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Anne (Penguin Monarchs) 2024-04-30

Charles II (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-03-31

charles ii has always been one of the most instantly recognisable british kings both in his physical appearance disseminated through endless portraits prints and pub signs and in his complicated mix of lasciviousness cynicism and luxury his father s execution and his own many years of exile made him a guarded curious unusually self conscious ruler he lived through some of the most striking events in the national history from the civil wars to the great plague from the fire of london to the wars with the dutch clare jackson s marvellous book takes full advantage of its irrepressible subject

Henry VI (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-12-29

henry vi son of the all conquering henry v was one of the least able and least successful of english kings his long reign which started when he was only nine months old ended in catastrophe with the loss of england s territories in france and a bankrupt england s long decline into civil war the wars of the roses yet failure though henry undoubtedly was he remains an enigma was he always as he became in the last disastrous years of his rule a holy fool simple minded to the point of insanity and prey to the ambitions of others or was he more active and as some have suggested actively malign in this groundbreaking new portrait james ross shows a king whose priorities diverged sharply from what england expected of its monarchs and whose fitful engagement with government was directly though not solely responsible for the disasters that engulfed the kingdom during his reign

George I (Penguin Monarchs) 2017-12-07

george i was not the most charismatic of the hanoverian monarchs to have reigned in england but he was probably the most important he was certainly the luckiest born the youngest son of a landless german duke he was taken by repeated strokes of good fortune to become first the ruler of a major state in the holy roman empire of the german nation and then the sovereign of three kingdoms england ireland and scotland tim blanning s incisive short biography examines george s life and career as a german prince and as king fifty four years old when he arrived in london in 1714 he was a battle hardened veteran who put his long experience and deep knowledge of international affairs to good use in promoting the interests of both hanover and great britain when he died his legacy was order and prosperity at home and power and prestige abroad disagreeable he may have been to many but he was also tough determined and effective at a time when other european thrones had started to crumble

Athelstan (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-06-30

the formation of england occurred against the odds an island divided into rival kingdoms under savage assault from viking hordes but after king alfred ensured the survival of wessex and his son edward expanded it his grandson athelstan inherited the rule of both mercia and wessex conquered northumbria and was hailed as rex totius britanniae king of the whole of britain tom holland recounts this extraordinary story with relish and drama transporting us back to a time of omens raven harbingers and blood red battlefields as well as giving form to the figure of athelstan devout shrewd all too aware of the precarious nature of his power especially in the north he introduces the great figures of the age including alfred and his daughter aethelflaed lady of the mercians who brought athelstan up at the mercian court making sense of the family rivalries and fractious conflicts of the anglo saxon rulers holland shows us how a royal dynasty rescued their kingdom from near oblivion and fashioned a nation that endures to this day

Oliver Cromwell (Penguin Monarchs) 2017-02-23

although he styled himself his highness adopted the court ritual of his royal predecessors and lived in the former royal palaces of whitehall and hampton court oliver cromwell was not a king in spite of the best efforts of his supporters to crown him yet as david horspool shows in this illuminating new portrait of england s lord protector cromwell the puritan son of cambridgeshire gentry wielded such influence that it would be a pretence to say that power really lay with the collective the years of cromwell s rise to power shaped by a decade long civil war saw a sustained attempt at the collective government of england the first attempts at a real union of britain the beginnings of empire a radically new solution to the idea of a national religion atrocities in ireland and the readmission to england of the jews a people officially banned for over three and a half centuries at the end of it oliver cromwell had emerged as the country s sole ruler to his enemies and probably to most of his countrymen his legacy looked as likely to last as that of the stuart dynasty he had replaced

