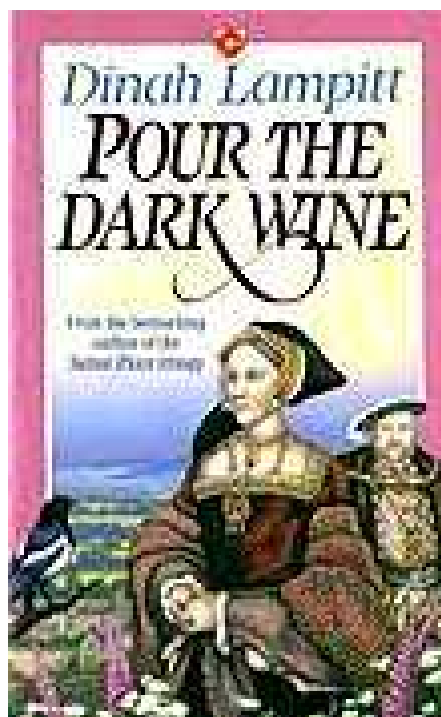




Pour the Dark Wine

Dinah Lampitt , Deryn Lake

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In Pour The Dark Wine, Dinah Lampitt again shows her ability to interweave fact and fiction to create an historical novel of impact and passion. The story of the rise and fall of the Seymours was dramatic in its own right and her imaginative skills and impeccable research cast new light on one of the most exciting periods in English history.

The Seymours were one of the most powerful families under the Tudors. Jane became Henry VIII's third wife. Thomas married his widow and engaged in an ambiguous relationship with the young Elizabeth while Edward became Protector but ended his life on the scaffold.

This novel reinterprets the role of Jane and looks in detail at the life of Thomas, the most glamorous of the Seymours. Introducing into the story the astrologer Zachary, the illegitimate son of the Duke of Norfolk, who played a pivotal role in the Sutton Place trilogy, Dinah Lampitt has given us her strongest novel yet, a triumph of storytelling based on actual historical fact.

Pour the Dark Wine Details

Date :

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Author : Dinah Lampitt , Deryn Lake

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From Reader Review Pour the Dark Wine for online ebook

Kathryn says

I love the truth mixed with magic in this book

I love the Tudor times anyway, so I adore when there is magic mixed into the story. Then characters and their stories are very well told.

Caroline says

I liked it more than I expected to given that I'm kind of off historical novels anymore. Unlike so much stuff out there today it is well written. I suspended my disbelief about the portrayals of historical characters, not all of which entirely jive with the known facts, because the fictional characters were so much fun and because even the historical characters were entertaining. Every once in awhile there was a sentence that was really beautiful or that did ring so true. I can read a few more of hers before I cancel the Kindle Unlimited.

E L E A N O R (bookishcourtier) says

****Lowering my rating to 2 stars because every time I think back on this book the positive things I had about it dwindles. It was rambling, slow, with utterly not plot or arc, and the characters were boring and flat.****

I have been disappointed, I must admit. This started out good, but quickly lost its momentum and became pretty slow. Which is sad, because this had a lot of promise (despite its slightly cringe worthy cover). I have quite a lot of thoughts, so be prepared.

If you know your history, this is not a spoiler: I was disappointed that Jane Seymour died before the book was even half way finished. I will readily admit that this was my fault for not doing enough research (this about all three Seymour siblings), and I wasn't expecting the main character to die on me before I was even 50% of the way through. However, even being in the wrong, I think that this did cause major problems for the rest of the book. The author would have written a far more successful book had she finished it with Jane Seymour's death. Here's why: after Jane Seymour died, the book completely lost its focus. Though there were various point of views, the author had begun to centre her book completely around Jane Seymour - Thomas and Edward were hardly even there. With the death of her main character, we began to get random viewpoints from practically every character that ever existed, and the book just turned into a long, slow and, quite frankly, dull narrative of the Tudor era. It lost its theme, and became broad and general and boring. The parts that were supposed to be about the Seymour brothers were more focused on the last three wives of Henry VIII. **This is a shame, because this book, in some places, had some really lovely writing and descriptions.** For sure, it needed a little touching up here and there, and smoothing out a few clunky sentences, but in some places it was really beautiful. The descriptions of nature were particularly nice, and I enjoyed some of the rich and evocative vocabulary used there. **What's more, this was about Jane Seymour!** Or, mainly. But this is an achievement in itself, because there are so few books around about the third wife of Henry VIII, and I really want to read more about her. This was a great find, and I hope it will

introduce me to more books about her. However, I did think that sometimes the author hadn't completely fleshed out her character properly. Sometimes a trait would be introduced as if it had always been there, but she had never acted that way beforehand. I think this was somewhat to do with the unnecessary and random time jumps. Often, the author would spend pages and pages on a certain, uninteresting point in time, and then skip pivotal moments, sometimes years, almost as if she couldn't be bothered to write about them.

Whilst this was promising, and got off to a good start, I found the second half extremely boring and began skim reading some of it. It had some clunky sentences that didn't completely flow, and time jumps were frequent, which ruined the flow of the whole book. However, I am pleased to have found a book about Jane Seymour, and I think that this book showed a lot of promise. It could have done with just a few more edits.

