

# *This Week: Royalty*

## Book Suggestions - Fiction:

*Three sisters, three queens* and other books by Phillipa Gregory

United in sisterhood by birth and marriage, Katherine of Aragon, Queen of England, Margaret Tudor, Queen of Scots, and Mary Tudor, Queen of France immediately recognize each other as both allies and rivals in the treacherous world of court and national politics. Their bonds extend beyond natural and expeditious loyalties, as romance, scandal, war, and religion inextricably unite these three for better or for worse.

*Servant of the Crown* by Paul J. Bennett

An old warrior, too stubborn to die. A royal heir, hidden since birth. Can they save a realm on the brink of war? *Servant of the Crown* is the series starter in the epic *Heir to the Crown* medieval fantasy series. For readers who like realistic fight scenes, compelling characters, and a gripping story.

*The Secret Chord* by Geraldine Brooks

Traces the arc of King David's journey from obscurity to fame, from shepherd to soldier, from hero to traitor, from beloved king to murderous despot and into his remorseful and diminished dotage.

Saxon Stories series by Bernard Cornwell

Set in 9th-century Britain and Denmark, these rousing adventure novels are notable for their accuracy and compelling storytelling. Led by the courageous nobleman Uhtred of Bebbanburg, a Saxon warrior kidnapped by the Danes in his youth, this gritty series is loaded with heroic battles, rich detail, and irreverence. Complex characterization brings everything vividly to life.

*The Heretic Queen* by Michelle Moran

In ancient Egypt, a forgotten princess must overcome her family's past and remake history. Nefertari has been left to run wild in the palace, but catches the eye of the Crown Prince. All of Egypt opposes this union, and political adversity sets the country on edge.

*The Princes of Ireland* by Edward Rutherford

17 centuries of Irish history, beginning in pre-Christian Ireland and culminating in the mid-sixteenth century. From the passionate tale of Conall and Deirdre--a reworking of the celebrated Cuchulainn legend--to the desecration of Irish Catholic churches and shrines during the reign of Henry VIII, the history of this island nation is viewed through a kaleidoscope of interwoven historical and fictional characters caught up in all the pageantry and drama of their particular time and place in history.

*Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel

Henry VIII's challenge to the church's power set off a tidal wave of religious, political and societal turmoil that reverberated throughout 16th-century Europe. Mantel boldly attempts to capture the sweeping internecine machinations of the times from the perspective of Thomas Cromwell, the lowborn man who became one of Henry's closest advisers. Assuming the power recently lost by the disgraced Cardinal Wolsey, Thomas Cromwell counsels a mercurial Henry VIII on the latter's efforts to marry Anne Boleyn against the wishes of Rome and many of his people, a successful endeavor that comes with a dangerous price.

Red Queen series by Victoria Aveyard

In a world where blood color determines your place in society, Mare, a lowly Red, leads a life of thievery to survive and provide for her family -- until her unique powers are revealed and she becomes a symbol for the rebellion. Victoria Aveyard's series is full of immersive fantasy-world building, court intrigue, and fast-paced action.

Book Suggestions - Non-Fiction:

*Love and Louis XIV: the women in the life of the Sun King* by Antonia Fraser

The life and reign of the Sun King looks at the world of King Louis XIV from the perspective of his intimate relationships with the women in his life, from his mother, Anne of Austria, and his official queen, Marie-Therese, to his many mistresses--including Louise de la Valliere, Athenais, marquise de Montespan, and Francoise de Maintenon.

*Six wives: the queens of Henry VIII* by David Starkey

No one in history had a more eventful career in matrimony than Henry VIII. His marriages were daring and tumultuous, and made instant legends of six very different women. What could make him marry six times? In this remarkable new study, David Starkey argues that the king was not a depraved philanderer, but someone seeking happiness – and a son. Knowingly or not, he empowered a group of women to extraordinary heights and changed the way a nation was governed.

Book Suggestions - Biographies:

Queen Victoria

Cleopatra

Prince Charles

Edward VIII & Wallace Simpson

Mary Queen of Scots

Queen Elizabeth II

Prince Harry

Video Suggestions:

*Victoria & Abdul*

*The Crown*

*Elizabeth the Golden Age*

*Hollow Crown*

*Wolf Hall*

*The King's Speech*

*The Libertine*

*Victoria*