



The Boleyn King: A Novel (The Boleyn Trilogy)

By Laura Andersen

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NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY *RT BOOK REVIEWS*

Perfect for fans of Philippa Gregory, Alison Weir, and Showtime's *The Tudors*, *The Boleyn King* is the first book in an enthralling trilogy that dares to imagine: What if Anne Boleyn had actually given Henry VIII a son who grew up to be king?

Just seventeen years old, Henry IX, known as William, is a king bound by the restraints of the regency yet anxious to prove himself. With the French threatening battle and the Catholics sowing the seeds of rebellion at home, William trusts only three people: his older sister Elizabeth; his best friend and loyal counselor, Dominic; and Minuette, a young orphan raised as a royal ward by William's mother, Anne Boleyn.

Against a tide of secrets, betrayal, and murder, William finds himself fighting for the very soul of his kingdom. Then, when he and Dominic both fall in love with Minuette, romantic obsession looms over a new generation of Tudors. One among them will pay the price for a king's desire, as a shocking twist of fate changes England's fortunes forever.

Includes a preview of Laura Andersen's *The Boleyn Deceit*

Praise for *The Boleyn King*

“Imaginative . . . Andersen focuses on creating an exciting, action-driven plot containing strong doses of both intrigue and romance. Tudor-era historical fiction fans who are willing to accept the unusual premise will be rewarded with an original and entertaining read that’s reminiscent of the best of Philippa Gregory.”—*Library Journal* (starred review)

“Gripping . . . Andersen delves into an alternative Tudor England geared to rivet period fans and newcomers alike. . . . Perfect for Philippa Gregory fans.”—*Booklist* (starred review)

“A surprising gem and a thoroughly enjoyable read.”—***Historical Novels Review***

“Andersen’s novel, alive with historical flair and drama, satisfies both curious and imaginative Tudor aficionados. . . . Her multidimensional characters are so real that readers will wish it was history and eagerly await the next in the trilogy.”—***RT Book Reviews (Top Pick)***

“A wonderfully imaginative and well-written tale of intrigue, high court politics and desperate love.”—***Deseret News***

“ ‘What if . . .’ With these tantalizing words, Laura Andersen creates a fresh and vividly realized alternative world where Anne Boleyn not only lives, but also gives birth to a healthy son who will become King. With the introduction of Minuette, Princess Elizabeth’s lady-in-waiting, we meet an extraordinary young woman who embodies love and loyalty, and who fights to find the humanity at the heart of the most glamorous—and dangerous—court in Europe.”—**Susan Elia MacNeal, author of *Mr. Churchill’s Secretary***

“Full of intrigue, conspiracies, and the accurate details so essential to good historical fiction . . . Anyone who has even the slightest fascination with the Tudors will want to devour this delectable novel in a single sitting.”—**Tasha Alexander, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Death in the Floating City***

Look for special features inside. Join the Random House Reader’s Circle for author chats and more.

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Editorial Review

From *Booklist*

Starred Review High-court intrigue, romantic passions, and danger surround the four central characters of Andersen's gripping first novel. Imagining that Anne Boleyn bears a live son to King Henry VIII in 1536, thereby saving her life, Andersen delves into an alternative Tudor England geared to rivet period fans and newcomers alike. Will's story begins just before his eighteenth birthday and assumption of the crown. He manages to stay grounded because of his friendships with his close friend and advisor, Dominic; his intelligent and strong-willed sister, Elizabeth; and her sweet childhood friend and now servant, Minuette. Their support helps him manage to handle everything from watching over his mother's well-being (of great importance to Will in a kingdom that still favors her predecessor as Henry's queen, Catherine of Aragon) to deciding whom he should marry to impending war to ugly questions about the legitimacy of his birthright. Although the love triangle seems just a bit forced, the overall story plays out very well. Told mainly from Minuette's viewpoint and her journal entries, this first entry in a planned trilogy highly entertains with its fine pacing, plot, and detail. Perfect for Philippa Gregory fans. --Julie Trevelyan

Review

Praise for *The Boleyn King*

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"*The Boleyn King* deftly blends compelling characters, flawless social history, and courtly romance into an

enthralling tale that's impossible to put down."—**Stefanie Pintoff, Edgar Award-winning author of *Secret of the White Rose***

"A sumptuous, vividly imagined novel of a Boleyn king's fateful rise to power amid the treacherous glamour of the Tudor court. A fantastic debut!"—**C. W. Gortner, author of *The Queen's Vow***

"A fascinating journey into what might have been, this novel of alternate history will keep you turning the pages and leave you hoping for a sequel."—**Kate Emerson, author of *A Royal Inheritance***

"Fans of both Stephenie Meyer and Philippa Gregory will find much to love in this evocative and well-written debut."—**Francine Mathews, author of *Jack 1939***

"Immensely addictive and twisty—kudos to Laura Andersen for her crafty plotting and rich characterizations. Deliciously scandalous and seductive, *The Boleyn King* delivers history and romance with equal passion."—**Becca Fitzpatrick, New York Times bestselling author of *Hush, Hush***

"From the intrigue of the Tudor court to the battlefields of France, you will be entranced by the power, emotion, and sweeping romance of this spellbinding novel. I loved it and can't wait for the next book in the series!"—**Syrie James, bestselling author of *The Lost Memoirs of Jane Austen***

"*The Boleyn King* is a riveting page-turner of a tale. I could not put it down. Laura Andersen's splendidly imagined novel provides a fresh take on an era in history that's been done to death. For historical fiction fans and Tudor aficionados, *The Boleyn King* is a must-read."—**Sherry Jones, author of *Four Sisters, All Queens***

About the Author

Laura Andersen is married with four children, and possesses a constant sense of having forgotten something important. She has a BA in English (with an emphasis in British history), which she puts to use by reading everything she can lay her hands on.

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From reader reviews:

Raymond Harris:

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