



Elizabeth: The Golden Age

Tasha Alexander

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The reign of Queen Elizabeth I was a time of war, passion, and spectacular achievement. *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* finds Elizabeth facing bloodlust for her throne and familial betrayal. Growing keenly aware of the changing religious and political tides of late sixteenth-century Europe, Elizabeth faces an open challenge from the Spanish King Philip II, who is determined to restore England to Catholicism with his powerful army and dominating armada.

Preparing to go to war to defend her empire, Elizabeth struggles to balance ancient royal duties with an unexpected vulnerability: her love for the seafarer Sir Walter Raleigh. But he remains forbidden for a queen who has sworn body and soul to her country.

Yet as she charts her course abroad, treachery is the rot behind the glittering royal throne. Her most trusted adviser uncovers an assassination plot that could topple the throne, and the traitors may even include Elizabeth's own cousin Mary Stuart.

Based on the sequel to the Academy Award®-winning *Elizabeth*, *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* tells the thrilling tale of an era—the story of one woman's crusade to control love, crush enemies, and secure her position as a beloved icon of the Western world.

Elizabeth: The Golden Age Details

Date : Published September 25th 2007 by It Books
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From Reader Review Elizabeth: The Golden Age for online ebook

Krista says

Seems like this was written really quickly...and not with too great attention to detail/accuracy.

Diane Smith says

Didn't love this book. While moments in it were really good, it was too much like the screenplay in that it jumped from scene to scene quite frequently.

Tocci says

Live History

While fictional, the characters and time period are real, as are some events. What puts this novel a notch above others is the emotions imbued into the historical figures. This lends a very believable cause to the events of the Times. Excellently edited, this was an interesting enjoyable book of a subject covered by many others.

Lori says

I had the privilege of meeting Tasha Alexander at a writer's conference in July. She is an incredible writer! She is known for her ability to write dialogue(sp and she incorporates the British dialect so well, which is not easy to do. I enjoyed Tasha's novelization of the movie!

Yanper says

Really enjoyed this book because historical fiction is my favorite genre, and a reason is that I like to search further to find out, what is fictional and what is factual. The story is about a powerful queen Elizabeth and the problems she faces, as state ruler, as well as a person. The latter helped to earn the nickname of the virgin queen.

Rick says

Tilburg speech;

My loving people

We have been persuaded by some that are careful of our safety, to take heed how we commit our selves to

armed multitudes, for fear of treachery; but I assure you I do not desire to live to distrust my faithful and loving people. Let tyrants fear. I have always so behaved myself that, under God, I have placed my chiefest strength and safeguard in the loyal hearts and good-will of my subjects; and therefore I am come amongst you, as you see, at this time, not for my recreation and disport, but being resolved, in the midst and heat of the battle, to live and die amongst you all; to lay down for my God, and for my kingdom, and my people, my honour and my blood, even in the dust.

Susan says

Tasha Alexander is the ONLY reason I read this "novelization" based on the film of the same name. Well, that and I had just finished watching The Tudors on Netflix. So my background in fictionalized Henry VIII and his virgin queen daughter is now complete! This reads like a romance novel rather than anything resembling historical fiction--Alexander even states in her note to readers at the end that Sir Walter Raleigh, who saves the day in the British naval battle against the Spanish Armada, didn't even see action in the battle! But there's always something positive, even in a book I'm not crazy about--this made me appreciate Alexander's delightfully creative and unique protagonist, Lady Emily, so much more!!

Joan says

This was fabulous. Loved how the character were real people and not just people in history. You were absorbed in the story from the first page.

Erin says

There's nothing too special about this book. I thought it was the novel that the movie was based on. however, it is the novel based on the movie. It reads like a script and moves like a movie. Most of the scenes fall flat without Cate Blanchett performing them. Also, it's almost entirely fictional...as the author herself states. There's just so many better books about Queen Elizabeth.

Maria says

I love reading about The Tudors and historical fiction. However, I wish this had been the book upon which the movie was based and not the other way around. It was very light in substance. But enjoyable in several parts. I wish the romance had been more developed, but that goes back to the fact that the movie possibly didn't allow for that (I haven't seen it and I don't think I'd be missing anything except Cate Blanchett's always excellent performance). Thank God for Goodreads/Amazon's nice discounts, of which this book was one. I'd be upset if I'd paid more than \$5 for this book.

Manuel says

Wow that was a fast one

Actual reading time 3-4 days

It was nice and not very deep. Some interesting plots and niceley between fiction and fact.

Dacia says

One book that I thought the movie came close to doing justice to.....

Anam Cara says

Wonderful story that make ERI a real person! Loved reading about the people she interacted with - her ministers, her courtiers, her ladies-in-waiting. She is a sad figure in history, something I never thought of before.

Brit McCarthy says

A word of warning: you need to be careful when representing historic figures – and also when you're reading them. It is easy to mistake a fictional account of real events for what really happened. But this is only how the author wanted Elizabeth and other figures to appear. While I'm sure she has done her research (I assume so anyway), there is no one alive today who really knows what Elizabeth was thinking or feeling. Just something to keep in the back of your mind when you're reading this.

Elizabeth: The Golden Age is part of the story of Queen Elizabeth and focuses on the threats of assassination she faced from her cousin, Mary Queen of Scots, and her conspirators, from the Spanish king Philip and also on Elizabeth's love affair with captain and explorer of the new world, Walter Raleigh. I really enjoyed Matthew Reilly's The Tournament, a fictional imagining of an event from Elizabeth's childhood, and my aunt, who bought me the book, thought I would enjoy this too.

What I didn't mention (if you haven't worked it out already), is that it is a film novelization. Not only do we have Cate Blanchett on the cover, but we also encounter the clumsiness of structure, plot and dialogue that is so often found in other film novelizations. I haven't read one film novelization done well. You can translate books to movies, but it just doesn't work the other way. That is true for Elizabeth: The Golden Age.

I would love to read an actual historical novel, based on more than just a movie, about this time in Elizabeth's life. I have always been fascinated by her, the strong, determined queen of England in the 1600s. She has always seemed so interesting to me. This novelization was just not well done, I felt characterization was poor and the setting inadequately described. You are not describing a time by simply describing what the characters wore in every scene. It takes more than that. There was a little too much 'show and tell' in this book for my liking. Such an important figure in history and I felt she was not done justice. There must be other works better written and better representations of the queen as a monarch and as a woman, I would suggest readers interested in this time find those instead! That's what I'll be doing.

2.5 stars.

carnival says

Although I enjoy reading stories about queen Elizabeth, it seems that I'm not a fan of books based on a film, because they are more like following a script than an original story. Nevertheless, the main character is created in an interesting and... accurate way.
