



The Rose of York: Crown of Destiny

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Fifteenth century England is a dangerous place as the Wars of the Roses rage and the passions of a few determine the fate of a nation.

After Edward IV's death in 1483, his detested queen Elizabeth Woodville makes a grab for power in court rotten with intrigue. To avert civil war, Richard

of Gloucester must betray his royal brother's secret, for which another brother has already died. With war looming, to protect those he loves, Richard is forced into the most excruciating decision of his life, one that will change the course of history.

The Rose of York: Crown of Destiny Details

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From Reader Review The Rose of York: Crown of Destiny for online ebook

Christine Cazeneuve says

Enjoyed - book is well written but does not offer any new take on Richard and Anne's romance/relationship other than the annoying way he calls her "flower eyes". At least it wasn't used as much in this book as it was in the first book. I love reading historical fiction on Richard III but perhaps I am getting too saturated by them and there are only so many ways to tell the same story. All in all a short but good read. On to the final book of the series.

Jean says

(Audible; Robin Sachs, narrator) It is difficult to parse all of the kindred and relationships in this second volume of historical fiction about King Richard III (duke of Gloucester) of the House of York. A sobering look at the shifting alliances of most of the nobles based on the odds of winning or losing influence, wealth, and power. To get the full value from this book, I recommend reading a thumbnail history of the era and keeping a genealogical and relationship chart at hand.

Vikki Vaught says

I'm enjoying this series quite a lot. Not sure I truly believe this side of Richard III, but it is entertaining. The writing has brought tears to my eyes, especially John Neville's final letter to his wife. Happy reading!

H.A. Mims says

I agree with other reviewers— this book was better than the first in the trilogy. One of the primary reasons for that, at least in my opinion, is that Richard is more flawed here... particularly when it comes to his naïveté. Definitely a plausible theory that much of the catastrophe in his life could have been caused by being too loyal/trusting. I enjoyed this one.

Kathy Chartier says

I agree with the other reviewers, this book was better than the first. Even though I liked the other book, this one was an emotional and riveting drama. Crown of Destiny is written with such passion and grace the characters just leap off the page. Worth is a powerhouse of knowledge when it comes to historical fiction !!

Susan says

Not having read the previous book in this trilogy nor being all that knowledgeable about the monarchy, I found the beginning confusing trying to keep who was who separate. Truth be told, I almost gave up. However the writing was very well done so I continued on and was glad I did.

The author paints Richard is quite the benevolent picture. Quite a different take on what many people thought he was like. Have to say, I like this Richard much better!

Anyway, I found the story and the back-stabbing politics interesting (and still going on to a certain extent today) and found myself doing google searches for some of the people mentioned in the story.

This was a quick, easy read and I'm glad I spent time with it instead of purging it from my TBR pile like so many other books have gone...

Sera says

This book is the second one in a three-part trilogy. My only problem with this book is that it was too short. I'm guessing that Worth could probably have combined books two and three to make them as long as one. Other than that, this book provides a great overview of how Richard III becomes King of England. There were some real "no way" moments for me in this one, since these books are my first foray into the life of Richard III.

Worth is a true "historian" when it comes to writing historical fiction. In the back of the book, she also provides where she may have taken some liberties so that the reader isn't fooled into believing inaccuracies. I wish that more historical fiction writers would do the same (I'm talking to you, Phillipa Gregory).

Kara says

Well done coverage of Richard III's life from just after his marriage to Anne Neville to taking the throne of England.

This is a time period that many other historical fiction novels would skip over in order to get to the "good stuff" of 1483. However, the pace never feels stretched out or tedious as Richard grows as a leader and struggles with the divisions within his family.

The last third is very tense as here Richard is portrayed as very, very reluctant to take the crown, but you can see his logic based on past events that not taking the crown could be the equivalent of suicide.

The author makes a point that she put in a few items that could have existed but have, over the course of 500 years, been lost or destroyed – it's a valid point and I think it works in context, especially as Worth gets into trying to explain the behind the scenes details of what went down when Richard took the throne.

Tiffany Day says

This book was OK - when it worked, it was very good, when it didn't, it was sophomoric, at best. Worth excels when getting into the meat of historical fact. At those points in the book, discussing power struggles and battles and the like, the prose flows and absorbs the reader. When the tale turns more to supposition of personal moments and relationships, daily life and the like, it becomes quite weak and actually reads like something for Young Adults - middle schoolers, even. Unfortunately the first half (maybe even two-thirds) is all home-life fiction. Also, while I want to hear more about the true Richard III, Worth is completely biased in her portrayal, creating an almost saintly figure that is hard to be believed (meanwhile, her distaste of Queen Elizabeth and the Woodvilles knows no bounds). Overall, it has a lot of potential, but many disappointments. I'm still looking for a balanced War of the Roses fiction -- nevertheless, I will read the final installment in this trilogy. 3 to 3 1/2 stars

Rebecca Hill says

In the second book, Richard takes the throne as king of England, after the death of his brother and the declaration of the illegitimacy of Edward's children. Richard quickly tries to turn the country around, and starts trying to rid the country of corruption. He learns though as the book unfolds that men are always driven by greed, and as small revolts turn up about the king, mostly driven by Elizabeth Woodville, he tries harder and harder to turn the country to peace. With the disappearance of the young princes from the tower, Richard is hit with the realization that they may have been murdered, but he was blamed from the start for their deaths.

Michelle says

Did not enjoy this series.

Elysium says

the only reason I gave it 2 stars is that I've gave 1 to books I haven't finished...

Ikonopeiston says

I liked the cover.

Regan Walker says

The saga continues in book 2: Richard is Becomes a Leader and Anne Stands By His Side – A Great Love Story Wrapped in Excellent Historical Fiction

This is book 2 in a award-winning trilogy based on ten years of research of the life of Richard III of England (1452-1485). The three stories are closely related and take place during the time of the Wars of the Roses, when the houses of York and Lancaster battled for the throne of England. Worth brings to life the story of two real life lovers Lady Anne Neville and Richard of Gloucester (the last Plantagenet king).

At the end of the first book, after years of separation, the two lovers finally came together. As the story opens, Richard and Anne are married, now parents of young “Ned,” and living in their beloved home where they met as children. King Edward, Richard’s brother, drags him off to war in France. Richard is disgusted by all that happens there and can’t wait to return to Anne. They will face horrible losses and challenges as Richard finally, reluctantly takes the throne.

If you like a lot of history with your love stories and find the wars between the Houses of York and Lancaster fascinating, this is the series for you. The saga is well told and will keep you reading. As sad as the history was, I had to get all three (and that is with knowing how it ends!).

I highly recommend the trilogy.

The Rose of York trilogy:

LOVE AND WAR
THE CROWN OF DESTINY
FALL FROM GRACE

Jane says

This second book follows the course as Richard is brought to the crown. As his brother, Edward ages, and grows more comfortable, he takes the easy way out, allowing Louis of France to pay him a salary, rather than fight him for the lands. The Woodvilles continue to gain more power and when Edward dies young, Richard has to take care in his role as his nephew's protector, as the Woodvilles and the once loyal Hastings plot his death. Bisho Stillington reveals that Edward's past hides a secret that he was married prior to Elizabeth Woodville and thus her children were bastards. The book ends with Richard rightly taking the throne and the execution of the treacherous Hastings.
