internal initiatives while kliuchevsky is critical of catherine he draws upon her memoirs and other writings and the accounts of her contemporaries to achieve a well rounded and deeply human analysis of her character and personality it is an extraordinary act of historical re creation of the sort that brought kliuchevsky such renown in his own time and it remains so lifelike that it fairly leaps off the page kliuchevsky s examination of western influence in catherine s reign leads him to questions that were of urgent significance for russia s development in his own day and have remained so ever since how to use western ideas and practices to improve and enrich russian life without turning them into idle fashions or political bludgeons and where to find the social leadership capable of performing such a delicate task a german princess who married a decadent and lazy russian prince catherine mobilized support amongst the russian nobles playing off of her husband s increasing corruption and abuse of power she then staged a coup that ended with him being strangled with his own scarf in the halls of the palace and herself crowned the empress of russia intelligent and determined catherine modeled herself off of her grandfather in law peter the great and sought to further modernize and westernize russia she believed that the best way to do this was through a ravenous acquisition of art which catherine often used as a form of diplomacy with other powers throughout europe she was a self proclaimed glutton for art and she would be responsible for the creation of the hermitage one of the largest museums in the world second only to the louvre catherine also spearheaded the further expansion of st petersburg and the magnificent architectural wonder the city became is largely her doing there are few women in history more fascinating than catherine the great and for the first time susan jaques brings her to life through the prism of art a german princess who married a decadent and lazy russian prince catherine mobilized support amongst the russian nobles playing off of her husband s increasing corruption and abuse of power she then staged a coup that ended with him being strangled with his own scarf in the halls of the palace and herself crowned the empress of russia intelligent and determined catherine modeled herself off of her grandfather in law peter the great and sought to further modernize and westernize russia she believed that the best way to do this was through a ravenous acquisition of art which catherine often used as a form of diplomacy with other powers throughout europe she was a self proclaimed glutton for art and she would be responsible for the creation of the hermitage one of the largest museums in the world second only to the louvre catherine also spearheaded the further expansion of st petersburg and the magnificent architectural wonder the city became is

largely her doing there are few women in history more fascinating than catherine the great and for the first time susan jaques brings her to life through the prism of art of all of history's great romances few can compare with that of catherine the great and prince grigory potemkin their turbulent and complicated relationship shocked their contemporaries and continues to intrigue observers of russia centuries later lovers companions and most likely husband and wife catherine and potemkin were also close political partners and for a time potemkin served as catherine's de facto co ruler of the russian empire their letters offer an intimate glimpse into the lovers unguarded moments revealing both ecstatic expressions of love and candid insights on eighteenth century politics in february 1774 the russian empress took grigory potemkin for her lover and it is now believed secretly married him a few months later particularly in the first two years of their relationship catherine was consumed by her passion for potemkin the hundreds of letters and notes she dashed off to him between assignations in the winter palace during this time attest to the giddy exuberance of the new love that so fully embraced her love and conquest contains the most historically significant and personally revealing of these letters only a few of which have ever before been translated into english beginning with potemkin's letter to catherine written while off fighting the turks in 1769 and concluding with his farewell note scribbled the day before his death in 1791 the correspondence spans most of catherine's reign the letters are at once personal and political private and public many of catherine's love letters to potemkin written during their stormy affair reveal the empress's passionate personality potemkin's letters provide rare insight into his arrogant and mercurial character while serving to dispel the myth of potemkin as little more than a corrupt sycophant love and conquest reveals the complexity of catherine and potemkin's personal relationship in light of dramatic changes in matters of state foreign relations and military engagements after their love cooled catherine and potemkin continued to discuss and debate a wide range of state affairs in their letters including the annexation of the crimea court politics wars against the ottoman empire and sweden and the colonization of southern russia together they carried out the most dramatic territorial expansion in the history of imperial russia transforming catherine into a powerful world leader and creating a bond of affection that would never fully fade readers will find in the letters new insights on russia's most famous empress her passions and her world great catherine whom glory still adores is a 1913 one act play by the prominent irish dramatist george bernard shaw the play tells the story of a prim british visitor to the court of the sexually uninhibited catherine the great of russia the story tells about captain charles edstaston the british military attaché who gets dragged into the drunken

ill mannered society of catherine and her lover prince patiomkin
catherine the great ruled russia from 1762 to 1796 the book examines her
reforms her foreign policies the history of the russian imperial family
and the nature of russian society in the eighteenth century the judge
for yourself section encourages critical debate on the success of her
policies the number of women who have ruled as queens or empresses or
governed as presidents or prime ministers remains but a small subset of
the total of those who have attained ultimate political power but this
elite group of women have reached the hights of political and ceremonial
leadership including some of the most charismatic figures book jacket

