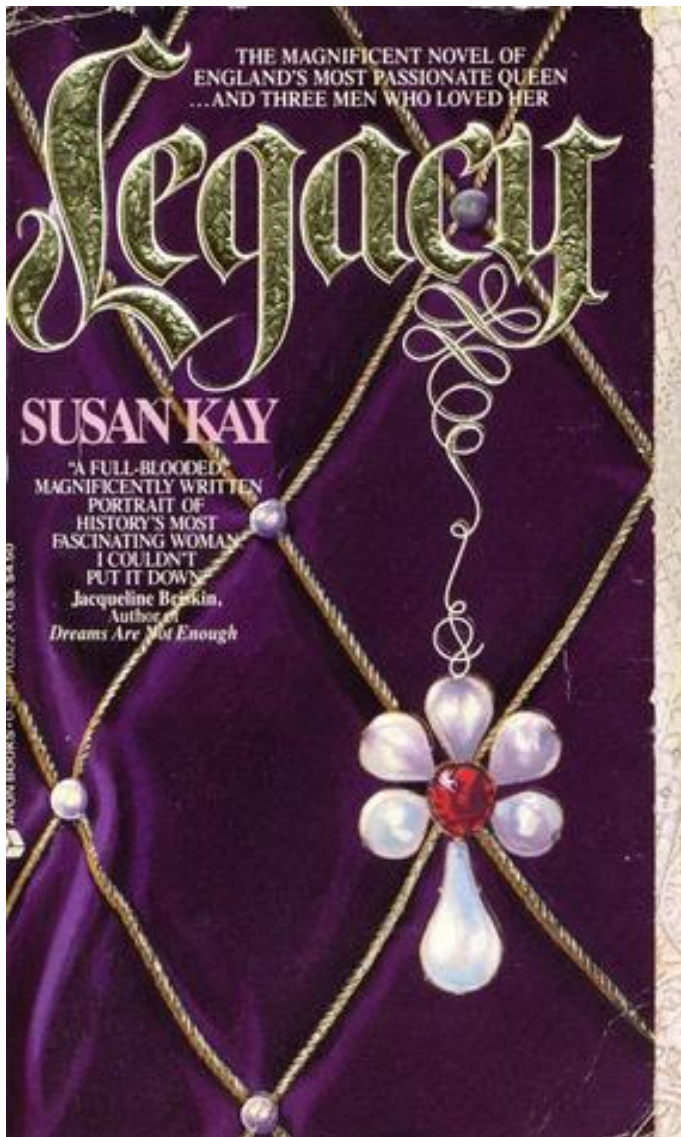

Susan Kay

Legacy



Title: Legacy

Author: Susan Kay

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Description

The much-praised **Legacy** offers an exquisite psychological portrait of the Queen who defined an era, beloved and touted by readers for its stunning storytelling and intriguing take on the monarch's life. From the spectacular era that bears her name comes the mesmerizing story of Elizabeth I: her tragic childhood; her ruthless confrontations with Mary, Queen of Scots; and her brilliant reign as Europe's most celebrated queen. And into this beautiful tapestry Susan Kay weaves the vibrant and compelling image of Elizabeth the woman. Proud, passionate, captivating in her intensity, she inspired men to love her from the depths of their souls—and to curse the pain of that devotion. Teasing out an intriguing answer to the central mystery of the Virgin Queen—satisfying to readers new to Elizabeth's life as well as die-hard fans of the Tudors— here is a premier exploration of the woman who changed the course of history, and three men whose destinies belonged to her alone.

Insightful reviews

KJ: Oh, how I wish "Legacy" had a glossary or a character index or something. Everyone is named some variant of Thomas, Robert, Cecil, or Mary, and some characters' names change with their titles. The second half of the book became almost impenetrable.

That said, the moments I could follow were good. The complex ins and outs of the life of Elizabeth I is almost too much for a single novel to contain, but when Kay gets it right, it's gorgeously wrought. Vain, manipulative, insufferable sometimes, but you read Legacy and cheer for her every step of the way.

