

Master And Commander Vol Aubreymaturin Novels

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Master and Commander

"O'Brian is one author who can put a spark of character into the sawdust of time, and The Ionian Mission is another rattling good yarn." —Stephen Vaughan, The Observer
Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin, veterans now of many battles, return in this novel to the seas where they first sailed as shipmates. But Jack is now a senior captain commanding a line-of-battle ship in the Royal Navy's blockade of Toulon, and this is a longer, harder, colder war than the dashing frigate actions of his early days. A sudden turn of events takes him and Stephen off on a hazardous mission to the Greek Islands, where all his old skills of seamanship and his proverbial luck when fighting against odds come triumphantly into their own.

Treason's Harbour

A riveting story of American fighting men, Outlaw Platoon is Lieutenant Sean Parnell's stunning personal account of the legendary U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division's heroic stand in the mountains of Afghanistan. Acclaimed for its vivid, poignant, and honest recreation of sixteen brutal months of nearly continuous battle in the deadly Hindu Kesh, Outlaw Platoon is a Band of Brothers or We Were Soldiers Once and Young for the early 21st century—an action-packed, highly emotional true story of enormous sacrifice and bravery. A magnificent account of heroes, renegades, infidels, and brothers, it stands with Sebastian Junger's War as one of the most important books to yet emerge from the heat, smoke, and fire of America's War in Afghanistan.

Post Captain (Vol. Book 2) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

The seventeenth novel in the best-selling Aubrey/Maturin series of naval tales, which the New York Times Book Review has described as "the best historical novels ever written." Having survived a long and desperate adventure in the Great South Sea, Captain Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin return to England to very different circumstances. For Jack it is a happy homecoming, at least initially, but for Stephen it is disastrous: his little daughter appears to be autistic, incapable of speech or contact, while his wife, Diana, unable to bear this situation, has disappeared, her house being looked after by the widowed Clarissa Oakes. Much of The Commodore takes place on land, in sitting rooms and in drafty castles, but the roar of the great guns is never far from our hearing. Aubrey and Maturin are sent on a bizarre decoy mission to the fever-ridden lagoons of the Gulf of Guinea to suppress the slave trade. But their ultimate destination is Ireland, where the French are mounting an invasion that will test Aubrey's seamanship and Maturin's resourcefulness as a secret intelligence agent. The subtle interweaving of these disparate themes is an achievement of pure storytelling by one of our greatest living novelists.

The Complete Audrey/Maturin

"The old master has us again in the palm of his hand."—Los Angeles Times (a Best Book of 1999) Napoleon has been defeated at Waterloo, and the ensuing peace brings with it both the desertion of nearly half of Captain Aubrey's crew and the sudden dimming of Aubrey's career prospects in a peacetime navy. When the Surprise is nearly sunk on her way to South America—where Aubrey and Stephen Maturin are to help Chile assert her independence from Spain—the delay occasioned by repairs reaps a harvest of strange consequences. The South American expedition is a desperate affair; and in the end Jack's bold initiative to strike at the vastly superior Spanish fleet precipitates a spectacular naval action that will determine both Chile's fate and his own.

The Complete Aubrey/Maturin Novels

From the moment that "Master and Commander," the first of O'Brian's 20 novels about the 19th century British Royal Navy was published, critics hailed his work as a masterpiece. This first full-color illustrated companion to the series is timed to benefit from the release of the Twentieth-Century Fox film adaptation starring Russell Crowe.