Two Comedies by Catherine the Great, Empress of Russia 2023-12-31

catherine the great 1729 1796 wrote over two dozen plays and operettas but not until this edition has a complete translation of any of them been available to an english speaking readership oh these times 1772 is a satirical attack on many vices catherine wished to root out from her society religious hypocrisy superstition and slander the main character mrs pious is a superficially religious old woman who resembles moliere s tartuffe catherine again sets her sights on superstition in the siberian shaman 1786 this time by satirizing shamanism as a deceitful profession which preys on the gullible this play was part of a group of three plays usually known as catherine s anti masonic trilogy written as a warning against the growing influence of the freemasons in a comprehensive introduction lurana donnels o malley relates the plays to catherine s status and philosophy

Catherine the Great 2009-09 for use in schools and libraries only the wicked ways of some of the most ruthless rulers to walk the earth are revealed in these thrilling biographies about men and women so monstrous they make frankenstein look like a sweetheart

Catherine the Great 2017-10-31 catherine the great is one of the most influential rulers in russian history though born in prussia she endeavored to gain the throne of russia and went on to be the longest ruling empress in russian history she ruled as an enlightened despot promoting the principles of the european enlightenment as she sought to modernize her beloved country she reformed the educational system of russia creating a national system that utilized modern educational theory in a co educational setting she attracted some of the most brilliant thinkers to her court and engaged their assistance in modernizing the arts and sciences as well as the russian economic system because of her efforts she ruled over what is considered the golden age of russian enlightenment inside you will read about the early life of an empress the dawn of a new era a patron of the arts catherine the warrior catherine s personal life and death and much more catherine the great counted among her successes many glorious military victories which succeeded in expanding russia s realm to over 200 000 square miles she was by all accounts an efficacious leader and reformer in russian history despite her professional successes her personal life was far from ideal catherine never loved her husband and was alleged to have been complicit in his assassination she never remarried instead taking a string of lovers only for as long as they held her interest she had three children none of whom she claimed were fathered by her husband peter iii despite her promiscuity she was a generous lover and many of her former lovers remained devoted to her throughout her life she lived her life passionately and can even be described as an early feminist doing what she wanted this book tells the story of this unconventional

woman in a concise entertaining and informative manner

The Memoirs of Catherine the Great 2007-12-18 empress catherine ii brought europe to russia and russia to europe during her long and eventful reign 1762-96 she fostered the culture of the enlightenment and greatly expanded the immense empire created by czar ivan the terrible shifting the balance of power in europe eastward famous for her will to power and for her dozen lovers catherine was also a prolific and gifted writer fluent in french russian and german catherine published political theory journalism comedies operas and history while writing thousands of letters as she corresponded with voltaire and other public figures the memoirs of catherine the great provides an unparalleled window into eighteenth century russia and the mind of an absolute ruler with insight humor and candor catherine presents her eyewitness account of history from her whirlwind entry into the russian court in 1744 at age fourteen as the intended bride of empress elizabeth i s nephew the eccentric drunkard and future peter iii to her unhappy marriage from her two children several miscarriages and her and peter s numerous affairs to the political maneuvering that enabled catherine to seize the throne from him in 1762 catherine s eye for telling details makes for compelling reading as she describes the dramatic fall and rise of her political fortunes this definitive new translation from the french is scrupulously faithful to her words and is the first for which translators have consulted original manuscripts written in catherine s own hand it is an indispensable work for anyone interested in catherine the great russian history or the eighteenth century

Great Catherine 1995-08-15 princess sophia of anhalt zerbst became empress catherine ii of russia an indomitable feisty ruler who was very complex and became an infamous historical figure