James I (Penguin Monarchs) 2018-01-23

james s reign marked one of the rare breaks in england s monarchy already james vi of scotland he rode south on elizabeth i s death to become james i of england and ireland uniting the british isles for the first time and founding the stuart dynasty which would with several lurches reign for over a century his descendant still occupies the throne thomas cogswell s dramatic new biography brings james to life as a complex learned curious man and great survivor one who drastically changed court life in london and presided over the authorized version of the bible and the establishment of english settlements across the globe although he failed to unite england and scotland he insisted that ambassadors acknowledge him as king of great britain and that vessels from both countries display a version of the current union flag cogswell tells the story of james s personal life and private passions as much as his public achievements james was often accused of being too informal and insufficiently regal but when his son charles i decided to redress these criticisms in his own reign he was destroyed this is a vivid portrait of an often underappreciated monarch

William I (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-08-25

on christmas day 1066 william duke of normandy was crowned in westminster the first norman king of england it was a disaster soldiers outside thinking shouts of acclamation were treachery torched the surrounding buildings to later chroniclers it was an omen of the catastrophes to come during the reign of william the conqueror england experienced greater and more seismic change than at any point before or since marc more than the reign of a since the surrounding buildings to later the surrounding buildings to later chroniclers it was an omen of the catastrophes to come during the reign of william the conqueror england experienced greater and more seismic change than at any point before or since marc more than the people unabridged start buildings to a since marc more than at any point before or since marc more than the people unabridged start publishing llc

biography sifts through the sources of the time to give a fresh view of the man who changed england more than any other as old ruling elites were swept away enemies at home and abroad including those in his closest family were crushed swathes of the country were devastated and the map of the nation itself was redrawn giving greater power than ever to the king when towards the end of his reign william undertook a great survey of his new lands his subjects compared it to the last judgement of god the domesday book england had been transformed forever

Edward III (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-05-26

edward iii lived through bloody and turbulent times his father was deposed by his mother and her lover when he was still a teenager a third of england s population was killed by the black death midway through his reign and the intractable hundred years war with france began under his leadership yet edward managed to rule england for fifty years and was viewed as a paragon of kingship in the eyes of both his contemporaries and later generations venerated as the victor of sluys and crécy and the founder of the order of the garter he was regarded with awe even by his enemies but he lived too long and was ultimately condemned to see thirty years of conquests reversed in less than five in this gripping new account of edward iii s rise and fall jonathan sumption introduces us to a fêted king who ended his life a heroic failure

William II (Penguin Monarchs) 2015-08-27

william ii 1087 1100 or william rufus will always be most famous for his death killed by an arrow while out hunting perhaps through accident or perhaps murder but as john gillingham makes clear in this elegant book as the son and successor to william the conqueror it was william rufus who had to establish permanent norman rule a ruthless irascible man he frequently argued acrimoniously with his older brother robert over their father s inheritance but he also handed out effective justice leaving as his legacy one of the most extraordinary of all medieval buildings westminster hall

George V (Penguin Monarchs) 2018-09-25

the acclaimed penguin monarchs series short fresh expert accounts of england s rulers now in paperback for a man with such conventional tastes and views george v had a revolutionary impact almost despite himself he marked a decisive break with his flamboyant predecessor edward vii inventing the modern monarchy with its emphasis on frequent public appearances family values and duty george v was an effective war leader and inventor of the house of windsor in an era of ever greater media coverage frequently filmed and initiating the british empire christmas broadcast george became for 25 years a universally recognised figure he was also the only british monarch to take his role as emperor of india seriously while his great rivals tsar nicolas and kaiser wilhelm ended their reigns in catastrophe he plodded on david cannadine s sparkling account of his reign could not be more enjoyable a masterclass in how to write about monarchy that central if peculiar pillar of british life

Mary I (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-10-27

the elder daughter of henry viii mary i 1553 58 became england s ruler on the unexpected death of her brother edward vi her short reign is one of the great potential turning points in the country s history as a convinced catholic and the wife of philip ii king of spain and the most powerful of all european monarchs mary could have completely changed her country s orbit making it a province of the habsburg empire and obedient again to rome these extraordinary possibilities are fully dramatized in john edward s superb short biography the real mary i has almost disappeared under the great mass of protestant propaganda that buried her reputation during her younger sister elizabeth i s reign but what if she had succeeded

