The Unforgettable Story of Jane Seymour, Henry VIII's Third Wife



The Worm and The Fledgling (The Phoenix Trilogy: Story of Jane Seymour Book 2) by G. Lawrence

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The Early Life of a Lady-in-Waiting

Jane Seymour was born around 1508 into a noble family in Wiltshire, England. Her father, Sir John Seymour, was a loyal supporter of the Tudor dynasty, serving as a Knight of the Garter and Comptroller of the Household to King Henry VII. Jane's mother, Margery Wentworth, was a well-connected woman, related to the royal family through her grandmother.

Little is known about Jane's childhood, but it is likely that she received a typical education for a noblewoman of her time, including lessons in music, embroidery, and household management. She was described as a quiet and unassuming young woman, known for her gentle nature and kindness.

A Royal Encounter

Jane Seymour first caught the attention of King Henry VIII in the early 1530s. She was serving as a lady-in-waiting to Henry's second wife, Anne Boleyn. Anne, a charismatic and opinionated woman, had failed to produce a male heir for the king, and her relationship with Henry was becoming increasingly strained.

In contrast to Anne's outgoing personality, Jane was demure and discreet. She stayed out of the political and religious intrigues that plagued the court, and focused on her duties as a lady-in-waiting. Her gentle demeanor and humble nature appealed to Henry, who found solace in her company.

The Rise of Jane Seymour

As Henry's relationship with Anne Boleyn deteriorated, his interest in Jane Seymour grew. In 1536, Anne was arrested and charged with treason and adultery. She was executed on May 17th, and Henry married Jane just eleven days later.

Jane Seymour's coronation as Queen of England took place on May 20th, 1536, at Westminster Abbey. She was a popular choice among the people, who saw her as a symbol of stability and hope after the turmoil of Henry's previous marriage.

A Dutiful Queen

As queen, Jane Seymour proved to be a capable and dedicated ruler. She actively supported her husband's policies, both in religious and political matters. Jane was a devout Catholic, but she also recognized the importance of Henry's break with Rome and the establishment of the Church of England.

Jane was also known for her generosity and compassion. She established a hospital for the poor in London, and she often visited hospitals and prisons, offering comfort to those in need. Her kindness and empathy earned her the respect and admiration of her subjects.

The Birth of a Son

In October 1537, Jane Seymour gave birth to a son, Edward. Henry was overjoyed, as he had finally secured the male heir he had long desired. The birth of Edward strengthened Jane's position at court, and she was seen as the guarantor of the Tudor dynasty.

However, Jane's joy was short-lived. She fell ill with puerperal fever just days after Edward's birth and died on October 24th, 1537, at the age of twenty-eight. Her death was a devastating blow to Henry, who was deeply affected by the loss of his beloved wife.

A Lasting Legacy

Jane Seymour's reign was brief, but her legacy continues to resonate. She is remembered as a gentle, compassionate, and devoted queen who brought stability and hope to a turbulent period in English history.

Henry VIII would marry four more times, but he never forgot Jane Seymour. He had her buried next to his parents in St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle, and he often visited her tomb to pay his respects.

Jane Seymour's life is a testament to the power of kindness, humility, and devotion. Her story continues to inspire and captivate those who are fascinated by the human drama of history.

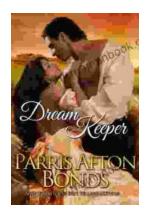


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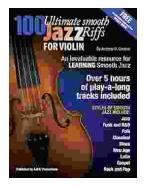
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