Catherine the Great: Portrait of a Woman 2011-11-08 a tale of power perseverance and passion a great story in the hands of a master storyteller the wall street journal the pulitzer prize winning author of peter the great nicholas and alexandra and the romanovs returns with another masterpiece of narrative biography the extraordinary story of an obscure german princess who became one of the most remarkable powerful and captivating women in history born into a minor noble family catherine transformed herself into empress of russia by sheer determination for thirty four years the government foreign policy cultural development and welfare of the russian people were in her hands she dealt with domestic rebellion foreign wars and the tidal wave of political change and violence churned up by the french revolution catherine s family friends ministers generals lovers and enemies all are here vividly brought to life history offers few stories richer than that of catherine the great in this book an eternally fascinating woman is returned to life a compelling portrait not just of a russian titan but

also of a flesh and blood woman newsweek an absorbing satisfying biography los angeles times juicy and suspenseful the new york times book review a great life indeed and irresistibly told salon named one of the best books of the year by the new york times the washington post usa today the boston globe san francisco chronicle chicago tribune newsweek the daily beast salon vogue st louis post dispatch the providence journal washington examiner south florida sun sentinel bookpage bookreporter publishers weekly bonus this edition contains a catherine the great reader s guide

Memoirs of Catherine the Great 1937 dutiful daughter frustrated wife passionate lover domineering mother doting grandmother devoted friend tireless legislator generous patron of artists and philosophers the empress catherine ii the great was all these things and more her reign the longest in russian imperial history lasted from 1762 until her death in 1796 during those years she built on the work begun by her most famous predecessor peter the great to establish russia as a major european power and to transform its new capital st petersburg into a city to rival paris and london in the beauty of its architecture the glittering splendor of its court and the magnificence of its art collections yet the great catherine was not even russian by birth and had no legitimate claim to the russian throne she seized it and held on to it through wars rebellions and plagues by the force of her personality by her charm and determination and by an unshakable belief in her own destiny this is the story of catherine the woman whom power alone could never satisfy for she also wanted love affection friendship and humor she found these in letter writing in grandchildren in gardens architecture and greyhounds as well as in a succession of lovers which gave rise to salacious rumors throughout europe the real catherine however was more interesting than any rumor using many of catherine s own words from her voluminous correspondence and other documents as well as contemporary accounts by courtiers ambassadors and foreign visitors virginia rounding penetrates the character of this most powerful fascinating and surprisingly sympathetic of eighteenth century women

Catherine the Great 2007-02-06 born an obscure german princess who suffered under the control of a domineering narcissistic mother the fourteen year old princess sophie von anhalt zerbst seemed to be destined for a minor marriage and a forgettable career destiny had other plans for her summoned to russia then considered by most europeans to be a vast primitive wasteland devoid of culture or sophistication she became the grand duchess ekaterina wife of the future emperor peter iii what followed her short unhappy marriage was a legendary rise to supreme power at the age of 33 the grand duchess catherine became the empress catherine ii ruler in her own right of the largest empire on earth in this book you will learn how during catherine s lonely years as a

neglected wife in the court of the empress elisabeth she bided her time and amassed the necessary political and military support to overthrow the heir to the romanov dynasty and seize his throne you will also learn why over the course of her 34 year reign which saw rebellions foreign wars popular uprisings and a string of jealous lovers vying for her favor she came to be remembered by history under the name conferred upon her by her own people catherine the great

Catherine the Great 2016-10-20 examines all aspects of catherine the great s life and career focusing on her role as mother lover and ruler during her reign as empress of russia from 1762 to 1796

Catherine the Great 1989-11-09 sophie von anhalt zerbst was an intelligent and ambitious girl she first met her cousin karl peter ulrich when she was ten she didn t like him the scheming of others saw both their lives turned around name changes a new country and an unhappy marriage to each other saw peter on the russian throne catherine soon overthrew him ruling russia for 34 years she became known as catherine the great find out more about this legendary ruler in this 15 minute children s biography ages 10 and up reading level 6 9 learning island believes in the value of children practicing reading for 15 minutes every day our 15 minute books give children lots of fun exciting choices to read from classic stories to mysteries to books of knowledge many books are appropriate for hi lo readers open the world of reading to a child by having them read for 15 minutes a day

The Great Empress 1870 a portrait of a woman whose complex personality fascinated all who knew her brilliant and ruthless catherine of russia connived for power and subjugated her people but also brought european enlightenment to her land shows this woman s tremendous impact on her 18th century world

