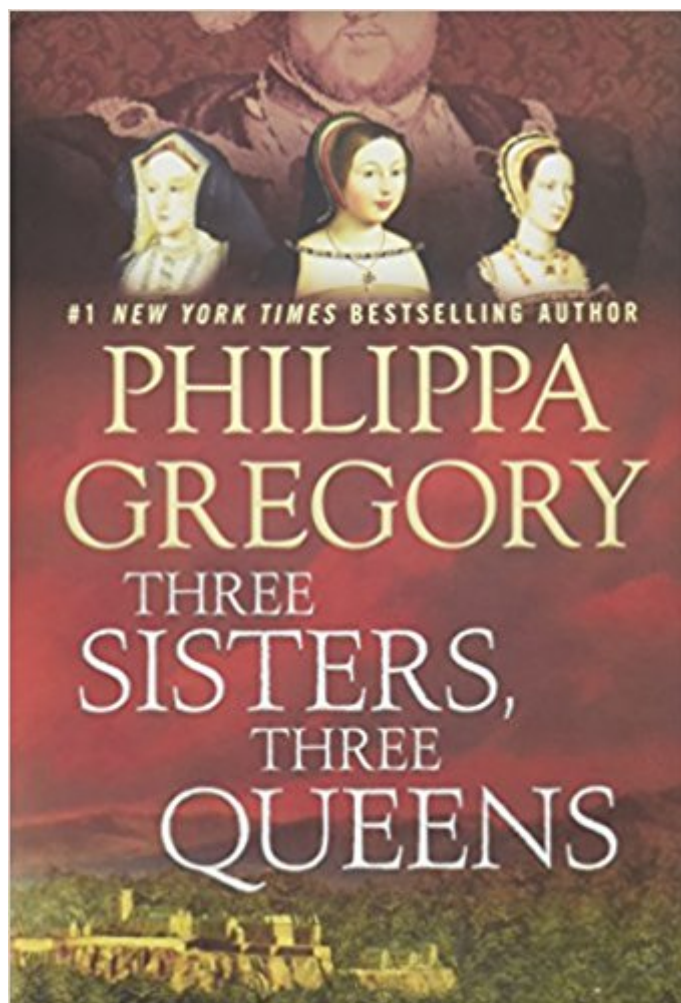


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# Three Sisters, Three Queens (The Plantagenet And Tudor Novels)



## Synopsis

“There is only one bond that I trust: between a woman and her sisters. We never take our eyes off each other. In love and in rivalry, we always think of each other.” From the #1 New York Times bestselling author behind the upcoming Starz original series *The White Princess*, a gripping new Tudor story featuring King Henry VIII’s sisters Mary and Margaret, along with Katherine of Aragon, vividly revealing the pivotal roles the three queens played in Henry VIII’s kingdom. When Katherine of Aragon is brought to the Tudor court as a young bride, the oldest princess, Margaret, takes her measure. With one look, each knows the other for a rival, an ally, a pawn, destined with Margaret’s younger sister Mary to a sisterhood unique in all the world. The three sisters will become the queens of England, Scotland, and France. United by family loyalties and affections, the three queens find themselves set against each other. Katherine commands an army against Margaret and kills her husband James IV of Scotland. But Margaret’s boy becomes heir to the Tudor throne when Katherine loses her son. Mary steals the widowed Margaret’s proposed husband, but when Mary is widowed it is her secret marriage for love that is the envy of the others. As they experience betrayals, dangers, loss, and passion, the three sisters find that the only constant in their perilous lives is their special bond, more powerful than any man, even a king.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Mesmerizing, intimate...Gregory defines what it means to be a writer of historical fiction. She lures