Sherry H: This book explores the life of Elizabeth I, focusing, according to the summary, on her relationships with three key men in her life (Thomas Seymour, Robert Dudley, William Cecil). Or was it Dudley, Cecil and Essex? Or was it Phillip of Spain, Dudley and James of Scotland? Let's just say that there were more than "three men whose destinies belonged to her alone."

The first third of the book, about her childhood and ascension to the throne, were very interesting. I knew how it would turn out, but still found myself on the edge of my proverbial seat. Good stuff. Once she actually gained the crown, however, the book took a turn for the boring. And the omniscient narrator, with frequent changes in point of view, started to bug me. And Elizabeth herself became less likable, which may be historically accurate, but makes for less compelling reading material.

Perhaps the problem was that I've read too much about Elizabeth. There wasn't much news here. And what was news, I suspect was fiction. I like her less after reading this.

It took me three weeks to read this book. That's a big investment. It may have been worthwhile if this had been my first in-depth introduction to the great queen.

Alicia: Well-researched, very engaging look at Elizabeth I. The author took 10 years to write it

and yet somehow resisted the urge to drown the reader in detailed descriptions of the era. Something I've no doubt I could not have resisted, & actually wished for more of. However, she does a remarkable job of creating a psychological portrait of Elizabeth, reconstructing pivotal events through the viewpoints of the 3 principals she focuses on: E., Robert Dudley (the Earl of L.), & William Cecil (later Lord Burghley). Several times you have the rather eerie feeling you're looking out from behind Elizabeth's eyes and feeling her rather frighteningly brilliant political brain maneuver.

The question we all want answered: Well, did they or didn't they....?! The answer is Yes....eventually. Very eventually.

Tricia Saucier: i'm a bit a enthusiast approximately Elizabeth I. this can be the best books approximately her lifestyles that i've got ever read.

Gail Amendt: even though i've got learn much concerning the Tudors, such a lot of it's been approximately Henry VIII and his many wives, and i've by no means learn a ebook approximately his daughter, Elizabeth I. I knew that i wished to learn a very solid e-book approximately this nice queen, not only any publication approximately her, and with all of the reliable stories of this novel, i assumed I had stumbled on that actually strong book. regrettably this publication left me feeling a bit disappointed. it isn't that it used to be a poorly researched piece of fluff like such a lot of books written concerning the Tudors. It offered Elizabeth because the amazing and intricate girl she most likely was, and did an exceptional activity of portraying the consistent political maneuvering and backstabbing in her court, however it did so in a truly dull, repetitive, and occasionally complicated way, and that i suspect took a bit an excessive amount of inventive license at times. i actually loved the 1st a part of this novel, which concerned with Elizabeth's turbulent childhood, and the reigns of her siblings, Edward VI and Mary I, yet as soon as Elizabeth ascended to the throne, the ebook turned boring and repetitive. It excited about her relationships with the boys who surrounded her, and spent a ways an excessive amount of time speculating on her popularity as "The Virgin Queen". It did supply me a great appreciation for the problems she confronted and the hindrances she overcame to develop into one of many maximum monarchs Britain ever had, and a pretty reliable clutch of the political state of affairs in Europe on the time, yet i'd have a lot hottest the writer to target Elizabeth's terrific mind than on even if she could have had a actual dating with this guy or that man. i do not care no matter if she used to be fairly a virgin queen, and we'll by no means comprehend the reality approximately this anyway, so i think we should always as an alternative specialise in the bright accomplishments of this lady at a time whilst girls simply did not have possibilities to have significant accomplishments. i feel one other viewpoint in this nice queen is in order.

Rebecca Huston: A e-book that i used to be more than pleased to determine get back into print final year. Smart, well-written account of Queen Elizabeth I from the cradle to the grave, and a number of the personalities, plots and achievements in her life. i feel this one is my favorite of the entire numerous fictional debts of Elizabeth, either end result of the dialog, that is very believable, the characters, whom the writer doesn't short, and Elizabeth herself, depicted along with her jealousy, mood tantrums and talent to connive intact. A needs to learn for enthusiasts of Tudor fiction. For the longer review, please move

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