Post Captain (Aubrey/Maturin Series, Book 2)

"The best historical novels ever written."—Richard Snow, New York Times Book Review Third in the series of Aubrey-Maturin adventures, this book is set among the strange sights and smells of the Indian subcontinent, and in the distant waters ploughed by the ships of the East India Company. Aubrey is on the defensive, pitting wits and seamanship against an enemy enjoying overwhelming local superiority. But somewhere in the Indian Ocean lies the prize that could make him rich beyond his wildest dreams: the ships sent by Napoleon to attack the China

Fleet

The Far Side of the World (Vol. Book 10) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

The sixteenth volume in the Aubrey/Maturin series, and Patrick O'Brian's first bestseller in the United States. At the outset of this adventure filled with disaster and delight, Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin pursue an American privateer through the Great South Sea. The strange color of the ocean reminds Stephen of Homer's famous description, and portends an underwater volcanic eruption that will create a new island overnight and leave an indelible impression on the reader's imagination. Their ship, the Surprise, is now also a privateer, the better to escape diplomatic complications from Stephen's mission, which is to ignite the revolutionary tinder of South America. Jack will survive a desperate open boat journey and come face to face with his illegitimate black son; Stephen, caught up in the aftermath of his failed coup, will flee for his life into the high, frozen wastes of the Andes; and Patrick O'Brian's brilliantly detailed narrative will reunite them at last in a breathtaking chase through stormy seas and icebergs south of Cape Horn, where the hunters suddenly become the hunted.

The Nutmeg of Consolation (Vol. Book 14) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

Stephen Maturin brings Captain Jack Aubrey secret orders to lead an expedition against the French islands of Mauritius and La Reunion, but the conduct of two of his own officers threatens the success of the mission

The Final Unfinished Voyage of Jack Aubrey

In Malta for much needed repairs on his ship, Captain Jack Aubrey must rely on his ship's surgeon and intelligence agent, Stephen Maturin, to outwit Napoleon's agents

The Unknown Shore

Includes facsimile of the manuscript.

Desolation Island

Introduces Captain Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin, ship's surgeon and intelligence agent, in the age of the Napoleonic wars.

The Wine-Dark Sea (Vol. Book 16) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

The beginning of the sweeping Aubrey-Maturin series. "The best sea story I have ever read."—Sir Francis Chichester This, the first in the splendid series of Jack Aubrey novels, establishes the friendship between Captain Aubrey, R.N., and Stephen Maturin, ship's surgeon and intelligence agent, against a thrilling backdrop of the Napoleonic wars. Details of a life aboard a man-of-war in Nelson's

navy are faultlessly rendered: the conversational idiom of the officers in the ward room and the men on the lower deck, the food, the floggings, the mysteries of the wind and the rigging, and the roar of broadsides as the great ships close in battle.

H. M. S. Surprise (Vol. Book 3) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

"In length the series is unique; in quality—and there is not a weak link in the chain—it cannot but be ranked with the best of twentieth century historical novels."—T. J. Binyon, Independent Captain Jack Aubrey sets sail for the South China Sea with a new lease on life. Following his dismissal from the Royal Navy (a false accusation), he has earned reinstatement through his daring exploits as a privateer, brilliantly chronicled in *The Letter of Marque*. Now he is to shepherd Stephen Maturin—his friend, ship's surgeon, and sometimes intelligence agent—on a diplomatic mission to prevent links between Bonaparte and the Malay princes which would put English merchant shipping at risk. The journey of the *Diane* encompasses a great and satisfying diversity of adventures. Maturin climbs the Thousand Steps of the sacred crater of the orangutans; a killer typhoon catches Aubrey and his crew trying to work the *Diane* off a reef; and in the barbaric court of Pulo Prabang a classic duel of intelligence agents unfolds: the French envoys, well entrenched in the Sultan's good graces, against the savage cunning of Stephen Maturin.

Lobscouse & Spotted Dog

"Fine stuff[*The Letter of Marque*] leaves the devotee of naval fiction eager for sequels."—Jonathan Yardley, *Washington Post Book World* Captain Jack Aubrey, a brilliant and experienced officer, has been struck off the list of post-captains for a crime he did not commit. His old friend Stephen Maturin, usually cast as a ship's surgeon to mask his discreet activities on behalf of British Intelligence, has bought for Aubrey his former ship the *Surprise* to command as a privateer, more politely termed a letter of marque. Together they sail on a desperate mission against the French, which, if successful, may redeem Aubrey from the private hell of his disgrace.

