

**Queen
Elizabeth
(1904)**

Jacob Abbott

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Purchase of this book includes free trial access to www.million-books.com where you can read more than a million books for free. This is an OCR edition with typos. Excerpt from book: Lady Jane Grey. Her disposition Chapter III. Lady Jane Grey. AMONG Elizabeth's companions and play, mates in her early years was a young lady, her cousin, as she was often called, though she was really the daughter of her cousin, named Jane Grey, commonly called in history Lady Jane Grey. Her mother was the Marchioness of Dorset, and was the daughter of one of King Henry the Eighth's sisters. King Henry had named her as the next in the order of succession after his own children, that is, after Edward his son, and Mary and Elizabeth his two daughters; and, consequently, though she was very young, yet, as she might one day be Queen of England, she was a personage of considerable importance. She was, accordingly, kept near the court, and shared, in some respects, the education and the studies of the two princesses. Lady Jane, was about four years younger than the Princess Elizabeth, and the sweetness of her disposition, united with an extraordinary intellectual superiority, which showed itself at Lady Jane's parental restraint put upon her a very early period, made her a universal favorite. Her father and mother, the Marquis and Marchioness of Dorset, lived at an estate they possessed, called Broadgate, in Leicestershire, which is in the central part of England, although they took their title from the county of Dorset, which is on the southwestern coast. They were very proud of their daughter, and attached infinite importance to her descent from Henry VIII, and to the possibility that she might one day succeed to the English throne. They were very strict and severe in their manners, and paid great attention to etiquette and punctilio, as persons who are ambitious of rising in the world are very apt to do. In all ages of the world, and among all nations, those who have...

Queen Elizabeth Details

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From Reader Review Queen Elizabeth for online ebook

Annie says

(LibriVox) Biography of Queen Elizabeth I's life written in 1876.

Abbott takes a deep dive into the public events in Elizabeth's life, of which there were many. From her childhood to her imprisonment to her ascension to the throne to her favorite courtiers to her wars. She was a queen to be admired.

Abbott's book is written in the style of the time -- there's no humor nor much editorializing. But if you're interested in the topic already, it holds tons of interesting facts. I've never seen a more full timeline anywhere.

I'd recommend to people who love biographies of the period, and especially to people who love Queen Bess.

Steven Walle says

Queen Elizabeth is a very well researched book on the life and times of Queen Elizabeth. The author did painstaking research to get it right. He does a stupendous job at describing the area in which she lived as well as the costumes of the people which shaped her. I would recommend all books by this author.

Enjoy and Be Blessed.

Diamond

Amle says

A great introduction to those interested in the rule and lifespan of one of the greatest English monarchs.

Scott Harris says

Another in the Abbott series of short histories of major figures, this book documents the life of Queen Elizabeth as well as her father and his myriad of family. With the recent surge of interest in Elizabeth, including countless books and movies, the gaps in this volume are more evident to modern readers than others in the collection. It is still however consistent with his vision of having widely accessible and easy to read history books.

Jennifer Ochoa says

#1 of 22 in my personal (and rather random) challenge to read Abbot's Makers of History series. The series is most famously known for influencing Abraham Lincoln.

Jacob Abbot's historical biographies were famously read by Lincoln, who credited them for all his understanding of historical figures of power. I decided to start with his biography of Elizabeth I, the subject I felt I knew most about already. Despite being published over 100 years ago, it was a fresh read, engaging.

A couple things were impacted by the time it was written though. Some details were omitted, probably to avoid shocking people of Abbott's time. For instance, there was no mention that one of Anne Boleyn's accused lovers was her brother and that Anne was accused of incest. No discussion of Queen Mary's fertility issues and possible cause of death (uterine cancer). Basically anything sexually scandalous beyond adultery was omitted. Understandable not just because Abbott was writing in a different time, but also because his work tended to gravitate toward younger readers.

Another oddity. Abbott made several comments comparing Mary Queen of Scots and Elizabeth, suggesting that people of his time loved and romanticized Mary Queen of Scots and had little interest in Elizabeth. He mentions how visitors to their tombs in Westminster Abbey pause only briefly at Elizabeth's tomb, but stand mournful in front of Mary's tomb. With all the interpretations of Elizabeth in recent decades, I think Mary has become more of a footnote to Elizabeth's life. Interesting how we view people of the past differently depending on our own world. I think feminism changed our perspective of her, making Elizabeth look more empowered and less power-hungry. Personally, I think Elizabeth's choice to not marry has nothing to do with her desire for power. I think it has more to do with witnessing her father's abuse of marriage during her formative years. At any rate, this biography gives us the benefit of another historical perspective. You won't see the pretty, regal, feministic Cate Blanchett in this work.