readers straight into the hearts and minds of her characters by masterful storytelling and brilliant reimagination blended with historical fact. She brings history to life." (RT Book Reviews)"A fictional tale as steeped in history as it is in intrigue and family dysfunction....Gregory excels in plucking real-life women out of their secondary places in the historical chorus and placing them stage center in starring roles." (Booklist)"Philippa Gregory's historical fiction about the Tudors, including the best-seller *The Other Boleyn Girl*, has earned her a devoted following, and *Three Sisters, Three Queens* is sure to bring her more." (St. Paul Pioneer Press)"The ultimate job in centuries past was ruling. Historical fiction maven Gregory (*The Other Boleyn Girl*) takes on three women, all part of King Henry VIII's world, who serve as queens of England, France, and Scotland." (Library Journal)"Spellbinding." (Shelf Awareness)"By the time I had read the first few pages of *Three Sisters, Three Queens*, I knew that once again Gregory had grabbed me by the collar and simply wouldn't let me go. . . . Although the urge to race through the novel to see what happens next is strong, smart readers will read slowly and savor the chance to travel back in time and live in an era that can now be found only in the pages of such a magical book." (Book Reporter)Praise for *The Taming of the Queen*: "Who's ever heard of Kateryn Parr? Henry VIII's sixth wife was smart, independent and managed to outlive him. In historical-fiction-queen Gregory's latest, she's unforgettable." (People Magazine)"Full of vivid details and fraught with the constant tension of a court run by a madman, this novel will appeal most to historical fiction readers and those who enjoyed *Wolf Hall*. . . . Gregory beautifully builds the suspense." Library Journal"Gregory does her usual excellent job of ratcheting up the intrigue and suspense as another intelligent and strong-willed heroine fights for her life and her legacy." Booklist"Gregory puts readers at the scene with visceral details." (Kirkus Reviews)Praise for *The King's Curse*: "Loyalties are torn, paranoia festers and you can almost hear the bray of royal trumpets as the period springs to life. It's a bloody irresistible read." (People)"Infuses vitality into an oft-forgotten player in the aftermath of the War of the Roses" Margaret Poole, heiress to the defeated Plantagenet clan." (Closer)"Margaret's story is shocking, deeply moving and offers an alternative view on a much-told tale. Gregory is on form here; her depiction of Henry VIII's transformation from indulged golden boy to sinister tyrant is perfectly pitched and seems more horrific still when we are made intimate witnesses to the devastation of Margaret's family. . . . I defy anyone to remain dry-eyed as the story reaches its tragic denouement." The Sunday Express (UK)"[A] gripping and detailed chronicle, with plenty of court intrigue and politics to spice up

the action . . . . Highly recommended. [Library Journal](#) (starred review) ["Nobody does dynastic history like Gregory."](#) [Booklist](#) "Gregory manages to keep us in suspense as to what will befall her characters....Under [her] spell, we keep hoping history won't repeat itself." [Kirkus Reviews](#) "An illuminating portrait. . . Gregory moves confidently through a tangle of intrigue, revenge, and tyranny toward a shocking betrayal." [Publishers Weekly](#) Praise for *The White Princess*: "Bring on the blood, sex and tears! . . . You name it, it's all here." [USA Today](#) ["This rich tapestry brings to vivid life the court of Henry and Elizabeth. Meticulously drawn characters with a seamless blending of historical fact and fiction combine in a page-turning epic of a story. Tudor-fiction fans can never get enough, and they will snap this one up."](#) [Library Journal](#) (starred review) "The *White Princess* features one of the more intriguing theories about the possible fate of the princes." [The Washington Post](#) Praise for Philippa Gregory: ["The queen of royal fiction."](#) [USA Today](#)

Philippa Gregory is the author of many bestselling novels, including *The Other Boleyn Girl*, and is a recognized authority on women's history. Her work has been adapted for the screen in *The Other Boleyn Girl* movie and the critically acclaimed STARZ miniseries *The White Queen* and *The White Princess*. Her most recent novel is *The Last Tudor*. She graduated from the University of Sussex and received a PhD from the University of Edinburgh, where she is a Regent. She holds two honorary degrees from Teesside University and the University of Sussex. She is a fellow of the Universities of Sussex and Cardiff and was awarded the 2016 Harrogate Festival Award for Contribution to Historical Fiction. She welcomes visitors to her website, [PhilippaGregory.com](http://PhilippaGregory.com).