Catherine the Great: Empress of Russia 2019-04-16 perfect for readers of hilary mantel alison weir and philippa gregory empress of the night is eva stachniak s engrossing new novel told in the voice of catherine the great as the romanov monarch reflects on her ascension to the throne her rule over the world s greatest power and the sacrifices that made her the most feared and commanding woman of her time a critically acclaimed historical drama and instant 1 international bestseller the winter palace brilliantly reimagined the rise of catherine the great through the watchful eyes of her clever servant varvara now in eva stachniak s enthralling new novel catherine takes center stage as she relives her astonishing ascension to the throne her rule over an empire and the sacrifices that made her the most feared and commanding woman of her time as the book opens the charismatic monarch is in her final hours from the fevered depths of her mind catherine recalls the fateful trajectory of her turbulent life her precarious apprenticeship as russia s grand duchess the usurpers who seek to deprive her of a crown the

friends who beg more of her than she was willing to give and her struggle to know whom to trust and whom to deceive to ensure her survival we quarrel about power not about love catherine would write to the great love of her life grigory potemkin but her days were balanced on the razor s edge of choosing her head over her heart power she learns is about resolve strategy and direction love must sometimes be secondary as she marshals all her strengths to steer her volatile country into a new century and beyond to grow the romanov empire to amass a vast fortune and to control a scheming court in order to become one of history s greatest rulers gorgeously written with vivid detail and lyrical prose empress of the night is an intensely intimate novel of a woman in charge of her fortunes who must navigate the sorrows triumphs and hopes of both her soul and a nation praise for empress of the night eva stachniak s absorbing novel opens readers hearts to an extraordinary and misunderstood woman wonderfully lyrically written stachniak s story vibrates with passion drama and intrigue this is a feast for fans rt book reviews stachniak s insight into the opulent lives of russia s rulers continues in this reflective second novel historical fiction fans will appreciate this personal account of a formidable and indeed infamous ruler library journal the book takes on a dreamlike quality ambitious moving structurally complex and psychologically intense vivid descriptions quill quire stachniak brings to life one of the most fascinating and controversial female rulers of all time dujour empress of the night casts light on catherine s life with unflinching honesty and intimacy this fun novel of lovers intrigue and malicious and manipulative nobility keeps readers enthralled with every page virtuoso life

Empress of All Russia 1966 europe and great britain have had many sovereign queens in the course of history in ancient china there was none of that only one empress ever ruled china in her own name oco empress wu given her startling performance in a world of deadly intrigue and shifting loyalties wu is still respected as an effective and clear sighted ruler

Empress of the Night 2014-03-25 catherine and the making of russian foreign policy prussia poland and the northern system 1762 74 austria the ottoman empire and the crimea 1774 89 catherine and the french revolution chapter 9 epilogue power transferred and transformed the death of an empress further reading index

Empress Wu the Great 2008 a fascinating life of a ruler who was deservedly styled the great

Catherine the Great 2001 the first in depth study of catherine the great s plays and opera libretti this book provides analysis and critical interpretation of the dramatic works by this eighteenth century russian empress these works are shown to be remarkable for their diversity frank

satire topical subject matter and stylistic innovations o malley reveals comparisons to and influences from european traditions including shakespeare and molière and sets catherine in the larger field of russian literature in the period further illuminating her relationship to the aesthetic debates of the period the study investigates how catherine expressed her social ideas throughout her drama and exploited the stage s power to promote political ideals and ideology o malley sets close textual analysis within an historical framework analyzing the major plays according to content style themes characters and relation to catherine s life and political aims

Catherine the Great 2007 this exhibition showcases the truly spectacular collections of catherine the great one of russia s most successful rulers she was also one of the greatest art collectors of all time

The Dramatic Works of Catherine the Great 2017-09-29 excerpt from the great empress dowager of china times have changed since then we have read in recent years many whole hearted eulogies of the old empress dowager both before and after her death two years ago for some reason which i cannot profess to explain it is from american pens that the warmest praise has come yet it cannot be denied that there has been a general revulsion of feeling among europeans as well those who have committed themselves most deeply in writing against the late dowager have no doubt retained their prejudices but others have come in to swell the court sitting in judgment upon her who have drawn their impres sions from the period 1902 8 after she began to purge herself so completely of her sin in befriending the boxers and proclaimed herself a sympathizer with reform it is now by no means certain how a ver dict on her character would be cast if it could be taken from the mouths of all westerners interested in modern chinese history about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

Catherine the Great 2012 recounts the story of the eighteenth century empress of russia describing her life as wife mother and ruler