Queen Mary (Elizabeth's sister) on the other hand is viewed the same as you find in contemporary perspectives, pious and cruel, an unhappy woman in an unhappy marriage. Abbot's description of her relationship with Phillip of Spain was colorful, as was Elizabeth's similar torment with Essex. So despite the delicate handling of some subjects, Abbot still managed to invoke the passions of his subjects. He also maintained an honest representation of Elizabeth, who he admired for her cunning, but called out on her pettinesses.

A good, relatively quick read. I'll probably check out his Mary Queen of Scots biography next.

Max says

A brief but excellent and engaging account of the life and character of the most notable English queen that ever existed. Note that this is not the most extensive biography of Elizabeth I, but very useful as a starting point if you're interested in this period of history.

Shahda Al Taie says

This book is part of the series, by the same author, titled "Makers of History". I first began to develop an interest in Queen Elizabeth after watching the TV drama "Reign". She is portrayed as a clever Queen who has her country's best interests at heart. I can't decide who I like best, her or her cousin Queen Mary. However, there is no doubt as to which of the two was the most successful monarch. I enjoyed the book and it made me interested in reading an account of her father's life and maybe even tuning in to the TV show "Tudors"

Carol Bakker says

Elizabeth was very vain of her beauty, though, unfortunately, she had very little beauty to be vain of. [grin]

I thought I knew Queen Elizabeth I. I knew her "*I have, I know, only the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart of a king*" speech to her troops before the battle with the Spanish Armada. That Elizabeth had her cousin Mary, Queen of Scots, beheaded was another common fact. And I knew that Elizabeth was tutored by the excellent Roger Ascham, scholar and defender of archery as a noble pastime.

What I did not know was that age three she was both motherless and friendless. That she didn't allow her ladies in waiting to get married! That she had a quick intellect and a sharp tongue. Abbott paints Sir Francis Drake as the pirate that he was. Three of the leading men in Elizabeth's life were the Earl of Leicester, Duke of Anjou (with whom she was once engaged), and the Earl of Essex.

What takes place precisely between ladies and gentlemen when they break off engagements is not generally very publicly known, but the duke came out from this interview in a fit of great vexation and anger.

The Earl of Essex, the step-son of Leicester, gets his own chapter. More than thirty years younger than the queen, he was like a son. Later he was arrested, and eventually beheaded. It is a sad story of pride and presumption, of power and rebellion, of pettiness and resentment.

To sum up all, Elizabeth was very great and she was, at the same time, very little.

Janine Zachariae says

LibriVox.

It was a good reading.

It is about the life of Queen Elizabeth, daughter of King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn.

It was really interesting and totally worth to read / listen.

But it is not just about Queen Elizabeth I, but also about her father's life - with his wives and trouble. So far, so good.

Debi Cates says

Another LibriVox recording to listen to while I knitted, this one done by a variety of all female readers. I believe this short history of Elizabeth was written as part of a young adult history series by Jacob Abbott, but nonetheless did not shy away from most of the political complications, sexual intrigues, and violence. Not high literature, but well-written and lively. Enjoyed it!

Pam says

I chose this book because I saw an old movie last weekend that seemed to portray Queen Elizabeth in a positive way. I wanted to see if I could come to my own conclusions. This is an ebook I am reading on my kindle and it was free. So far I've found it interesting enough to hold my attention and seems to have a very balanced way of explaining her life.

M says

This book was written more than 100 years ago and expectedly the author is not free from gender bias...nevertheless one can read it to get a general historical perspective of England during Elizabeth's era..Elizabeth may not touch your soft corners but there is a grudging admiration and respect for her...she was able to rule England because of her cautious approach, shrewdness and intelligence...suffered a lot in her early years and led a single life owing to her ambitions to rule...It was during her 45 year rule that England flourished and was much peaceful..all in all she deserves to be revered and respected....it takes more statesmanship to maintain peace than to wage a war...

Laura Gibbs says

I liked this book. It wasn't extremely exciting as it was written (though these were very exciting, scandalous times) but was very informative and gave me a lot more insight into the character of Queen Elizabeth I. It didn't change my opinion of her; I still feel like she was pretty callous and sometimes cruel, but, nonetheless, impressive and interesting.

Angela Joyce says

I had to remind myself that this was written over one hundred years ago-- writing styles have changed. It's no longer fashionable, in historical biography, to tell the reader how to feel or think, or to say someone did something or felt something because she was a woman. Those little annoyances aside, it's a decent, concise history of a complex queen.

Norman G Walker says

A peak at Elizabeth the 1st. Reign.

She was strong, tenacious, a leader when Britain needed a leader. She shaped the future as a world wide leader.