As an avid Philippa Gregory reader, I have read everything she has published. I love the *Widacre* trilogy and even find delight in the outlier novels such as "The Wise Woman" and "Fallen Skies". This current novel, however, has none of the magic of "Taming of the Queen" or the "White Queen" series. Instead of creating a vivid Scottish world, Gregory has given us a fairly two dimensional heroine who's obsessive desire to best her sisters drives every decision. Margaret Tudor spends most of the novel reciting epic battles and whining. We are not given any of the rich detail of Gregory's previous novels nor do we feel very strongly for Margaret. There is little story telling and lots of listing of events. Margaret's world just happens around her and we as the reader are not part of it. She is a petulant woman child and her story is incredibly reminiscent of her granddaughter's

life. I found myself waiting for the book to be over. Gregory had the chance to recreate the magic she had done with Katherine Parr but fell incredibly flat. I still love Gregory but will not be rereading "Three Sisters" anytime soon.

I am a great fan of this era in time. I had no knowledge of Margaret, Henry VIII, older sister. Having visited Great Britain last summer, imagining what it was like to live in that time and in those places was great fun. Very little is known of this sister and the author made her fictional lying come to life.

I am glad that Philippa has come back to the writing I know and love from her. I didn't love her last book, *The Taming of the Queen*. But this book is more of what I fell in love with Philippa for. She has a wonderful way of making you care for a person who in a previous novel was vilified when spoken of from someone else's perspective. I didn't know a lot about Margaret Tudor before reading this book, and after reading it I find myself wanting to learn more. I own all of Philippa Gregory's books, and I am happy to add this one to my collection.

As always, Ms. Gregory delivers a beautifully written tale of Tudor love and loss. Her research and knowledge shine through and we are introduced to the lesser known Tudor Princess. The struggles and ties that all three women shared is uncanny, and that they all relied on the favor of one man is undeniable. While we can look up the history and cold facts, Ms. Gregory weaves for us the stories and perspectives and breathes life back into a forgotten past. She fills in the missing blanks with her own take on the personal thoughts and feelings of these women in a most fantastic way. She does not disappoint in this, nor any other novel of hers. I am inspired by Ms. Gregory and appreciate her for introducing us to history's forgotten royal ladies..

While I have loved most of Philippa Gregory's books, this was definitely one of my favorites. She develops the characters exceptionally well, especially that of Margaret, sister of Henry VIII. The plot is consistently fascinating, and her historical facts are sound, even though there is some fictionalization of characters. I loved this book and am likely to re-read it in the future! I would highly recommend it to anyone who likes the historical genre novel.

This novel is focussed on Margaret Tudor, sister of Henry VIII. The other 2 are Mary Tudor and Katherine of Aragon. The style is annoying, hence my rating, as Margaret's personality doesn't ring true. She is a heroine and a villain within the same paragraph with no real insight as to why this

might be so. So a character we know little about, but a bit of a soap opera read.

As a fan of Philippa Gregory I was excited to read her latest book, chronicling the lives of Margaret and Mary Tudor and Katharine of Aragon from a fresh, new perspective. While there were parts of the book that I found plausible and intriguing, I could not get over the portrayal that Margaret Tudor was spiteful and envious of her sisters - and that this motivated many of her actions. Referring to Katharine of Aragon and the order or precedence made Margaret's actions seem petty and childish and devalued her role as a strong female leader in her day. Overall, I was disappointed and felt that the narrative would have been stronger if Gregory had instead focused on the prevailing attitudes towards women - especially those of Henry/Harry - and how they influenced the decisions of these three important women.

Beautifully written novel of sibling rivalry, love, war, and politics of the 1500's in and between England, Scotland and France. These indeed were nasty times and there is no happy ending in this tale. But the novel is rich in detail of the times and of the royal thrones of these lands as they struggle to survive and eliminate their perceived enemies.

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