The Great Empress, Dowager of China (Classic Reprint) 2017-10-16 a times best book of 2022 so far shortlisted for the pushkin house book prize 2022 sparkling history with a fairytale atmosphere of sleigh rides royal palaces and heroic risk taking the times a killer virus an all powerful empress an encounter cloaked in secrecy the astonishing true story

within living memory smallpox was a dreaded disease over human history it has killed untold millions back in the eighteenth century as epidemics swept europe the first rumours emerged of an effective treatment a mysterious method called inoculation but a key problem remained convincing people to accept the preventative remedy the forerunner of vaccination arguments raged over risks and benefits and public resistance ran high as smallpox ravaged her empire and threatened her court catherine the great took the momentous decision to summon the quaker physician thomas dimsdale to st petersburg to carry out a secret mission that would transform both their lives lucy ward expertly unveils the extraordinary story of enlightenment ideals female leadership and the fight to promote science over superstition a rich and wonderfully urgent work of history tristram hunt

Catherine the Great 1986 a biography of the german born russian empress who was one of the most influential of the eighteenth century rulers
The Empress and the English Doctor 2022-04-07 this is a new release of the original 1954 edition

Catherine the Great 1980 excerpt from the great empress dowager of china when i went out to china to edit the hongkong daily press the boxer troubles were just approaching their acutest point it was customary then for foreign journalists and other residents on the china coast to speak of the empress dowager as a bloodthirsty old harridan a murderous hearted hag and the like i well remember the outcry aroused by an american missionary whose name however i forget when soon after the return of the chinese court to peking he ventured to couple her name with those of the recently dead queen victoria and of queen elizabeth of england speaking of them as the three most remarkable women who had occupied thrones in those days it was more usual to compare her imperial majesty with jezebel messalina and such pleasing characters and the missionary s bold innovation was greatly resented and when ladies from the legations and other foreign households in peking were seen accepting invitations to call at the palace with their little sons and daughters there was much fiery indignation expressed especially as they did not refuse presents from hands stained with the blood of european children about the publisher forgotten books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books find more at forgottenbooks com this book is a reproduction of an important historical work forgotten books uses state of the art technology to digitally reconstruct the work preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy in rare cases an imperfection in the original such as a blemish or missing page may be replicated in our edition we do however repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works

The Great Empress Dowager of China 1910 neither a comprehensive life and times nor a conventional biography this is an engaging and accessible exploration of rulership and monarchical authority in eighteenth century russia its purpose is to see how catherine ii of russia conceived of her power and how it was represented to her subjects simon dixon asks essential questions about catherin es life and reign and offers new and stimulating arguments about the enlightenment the power of the monarch in early modern europe and the much debated role of the great individual in history

The Admiral and the Empress 2013-10 perfect for readers of hilary mantel alison weir and philippa gregory empress of the night is eva stachniak s engrossing new novel told in the voice of catherine the great as the romanov monarch reflects on her ascension to the throne her rule over the world s greatest power and the sacrifices that made her the most feared and commanding woman of her time

Catherine the Great : Autocrat and Empress of All Russia 1975 in this newly translated excerpt from his five volume course kliuchevsky 1841 1911 provides a colourful description of russian court life in the 18th century a dramatic narrative of the coup d etat that brought catherine ii to power a portrait of the empress herself and an analysis of her foreign conquests and her major internal initiatives while kliuchevsky is critical of catherine he draws upon her memoirs and other writings and the accounts of her contemporaries to achieve a well rounded and deeply human analysis of her character and personality it is an extraordinary act of historical re creation of the sort that brought kliuchevsky such renown in his own time and it remains so lifelike that it fairly leaps off the page kliuchevsky s examination of western influence in catherine s reign leads him to questions that were of urgent significance for russia s development in his own day and have remained so ever since how to use western ideas and practices to improve and enrich russian life without turning them into idle fashions or political bludgeons and where to find the social leadership capable of performing such a delicate task