Elizabeth I (Penguin Monarchs) 2018-03-01

part of the penguin monarchs series short fresh expert accounts of england s rulers in a collectible format in the popular imagination as in her portraits elizabeth i is the image of monarchical power the virgin queen ruled over a golden age the spanish armada was defeated and england s enemies scattered english explorers reached almost to the ends of the earth a new church of england rose from the ashes of past conflict and the english renaissance bloomed in the genius of shakespeare spenser and sidney but the image is also armour in this illuminating new account of elizabeth s reign helen castor shows how england s iconic queen was shaped by profound and enduring insecurity an insecurity which was both a matter of practical political reality and personal psychology from her precarious upbringing at the whim of a brutal capricious father and her perilous accession after his death to the religious division that marred her state and the failure to marry that threatened her line elizabeth lived under constant threat but facing down her enemies with a compellingly inscrutable public persona the last and greatest of the tudor monarchs would become a timeless fearless queen

Charles I (Penguin Monarchs) 2014-12-04

the tragedy of charles i dominates one of the most strange and painful periods in british history as the whole island tore itself apart over a deadly entangled series of religious and political disputes in mark kishlansky s brilliant account it is never in doubt that charles created his own catastrophe but he was nonetheless opposed by men with far fewer scruples and less consistency who for often quite contradictory reasons conspired to destroy him this is a remarkable portrait of one of the most talented thoughtful loyal moral artistically alert and yet somehow disastrous of all this country s rulers

Henry I (Penguin Monarchs) 2018-07-26

to be a medieval king was a job of work this was a man who knew how to run a complex organization he was england s ceo the youngest of william the conqueror s sons henry i came to unchallenged power only after two of his brothers died in strange hunting accidents and he had imprisoned the other he was destined to become one of the greatest of all medieval monarchs both through his own ruthlessness and through his dynastic legacy edmund king s engrossing portrait shows a strikingly charismatic intelligent and fortunate man whose rule was looked back on as the real post conquest founding of england as a new realm wealthy stable hureaucratised and self confident **5/13 5/13** her people unabridged start publishing llc

John (Penguin Monarchs) 2022-04-26

king john ruled england for seventeen and a half years yet his entire reign is usually reduced to one image of the villainous monarch outmanoeuvred by rebellious barons into agreeing to magna carta at runnymede in 1215 ever since john has come to be seen as an archetypal tyrant but how evil was he in this perceptive short account nicholas vincent unpicks john s life through his deeds and his personality the youngest of four brothers overlooked and given a distinctly unroyal name john seemed doomed to failure as king he was reputedly cruel and treacherous pursuing his own interests at the expense of his country losing the continental empire bequeathed to him by his father henry and his brother richard and eventually plunging england into civil war only his lordship of ireland showed some success yet as this fascinating biography asks were his crimes necessarily greater than those of his ancestors or was he judged more harshly because ultimately he failed as a warlord

Henry III (Penguin Monarchs) 2017-01-26

henry iii was a medieval king whose long reign continues to have a profound impact on us today he was on the throne for 56 years and during this time england was transformed from being the private play thing of a french speaking dynasty into a medieval state in which the king answered for his actions to an english parliament which emerged during henry s lifetime despite henry s central importance for the birth of parliament and the development of a state recognisably modern in many of its institutions it is henry s most vociferous opponent simon de montfort who is in many ways more famous than the monarch himself henry is principally known today as the driving force behind the building of westminster abbey but he deserves to be better understood for many reasons as stephen church s sparkling account makes clear part of the penguin monarchs series short fresh expert accounts of england s rulers in a highly collectible format

Edward I (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-11-24

the acclaimed penguin monarchs series short fresh expert accounts of england s rulers now in paperback edward i 1272 1307 is one of the most commanding of all english rulers he fought in southwest france in wales in scotland and in northern france he ruled with ruthlessness and confidence undoing the chaotic failure of his father henry iii s reign he reshaped england s legal system and came close to bringing the whole island of great britain under his rule he promoted the idea of himself as the new king arthur his round table still hanging in winchester castle to this day his greatest monuments are the extraordinary castles caernarfon beaumaris harlech and conwy built to ensure his rule of wales and some of the largest of all medieval buildings andy king s brilliant short biography brings to life a strange complex man whose triumphs raise all kinds of questions about the nature of kingship how could someone who established so many key elements in england s unique legal and parliamentary system also have been such a harsh militarily brutal warrior