The Reverse of the Medal (Vol. Book 11) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

Patrick O'Brian's Aubrey-Maturin tales are widely acknowledged to be the greatest series of historical novels ever written. To commemorate the 40th anniversary of their beginning, with *Master and Commander*, these evocative stories are being re-issued in paperback with smart new livery. This is the eighth book in the series. Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin, veterans of many battles, return in this novel to the seas where they first sailed as shipmates. But Jack is now a senior Captain commanding a line-of-battle ship sent out to reinforce the squadron blockading Toulon, and this is a longer, harder, colder war than the dashing frigate action of his early days. A sudden turn of events takes him and Stephen off on a hazardous mission to the Greek islands. All his old skills of seamanship, and his proverbial luck when fighting against odds, come triumphantly into their own. The book ends with as fierce and thrilling an action as any in this magnificent series of novels.

The Commodore (Vol. Book 17) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

A cookbook companion, complete with historical notes, for fans of Patrick O'Brien, historical novels includes authentic early nineteenth-century recipes that characters Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin have feasted on, such as Kidney Pudding, Syllabub, and Pig's Trotters. Reprint. 15,000 first printing.

Master and Commander (Vol. Book 1) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

One of our greatest writers about the sea has written an engrossing story of one of history's most legendary maritime explorers. Patrick O'Brian's biography of naturalist, explorer and co-founder of Australia, Joseph Banks, is narrative history at its finest. Published to rave reviews, it reveals Banks to be a man of enduring importance, and establishes itself as a classic of exploration. "It is in his description of that arduous three-year voyage [on the ship Endeavor] that Mr. O'Brian is at his most brilliant. . . . He makes us understand what life within this wooden world was like, with its 94 male souls, two dogs, a cat and a goat."—Linda Colley, New York Times "An absorbing, finely written overview, meant for the general reader, of a major figure in the history of natural science."—Frank Stewart, Los Angeles Times "[This book is] the definitive biography of an extraordinary subject."—Robert Taylor, Boston Globe "His skill at narrative and his extensive knowledge of the maritime history . . . give him a definite leg up in telling this . . . story."—Tom Clark, San Francisco Chronicle

The Ionian Mission (Vol. Book 8) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

The beginning of the sweeping Aubrey-Maturin series. "The best sea story I have ever read."—Sir Francis Chichester This, the first in the splendid series of Jack Aubrey novels, establishes the friendship between Captain Aubrey, R.N., and Stephen Maturin, ship's surgeon and intelligence agent, against a thrilling backdrop of the Napoleonic wars. Details of a life aboard a man-of-war in Nelson's navy are faultlessly rendered: the conversational idiom of the officers in the ward room and the men on the lower deck, the food, the floggings, the mysteries of the wind and the rigging, and the roar of broadsides as the great ships close in battle.

The Surgeon's Mate (Vol. Book 7) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

"An overwhelming, outstanding novel!"—Irish Times Captain Jack Aubrey, R. N., ashore after a successful cruise, is persuaded by a casual acquaintance to make certain investments in the City. This innocent decision ensnares him in the London criminal underground and in government espionage—the province of his friend Stephen Maturin. Is Aubrey's humiliation and the threatened ruin of his career a deliberate plot? This dark tale is a fitting backdrop to the brilliant characterization and sparkling dialogue which O'Brian's readers have come to expect.

The Thirteen-gun Salute

Out of print for many years, this is a brand new edition of the definitive companion to the acclaimed Aubrey-Maturin series of novels, written by the author himself.

Joseph Banks

This companion for fans of the Napoleonic sea sagas offers maps of the novels' streets, seas, and coasts, and much more. The tall-masted sailing ships of the early nineteenth century were the technological miracles of their day, allowing their crews to traverse the seas with greater speed than had ever been possible before. Novelist Patrick O'Brian captured the thrill of that era with his characters Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin, who visited exotic locales in the service of the Royal Navy. From frigid Dieppe to balmy Batavia, they strolled the ports of the world as casually as most do the streets of their hometown. Packed with maps and illustrations from the greatest age of sail, this volume shows not just where Aubrey and Maturin went, but how they got there. An incomparable reference for devotees of O'Brian's novels and anyone who has dreamed of climbing aboard a warship, *Harbors and High Seas* is a captivating portrait of life on the sea, when nothing stood between man and ocean but grit, daring, and a few creaking planks of wood.