The Daughter of Peter the Great 1900 a german princess who married a decadent and lazy russian prince catherine mobilized support amongst the russian nobles playing off of her husband s increasing corruption and abuse of power she then staged a coup that ended with him being strangled with his own scarf in the halls of the palace and herself crowned the empress of russia intelligent and determined catherine modeled herself off of her grandfather in law peter the great and sought to further modernize and westernize russia she believed that the best way to do this was through a ravenous acquisition of art which catherine often used as a form of diplomacy with other powers throughout europe she was a self proclaimed glutton for art and she would be responsible

for the creation of the hermitage one of the largest museums in the world second only to the louvre catherine also spearheaded the further expansion of st petersburg and the magnificent architectural wonder the city became is largely her doing there are few women in history more fascinating than catherine the great and for the first time susan jaques brings her to life through the prism of art

The Great Empress, Dowager of China 2015-06-12 a german princess who married a decadent and lazy russian prince catherine mobilized support amongst the russian nobles playing off of her husband s increasing corruption and abuse of power she then staged a coup that ended with him being strangled with his own scarf in the halls of the palace and herself crowned the empress of russia intelligent and determined catherine modeled herself off of her grandfather in law peter the great and sought to further modernize and westernize russia she believed that the best way to do this was through a ravenous acquisition of art which catherine often used as a form of diplomacy with other powers throughout europe she was a self proclaimed glutton for art and she would be responsible for the creation of the hermitage one of the largest museums in the world second only to the louvre catherine also spearheaded the further expansion of st petersburg and the magnificent architectural wonder the city became is largely her doing there are few women in history more fascinating than catherine the great and for the first time susan jaques brings her to life through the prism of art

Catherine the Great 2015-10-23 of all of history s great romances few can compare with that of catherine the great and prince grigory potemkin their turbulent and complicated relationship shocked their contemporaries and continues to intrigue observers of russia centuries later lovers companions and most likely husband and wife catherine and potemkin were also close political partners and for a time potemkin served as catherine s de facto co ruler of the russian empire their letters offer an intimate glimpse into the lovers unguarded moments revealing both ecstatic expressions of love and candid insights on eighteenth century politics in february 1774 the russian empress took grigory potemkin for her lover and it is now believed secretly married him a few months later particularly in the first two years of their relationship catherine was consumed by her passion for potemkin the hundreds of letters and notes she dashed off to him between assignments in the winter palace during this time attest to the giddy exuberance of the new love that so fully embraced her love and conquest contains the most historically significant and personally revealing of these letters only a few of which have ever before been translated into english beginning with potemkin s letter to catherine written while off fighting the turks in 1769 and concluding with his farewell note scribbled the day before his death in 1791 the correspondence spans most of catherine

s reign the letters are at once personal and political private and public many of catherine s love letters to potemkin written during their stormy affair reveal the empress s passionate personality potemkin s letters provide rare insight into his arrogant and mercurial character while serving to dispel the myth of potemkin as little more than a corrupt sycophant love and conquest reveals the complexity of catherine and potemkin s personal relationship in light of dramatic changes in matters of state foreign relations and military engagements after their love cooled catherine and potemkin continued to discuss and debate a wide range of state affairs in their letters including the annexation of the crimea court politics wars against the ottoman empire and sweden and the colonization of southern russia together they carried out the most dramatic territorial expansion in the history of imperial russia transforming catherine into a powerful world leader and creating a bond of affection that would never fully fade readers will find in the letters new insights on russia s most famous empress her passions and her world

Catherine the Great 1965 great catherine whom glory still adores is a 1913 one act play by the prominent irish dramatist george bernard shaw the play tells the story of a prim british visitor to the court of the sexually uninhibited catherine the great of russia the story tells about captain charles edstaston the british military attaché who gets dragged into the drunken ill mannered society of catherine and her lover prince patiomkin

Empress of the Night 2013 catherine the great ruled russia from 1762 to 1796 the book examines her reforms her foreign policies the history of the russian imperial family and the nature of russian society in the eighteenth century the judge for yourself section encourages critical debate on the success of her policies

A Course in Russian History: The Time of Catherine the Great 2015-05-20 the number of women who have ruled as queens or empresses or governed as presidents or prime ministers remains but a small subset of the total of those who have attained ultimate political power but this elite group of women have reached the highs of political and ceremonial leadership including some of the most charismatic figures book jacket

The Empress of Art 2016-04-15

Catherine the Great: Autocrat and Empress of All Russia 1961

The Empress of Art 2017-06-13

Love & Conquest 2004

Great Catherine (Whom Glory Still Adores) 2022-11-21

Catherine the Great 2002

Great Empress, a Portrait 1870

Queen, Empress, Concubine 2008

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