John (Penguin Monarchs) 2020-09-29

king john ruled england for seventeen and a half years yet his entire reign is usually reduced harriet tubman the moses of to one image of the villainous monarch outmanceuvred by rebellious barons into agreeing to 2023-07-10 her people unabridged start publishing llc magna carta at runnymede in 1215 ever since john has come to be seen as an archetypal tyrant but how evil was he in this perceptive short account nicholas vincent unpicks john s life through his deeds and his personality the youngest of four brothers overlooked and given a distinctly unroyal name john seemed doomed to failure as king he was reputedly cruel and treacherous pursuing his own interests at the expense of his country losing the continental empire bequeathed to him by his father henry and his brother richard and eventually plunging england into civil war only his lordship of ireland showed some success yet as this fascinating biography asks were his crimes necessarily greater than those of his ancestors or was he judged more harshly because ultimately he failed as a warlord

Edward IV (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-07-28

in 1461 edward earl of march an able handsome and charming eighteen year old usurped the english throne from his feeble lancastrian predecessor henry vi ten years on following outbreaks of civil conflict that culminated in him losing then regaining the crown he had finally secured his kingdom the years that followed witnessed a period of rule that has been described as a golden age a time of peace and economic and industrial expansion which saw the establishment of a style of monarchy that the tudors would later develop yet argues a j pollard edward who was drawn to a life of sexual and epicurean excess was a man of limited vision his reign remaining to the very end the narrow rule of a victorious faction in civil war ultimately his failure was dynastic barely two months after his death in april 1483 the throne was usurped by edward s youngest brother richard iii

Stephen (Penguin Monarchs) 2015-08-27

known as the anarchy the reign of stephen 1135 1141 saw england plunged into a civil war that illuminated the fatal flaw in the powerful norman monarchy that without clear rules ordering succession conflict between members of william the conqueror s family were inevitable but there was another problem too stephen himself with the nobility of england and normandy anxious about the prospect of a world without the tough love of the old king henry i stephen styled himself a political panacea promising strength without oppression as external threats and internal resistance to his rule accumulated it was a promise he was unable to keep unable to transcend his flawed claim to the throne and to make the transition from nobleman to king stephen s actions betrayed uneasiness in his role his royal voice never quite ringing true the resulting violence that spread throughout england was not or not only the work of bloodthirsty men on the make as watkins shows in this resonant new portrait it arose because great men struggled to navigate a new and turbulent kind of politics that arose when the king was in eclipse

Edward II (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-09-29

he seems to have laboured under an almost child like misapprehension about the size of his world had greatness not been thrust upon him he might have lived a life of great harmlessness the reign of edward ii was a succession of disasters unkingly inept in war and in thrall to favourites he preferred digging ditches and rowing boats to the tedium of government his infatuation with a young gascon nobleman piers gaveston alienated even the most natural supporters of the crown hoping to lay the ghost of his soldierly fathered water the adedes of 2023-07-10 7/13 her people unabridged start publishing lic scotland and suffered catastrophic defeat at the battle of bannockburn after twenty ruinous years betrayed and abandoned by most of his nobles and by his wife and her lover edward was imprisoned in berkeley castle and murdered the first english king since the norman conquest to be deposed