The Mauritius Command

The inspiration for the major new motion picture starring Russell Crowe. The war of 1812 continues, and Jack Aubrey sets course for Cape Horn on a mission after his own heart: intercepting a powerful American frigate outward bound to play havoc with the British whaling trade. Stephen Maturin has fish of his own to fry in the world of secret intelligence. Disaster in various guises awaits them in the Great South Sea and in the far reaches of the Pacific: typhoons, castaways, shipwrecks, murder, and criminal insanity.

Desolation Island (Vol. Book 5) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

Patrick O'Brian's Aubrey-Maturin tales are widely acknowledged to be the greatest series of historical novels ever written. Now, for the first time, they are available in electronic book format, so a whole new generation of readers can be swept away on the adventure of a lifetime. This is the second book in the series.

The Thirteen Gun Salute (Vol. Book 13) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

"One of the best novelists since Jane Austen. The Hundred Days may be the best installment yet. I give O'Brian's fans joy of it."—Philadelphia Inquirer Napoleon, escaped from Elba, pursues his enemies across Europe like a vengeful phoenix. If he can corner the British and Prussians before their Russian and Austrian allies arrive, his genius will lead the French armies to triumph at Waterloo. In the Balkans, preparing a thrust northwards into Central Europe to block the Russians and Austrians, a horde of Muslim mercenaries is gathering. They are inclined toward Napoleon because of his conversion to Islam during the Egyptian campaign, but they will not move without a shipment of gold ingots from Sheik Ibn Hazm which, according to British intelligence, is on its way via camel caravan to the coast of North Africa. It is this gold that Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin must at all costs intercept. The fate of Europe hinges on their desperate mission. "The Hundred Days is certain to delight O'Brian's fans, for whom happiness is an

unending stream of Aubrey/Maturin books.[It] is a fine novel that stands proudly on the shelf with the others."—Los Angeles Times

Outlaw Platoon

"There are those already planning this afternoon's trip to the bookstore. Their only reaction is: Thank god, Patrick O'Brian is still writing. To you, I say, not a moment to lose."—John Balzar, Los Angeles Times Life ashore may once again be the undoing of Jack Aubrey in *The Yellow Admiral*, Patrick O'Brian's best-selling novel and eighteenth volume in the Aubrey/Maturin series. Aubrey, now a considerable though impoverished landowner, has dimmed his prospects at the Admiralty by his erratic voting as a Member of Parliament; he is feuding with his neighbor, a man with strong Navy connections who wants to enclose the common land between their estates; he is on even worse terms with his wife, Sophie, whose mother has ferreted out a most damaging trove of old personal letters. Even Jack's exploits at sea turn sour: in the storm waters off Brest he captures a French privateer laden with gold and ivory, but this at the expense of missing a signal and deserting his post. Worst of all, in the spring of 1814, peace breaks out, and this feeds into Jack's private fears for his career. Fortunately, Jack is not left to his own devices. Stephen Maturin returns from a mission in France with the news that the Chileans, to secure their independence, require a navy, and the service of English officers. Jack is savoring this apparent reprieve for his career, as well as Sophie's forgiveness, when he receives an urgent dispatch ordering him to Gibraltar: Napoleon has escaped from Elba.

The Yellow Admiral (Vol. Book 18) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

"Master and Commander raised almost dangerously high expectations, Post Captain triumphantly surpasses them a brilliant book." —Mary Renault "We've beat them before and we'll beat them again." In 1803 Napoleon smashes the Peace of Amiens, and Captain Jack Aubrey, R. N., taking refuge in France from his creditors, is interned. He escapes from France, from debtors' prison, and from a possible mutiny, and pursues his quarry straight into the mouth of a French-held harbor.

