

Queen Mary I - Bloody Mary

Queen Mary I of England, also known as Mary Tudor, _____ (be) one of the five monarchs from the famous Tudor family.



Early Life

Mary _____ (be) born in 1516. She _____ (be) the daughter of King Henry VIII and his first wife, Catherine of Aragon. Mary _____ (be) a very clever child and _____ (speak), _____ (read) and _____ (write) in many languages including Latin and Spanish. She was also very religious like her mother and _____ (follow) the Catholic faith.

In 1533, Henry _____ (decide) to divorce Catherine as he _____ (want) a son to be his heir. Mary was _____ (remove) from her place in line to the throne and was _____ (send) away from court. She _____ (not be) allowed any contact with her mother as she _____ (not accept) her father's new wife, Anne Boleyn, as queen. This _____ (hurt) her relation with her father and they _____ (not speak) for three years.



Henry's third wife, Jane, _____ (try) to make peace between Mary and her father. Mary _____ (agree) to the king's request to recognise him as the head of the church and was reunited with her father in 1536. After Jane _____ (die), Henry _____ (marry) another three times. His final wife, Catherine Parr, _____ (persuade) the king to return Mary and Elizabeth to the line of succession in 1544.

In 1547, Henry _____ (die) and Mary's half-brother Edward _____ (become) king. During his reign, Mary _____ (spend) most of her time away from court as she _____ (disagree) with laws he had passed.

Queen Mary

On 6th July 1553, Edward _____ (die) aged just 15. He _____ (not want) the crown to go to Mary as she _____ (be) Catholic. Instead, he _____ (name) his cousin, Lady Jane Grey, as his heir and she was named queen on 10th July. Mary and her supporters _____ (be) furious, _____ (remove) Jane from the throne and _____ (lock) her in the Tower of London.

Mary _____ (be) crowned Queen of England on 1st October 1553. At first, she _____ (spare) Lady Jane's life but soon _____ (realize) that she would always be a threat to her crown and Jane was _____ (execute).

Marriage

After being crowned, Mary _____ (set) about finding a husband. She _____ (be) now 37 years old and was desperate for an heir. Her advisors _____ (suggest) she marry Prince Philip of Spain. The marriage was soon _____ (agree). Parliament _____ (write) 'Queen Mary's Marriage Act' which _____ (set) out terms meaning that Philip would not be able to act without Mary's permission. The couple _____ (marry) on 25th July 1554. Philip _____ (spend) much of his time away from Mary after being _____ (crown) King of Spain in January 1556.



Bloody Mary

During Mary's reign, anyone who _____ (not follow) the Catholic faith was imprisoned and _____ (be) in danger of being executed. Hundreds of Protestants were _____ (burn) at the stake and many others _____ (choose) to leave England. Mary's hunting of non-Catholics and sending them to their deaths _____ (lead) to her becoming known as 'Bloody Mary'.

Later Life and Death

Many times, Mary _____ (believe) herself to be pregnant but it _____ (turn) out to be false and no child ever _____ (arrive).

In May 1558, Mary _____ (become) very ill and was _____ (force) to name her sister Elizabeth, a protestant, as her heir. She _____ (die) on 17th November 1558 at the age of 42 and was _____ (bury) in Westminster Abbey.