Henry V (Penguin Monarchs) 2015-08-27

foremost medieval historian anne curry offers a new reinterpretation of henry v and the battle that defined his kingship agincourt henry v s invasion of france in august 1415 represented a huge gamble as heir to the throne he had been a failure cast into the political wilderness amid rumours that he planned to depose his father despite a complete change of character as king founding monasteries persecuting heretics and enforcing the law to its extremes little had gone right since he was insecure in his kingdom his reputation low on the eve of his departure for france he uncovered a plot by some of his closest associates to remove him from power agincourt was a battle that henry should not have won but he did and the rest is history within five years he was heir to the throne of france in this vivid new interpretation anne curry explores how henry s hyperactive efforts to expunge his past failures and his experience of crisis which threatened to ruin everything he had struggled to achieve defined his kingship and how his astonishing success at agincourt transformed his standing in the eyes of his contemporaries and of all generations to come

William III & Mary II (Penguin Monarchs) 2015-04-30

william iii 1689 1702 mary ii 1689 94 britain s only ever joint monarchs changed the course of the entire country s history coming to power through a coup which involved mary betraying her own father reestablishing parliament on a new footing and through commiting britain to fighting france initiating an immensely long period of warfare and colonial expansion jonathan keates wonderful book makes both monarchs vivid the cold shrewd dutch william and the shortlived mary whose life and death inspired purcell to write some of his greatest music

Henry VIII (Penguin Monarchs) 2014-12-04

charismatic insatiable and cruel henry viii was as john guy shows a king who became mesmerized by his own legend and in the process destroyed and remade england said to be a pillager of the commonwealth this most instantly recognizable of kings remains a figure of extreme contradictions magnificent and vengeful a devout traditionalist who oversaw a cataclysmic rupture with the church in rome a talented towering figure who nevertheless could not bear to meet people s eyes when he talked to them in this revealing new account john guy looks behind the mask into henry s mind to explore how he understood the world and his place in it from his isolated upbringing and the blazing glory of his accession to his desperate quest for fame and an heir and the terrifying paranoia of his last agonising 54 inch waisted years

Henry II (Penguin Monarchs) 2015-04-30

henry ii 1154 89 through a series of astonishing dynastic coups became the ruler of an enormous european empire one of the most dynamic restless and clever men ever to rule england he was brought down both by his catastrophic relationship with his architector of 2023-07-10 B/13 ber people unabridged start publishing lic becket and his debilitating arguments with his sons most importantly the future richard i and king john his empire may have ultimately collapsed but in richard barber s vivid and sympathetic account the reader can see why henry ii left such a compelling impression on his contemporaries

Victoria (Penguin Monarchs) 2015-04-30

part of the penguin monarchs series short fresh expert accounts of england s rulers in a collectible format queen victoria inherited the throne at 18 and went on to become the longest reigning female monarch in history in a time of intense industrial cultural political scientific and military change within the united kingdom and great imperial expansion outside of it she was made empress of india in 1876 overturning the established picture of the dour old lady this is a fresh and engaging portrait from one of our most talented royal biographers jane ridley is professor of modern history at buckingham university where she teaches a course on biography her previous books include the young disraeli a study of edwin lutyens the architect and his wife which won the 2003 duff cooper prize and the best selling bertie a life of edward vii a fellow of the royal society for literature ridley writes for the spectator and other newspapers and has appeared on radio and several television documentaries she lives in london and scotland

Edward VI (Penguin Monarchs) 2014-12-04

edward vi the only son of henry viii became king at the age of nine and died wholly unexpectedly at the age of fifteen all around him loomed powerful men who hoped to use the child to further their own ends but who were also playing a long game assuming that edward would long outlive them and become as commanding a figure as his father had been stephen alford s wonderful book gives full play to the murky sinister nature of edward s reign but is also a poignant account of a boy learning to rule learning to enjoy his growing power and to come out of the shadows of the great aristocrats around him england s last child monarch edward would have led his country in a quite different direction to the catastrophic one caused by his death

George II (Penguin Monarchs) 2021-05-27

from the celebrated historian and author of europe a history a new life of george ii george ii king of great britain and ireland and elector of hanover came to britain for the first time when he was thirty one he had a terrible relationship with his father george i which was later paralleled by his relationship to his own son he was short tempered and uncultivated but in his twenty three year reign he presided over a great flourishing in his adoptive country economic military and cultural all described with characteristic wit and elegance by norman davies george ii so admired the hallelujah chorus in handel s messiah that he stood while it was being performed as modern audiences still do much of his attention remained in hanover and on continental politics as a result of which he was the last british monarch to lead his troops into battle at dettingen in 1744