Master and Commander (Aubrey/Maturin Series, Book 1)

A twenty-volume hardcover set of the complete Patrick O'Brian high-seas Aubrey/Maturin adventure classics, including the final book: *Blue at the Mizzen*. The Great Adventure begins in *Master & Commander* with the near-disaster of Jack Aubrey's first encounter with Stephen Maturin and the taking of the *Cacafuego*. *Post Captain*: Jack and Stephen vie for the affections of Diana Villiers. *H.M.S. Surprise*: In India, a prodigious blue diamond, a fatal duel, and a dramatic fleet action against the French. *The Mauritius Command*: An exploration of aberrant psychology and a most memorable storm at sea. *Desolation Island*: The *Waakzaamheid* chases the *Leopard* south to the glories of Antarctica. *The Fortune of War*: Jack encounters the American navy, is taken prisoner, and witnesses the fateful clash of the *Shannon* and the *Chesapeake*. *The Surgeon's Mate*: A shipwreck on the coast of France, and Jack and Stephen are rescued from a French prison thanks to Diana's diamond. *The Ionian Mission*: The *Surprise* is sent to intervene in

the tangled politics of the Balkans. *Treason's Harbour*: A desert crossing, an unusual single-ship action in shoal waters, and Jack saved from treachery in Malta by Stephen's cunning. *The Far Side of the World*: Typhoons, castaways, shipwrecks, murder, and criminal insanity in the far reaches of the Pacific. *The Reverse of the Medal*: Jack, lured into a disastrous investment by French agents, is court-martialed and disgraced. *The Letter of Marque*: Cast out of the Royal Navy, Jack sets sail in the *Surprise* as a privateer, and Stephen's taste for tincture of opium takes a more serious turn. *The Thirteen Gun Salute*: A killer typhoon overtakes Jack and his crew in the South China Sea, and Stephen engages in a deadly game of cat-and-mouse with French agents. *The Nutmeg of Consolation*: Pirates, smallpox, and a visit to the grim penal colony in Australia, where Stephen's Irish temper provokes a duel and a diplomatic crisis. *The Truelove*: Jack and Stephen mastermind a war among the cannibals, and a mysterious female convict sows dangerous jealousies aboard the *Surprise*. *The Wine-Dark Sea*: A submarine volcanic eruption serves as backdrop to revolution in South America and a memorable excursion into the Andes. *The Commodore*: A strange homecoming for Jack and Stephen, followed by a vigorous action to foil the French invasion of Ireland. *The Yellow Admiral*: Jack is rescued from the doldrums of peace and from amorous difficulties by Napoleon's escape from Elba. *The Hundred Days*: The cunning of Stephen and the seamanship of Jack prevent Napoleon from conquering Europe at Waterloo. *Blue at the Mizzen*: Jack Aubrey stakes all on a desperate solo night raid against the might of the Spanish viceroy in Peru.

Men-of-War

Follows the adventures of two young seamen who are shipwrecked along the coast of Chile in 1740 and are driven to drink and mutiny by a ruthless captain. Reprint.

The Fortune of War

Jack Aubrey, commander of the best-armed frigate in the Royal Navy, leaves the Dutch East Indies to return to England in a dispatch vessel, but the outbreak of the War of 1812 delays his journey and draws him into bloody battle

The Hundred Days (Vol. Book 19) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

"The relationship [between Aubrey and Maturin] is about the best thing afloat. For Conradian power of description and sheer excitement there is nothing in naval fiction to beat the stern chase as the outgunned *Leopard* staggers through mountain waves in icy latitudes to escape the Dutch seventy-four."—Stephen Vaughan, Observer Commissioned to rescue Governor Bligh of *Bounty* fame, Captain Jack Aubrey and his friend and surgeon Stephen Maturin sail the *Leopard* to Australia with a hold full of convicts. Among them is a beautiful and dangerous spy—and a treacherous disease that decimates the crew. With a Dutch man-of-war to windward, the undermanned, outgunned *Leopard* sails for her life into the freezing waters of the Antarctic, where, in mountain seas, the Dutchman closes