Denise says

Pour the Dark Wine chronicles the rise and fall of the Seymour family during the reigns of Henry VIII and his only son Edward VI. From childhood until their respective deaths, the book follows the lives of Jane, who became Henry VIII's third queen and mother of his son and heir, Edward, who would rise to become Lord Protector and end up on the scaffold during his nephew's short reign, Thomas, who would marry Henry VIII's widow and engage in a dangerous flirtation with the princess Elizabeth living under the same roof, and their illegitimate (and fictional) cousin Cloverella.

While the story itself is fascinating and offers ups and downs and twists aplenty, I found the book too longwinded in places, with tiresome and unnecessary scenes that seemed to drag on forever. I didn't particularly care for the vilifying portrayal of Anne Boleyn (and to a lesser extent Elizabeth), or for the whole Zachary/Cloverella subplot - I'd have enjoyed the book a lot more without the latter.

linda j jones says

I really in joy this book .I've read a lot of different books of this type,but

I really in joyed this view on this book . I found this book very interesting the way it was put together. I like these kind of history type . The lay out each part so one that kept me wanting to know more . So that's why I rate this one a 5.

Helen says

Very well written and as good an insight into all the major characters of the Tudor period as I have read. Could not put this book down. But how I feel for everyone alive during these tumultuous years. It wasn't safe for anyone be you a mere citizen of London or a royal titled person. Both Henry And daughter Elizabeth were monsters. There was nothing Gloriana about these generations. Well done the writers.

Terri Tarrant says

Good read

I thought the book was interesting being told by an outsider of the Tudors. I enjoyed the different perspectives of the families of the wives of Henry VIII and how their ambitions were acutely involved in the downfall of various queens. The only part that was confusing were the names of the noble people and the interchangeable titles given to them. This made it somewhat confusing as to who they were at times and who they were related.

Lucinda says

- It was nice reading a book at least partly about Jane Seymour, who in most books about Henry's wives is largely ignored as "the one who deposed Anne" and "then she had a boy and died". Even poor Jane Grey has more written about her.

Ian Becker says

Absorbing, and full of surprises.

The author expertly captures the many sides of each character, at times making even Henry VIII seem sympathetic, then unapologetically displaying the ugliness in even well liked characters. The plot was full of turns and always had me looking forward to more.

Sarah says

Not sure where to begin with this book, really. While the descriptions claim it is a book on the Seymour family, particularly Jane, the book instead meanders through most of Henry VIII's court with the Seymour's occasionally contributing to the story. As a historical fiction novel with a lot of additional content and stretching of historical facts, I could give the first half of this book a solid 3 stars. It's wordy, but interesting once belief is suspended, and quite possibly a decent historical fiction novel. However, I strongly disagree with her characterization of Jane, and then further on with Catherine Parr. Jane was known for being gentle and a peacemaker, not the little argumentative spitfire this book makes her out to be. And Catherine Parr was known for being devoutly religious and an excellent regent while her husband was away, while in the book, these facts are barely mentioned. Instead, the storyline drags through her multiple affairs with Thomas Seymour. I can always appreciate some stretching of historical facts, but these two main characters were not even remotely close to their actual counterparts. Also, we know Henry VIII was large, but we don't need that reiterated every single time the man makes an appearance in the story! It was akin to reading a thesaurus for the word "fat" or "obese". Point taken, he was obese. Got it.

The second portion of the book, after Jane Seymour's death (which should shock nobody who knows about the Tudors. She dies.) which was not due to a c-section despite the author's claim, the storyline falls apart as everyone attempts to fall into bed with each other. I skimmed a great deal here because there was very little to actually read or keep me interested. The storyline fell apart and so did any history.

Overall, 2/5 stars. Just not that good of a book.

Charlotte Huffington-Shinn says

Enjoyable read for lovers of history

I enjoyed this book but did find the fact the narrative jumped from person to person a bit irritating but that is just a matter of my own literary taste. An enjoyable, if not gripping read.

pooja says

Loved the book.It intertwines history with an edge !!

Rachel says

Lively retelling of the rise and fall of the Seymours

A brew of historical fact, fiction, gypsies, magic, romance and intriguebut some willing suspension of disbelief carried me through a second read of this actually very enjoyable book.

I first read it as a teenager and I must admit I had forgotten some of the liberties the author took with historical facts and the gloriously florid dialogue.

But for all that it's a solidly told tale, with some really quite beautiful descriptive passages and the occasional telling insight. It rattled along, apart from some sag in pace at the beginning of part two, and nearly 30 years after my first read I was pleasantly surprised that it stood up so well to the test of time.

Stacie says

This is a hard-to-find book that I believe was first published in 1989. I have read so much about the Tudor era, as I am fascinated by the stories of the wives of Henry VIII. There is so much published on Katherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn and Katherine Howard, that if I ever find anything on his other three wives, I devour it. This book tells the story of Jane Seymour and her brothers, Edward and Thomas. There is also another fictional character, Cloverella, that is raised with her Seymour cousins. It is so rare to find a book about Jane Seymour and I thought the author's sympathetic view of both of the Seymour brothers was very refreshing. I liked the side story of Cloverella's life, but I especially enjoyed the author's telling of the successes, trials and tragedies of the Seymour siblings. This is not a literary "masterpiece" but a good book, nonetheless. If you find this book, I would highly recommend it to any Tudor fan!!!!

Marion Arango says

Loved it