Aethelred (Penguin Monarchs) 2019-01-08

a major new title in the penguin monarchs series in his fascinating new book in the penguin monarchs series richard abels examines the long and troubled reign of aethelred ii the unraed the ill advised it is characteristic of aethelred s reign that its greatest surviving work of literature the poem the battle of maldon should be a record of heroic defeat perhaps no ruler could have stemmed the encroachment of wave upon wave of viking raiders but aethelred will always be associated with that failure

Richard II (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-01-28

richard ii 1377 99 came to the throne as a child following the long domineering martial reign of his grandfather edward iii he suffered from the disastrous combination of a most exalted sense of his own power and an inability to impress that power on those closest to the throne neither trusted nor feared richard battled with a whole series of failures and emergencies before finally succumbing to a coup imprisonment and murder laura ashe s brilliant account of his reign emphasizes the strange gap between richard s personal incapacity and the amazing cultural legacy of his reign from the wilton diptych to sir gawain and the green knight piers plowman and the canterbury tales

Stephen (Penguin Monarchs) 2015-10-13

known as the anarchy the reign of stephen 1135 1141 saw england plunged into a civil war that illuminated the fatal flaw in the powerful norman monarchy that without clear rules ordering succession conflict between members of william the conqueror s family were inevitable but there was another problem too stephen himself with the nobility of england and normandy anxious about the prospect of a world without the tough love of the old king henry i stephen styled himself a political panacea promising strength without oppression as external threats and internal resistance to his rule accumulated it was a promise he was unable to keep unable to transcend his flawed claim to the throne and to make the transition from nobleman to king stephen s actions betrayed uneasiness in his role his royal voice never quite ringing true the resulting violence that spread throughout england was not or not only the work of bloodthirsty men on the make as watkins shows in this resonant new portrait it arose because great men struggled to navigate a new and turbulent kind of politics that arose when the king was in eclipse

Aethelred the Unready (Penguin Monarchs) 2018-10-25

a major new title in the penguin monarchs series in his fascinating new book in the penguin monarchs series richard abels examines the long and troubled reign of aethelred ii the unraed the ill advised it is characteristic of aethelred s reign that its greatest surviving work of literature the poem the battle of maldon should be a record of heroic defeat perhaps no ruler could have stemmed the encroachment of wave upon wave of viking raiders but aethelred will always be associated with that failure richard abels is professor emeritus at the united states naval academy he is the author of alfred the great war kingship and culture in anglo saxon england and lordship and military obligation in anglo saxon england he is a fellow of the royal historical society **10/13** her people unabridged start

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Richard I (Penguin Monarchs) 2018-02-22

richard i s reign is both controversial and seemingly contradictory one of england s most famous medieval monarchs and a potent symbol of national identity he barely spent six months on english soil during a ten year reign and spoke french as his first language contemporaries dubbed him the lionheart reflecting a carefully cultivated reputation for bravery prowess and knightly virtue but this supposed paragon of chivalry butchered close to 3 000 prisoners in cold blood on a single day and though revered as christian europe s greatest crusader his grand campaign to the holy land failed to recover the city of jerusalem from islam seeking to reconcile this conflicting evidence thomas asbridge s incisive reappraisal of richard i s career questions whether the lionheart really did neglect his kingdom considers why he devoted himself to the cause of holy war and asks how the memory of his life came to be interwoven with myth richard emerges as a formidable warrior king possessed of martial genius and a cultured intellect yet burdened by the legacy of his dysfunctional dynasty and obsessed with the pursuit of honour and renown

James II (Penguin Monarchs) 2015-04-30

the short action packed reign of james ii 1685 88 is generally seen as one of the most catastrophic in british history james managed despite having access to tremendous reserves of good will and deference to so alienate his supporters that he had to flee for his life and yet most of that life was spent not as king but first as heir to charles ii as duke of york after whom new york is named and then in the last part of his life as the first jacobite pretender starting a problem that would haunt britain s rulers for generations

Henry IV (Penguin Monarchs) 2026-01-08

when henry iv seized the throne from his cousin richard ii people saw it as a hopeful new beginning for england the first monarch to have english as his mother tongue since the norman conquest henry seemed to embody the ideals of chivalric kingship mercy piety military prowess and learning yet deposing a crowned monarch was not a stable foundation on which to build a reign henry iv found himself challenged from all sides plagued by conspiracies rebellions assassination attempts and crippling debts while his tense relationships with parliament and with his own son shakespeare s prince hal saw his grip on power falter nevertheless he was the first king and founder of a lancastrian dynasty which would go on to shape england for centuries to come in this lively study catherine nall reappraises a monarch who weathered upheaval and uncertainty and held on to the throne through sheer force of will

Edward II (Penguin Monarchs) 2016-10-25

he seems to have laboured under an almost child like misapprehension about the size of his world had greatness not been thrust upon him he might have lived a life of great harmlessness the reign of edward ii was a succession of disasters unkingly inept in war and in thrall to favourites he preferred digging ditches and rowing boats to the tedium of government his infatuation with a young gascon nobleman piers gaveston alienated even the most natural supporters of the crown hoping to lay the ghost of his soldierly father edward i he invaded harriet tubman the moses of scotland and suffered catastrophic defeat at the battle of bannockburn after twenty ruinous her people unabridged start publishing llc

years betrayed and abandoned by most of his nobles and by his wife and her lover edward was imprisoned in berkeley castle and murdered the first english king since the norman conquest to be deposed

Henry VII (Penguin Monarchs) 2026-01-08

part of the penguin monarchs series short fresh expert accounts of england s rulers in a collectible format henry vii was one of england s unlikeliest monarchs an exile and outsider with barely a claim to the throne his victory over richard iii at bosworth field seemed to many in 1485 only the latest in the sequence of violent convulsions among england s nobility that would come to be known as the wars of the roses with little to suggest that the obscure henry would last any longer than his predecessor to break the cycle of division usurpation deposition and murder he had both to maintain a grip on power and to convince england that his rule was both rightful and effective here sean cunningham explores how in his ruthless and controlling kingship henry vii did so in the process founding the tudor dynasty

Richard III (Penguin Monarchs) 2020-09-24

no english king has so divided opinion both during his reign and in the centuries since more than richard iii he was loathed in his own time for the never confirmed murder of his young nephews the princes in the tower and died fighting his own subjects on the battlefield this is the vision of richard we have inherited from shakespeare equally he inspired great loyalty in his followers in this enlightening even handed study rosemary horrox builds a complex picture of a king who by any standard failed as a monarch he was killed after only two years on the throne without an heir and brought such a decisive end to the house of york that henry tudor was able to seize the throne despite his extremely tenuous claim whether richard was undone by his own fierce ambitions or by the legacy of a yorkist dynasty which was already profoundly dysfunctional the end result was the same richard iii destroyed the very dynasty that he had spent his life so passionately defending

George III (Penguin Monarchs) 2020-10-29

king of britain for sixty years and the last king of what would become the united states george iii inspired both hatred and loyalty and is now best known for two reasons as a villainous tyrant for america s founding fathers and for his madness both of which have been portrayed on stage and screen in this concise and penetrating biography jeremy black turns away from the image making and back to the archives and instead locates george s life within his age as a king who faced the loss of key colonies rebellion in ireland insurrection in london constitutional crisis in britain and an existential threat from revolutionary france as part of modern britain s longest period of war black shows how george iii rose to these challenges with fortitude and helped settle parliamentary monarchy as an effective governmental system eventually becoming the most popular monarch for well over a century he also shows us a talented and curious individual committed to music art architecture and science who took the duties of monarchy seriously from reviewing death penalties to trying to control his often wayward children even as his own mental health failed and became britain s longest reigning king

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