Blue at the Mizzen (Vol. Book 20) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

Sumptuous boxed gift edition of five omnibus hardbacks containing all 21 novels in the Aubrey/Maturin series. Patrick O'Brian's twenty-one-volume Aubrey/Maturin series of nautical adventures set during the Napoleonic War has delighted generations of devoted fans, inspired a blockbuster film, and sold millions of copies in twenty-four languages. These five omnibus volumes, beautifully produced and boxed, contain 7,000 pages of what has often been described as a single, continuous narrative. They are a perfect tribute for such a literary achievement, and a perfect gift for the O'Brian enthusiast.

Clarissa Oakes (Aubrey/Maturin Series, Book 15)

The first novel Patrick O'Brian ever wrote about the sea, a precursor to the acclaimed Aubrey/Maturin series. In the year 1740, Commodore (later Admiral) George Anson embarked on a voyage that would become one of the most famous exploits in British naval history. Sailing through poorly charted waters, Anson and his men encountered disaster, disease, and astonishing success. They circumnavigated the globe and seized a nearly incalculable sum of Spanish gold and silver, but only one of the five ships survived. This is the background to the first novel Patrick O'Brian ever wrote about the sea, a precursor to the acclaimed Aubrey/Maturin series that shares the excitement and rich humor of those books. The protagonist is Peter Palafox, son of a poor Irish parson, who signs on as a midshipman, never before having seen a ship. Together with his lifelong friend Sean, Peter sets out to seek his fortune, embarking upon a journey of danger, disappointment, foreign lands, and excitement. Here is a tale certain to please not only admirers of O'Brian's work but also any reader with an adventurous soul.

The Ionian Mission

"[The series shows] a joy in language that jumps from every page. You're in for a wonderful voyage."—Cutler Durkee, *People* Shipwrecked on a remote island in the Dutch East Indies, Captain Aubrey, surgeon and secret intelligence agent Stephen Maturin, and the crew of the *Diane* fashion a schooner from the wreck. A vicious attack by Malay pirates is repulsed, but the makeshift vessel burns, and they are truly marooned. Their escape from this predicament is one that only the whimsy and ingenuity of Patrick O'Brian—or Stephen Maturin—could devise. In command now of a new ship, the *Nutmeg*, Aubrey pursues his interrupted mission. The dreadful penal colony in New South Wales, harrowingly described, is the backdrop to a diplomatic crisis provoked by Maturin's Irish temper, and to a near-fatal encounter with the wildlife of the Australian outback.

The Wars of the Roses

"Vividly detailed 19th-century settings and dramatic tension punctuated with flashes of wry humor make O'Brian's nautical adventure a splendid treat."—*Publishers Weekly* Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin are ordered home by dispatch vessel to bring the news of their latest victory to the government. But Maturin is a marked man for the havoc he has wrought in the French intelligence network in the New World, and the attention of two privateers soon becomes menacing. The chase that follows through the fogs and shallows of the Grand

Banks is as tense, and as unexpected in its culmination, as anything Patrick O'Brian has written.

Patrick O'Brian's Navy

Patrick O'Brian's Aubrey-Maturin tales are widely acknowledged to be the greatest series of historical novels ever written. Now, for the first time, they are available in electronic book format, so a whole new generation of readers can be swept away on the adventure of a lifetime. This is the fifteenth book in the series.

The Aubrey-Maturin Series

Collects Patrick O'Brian's seafaring novels about the Royal Navy involving Jack Aubrey and Stephen Maturin, and includes Aubrey's final mission to South Africa.

Master and Commander (Vol. Book 1)

In this book, commissioned to rescue Governor Bligh of Bounty fame, Captain Jack Aubrey and his friend and surgeon, Stephen Maturin, sail the Leopard to Australia with a hold full of convicts. Among them is a beautiful and dangerous spy - and a treacherous disease which decimates the crew.

The Golden Ocean

Captain Jack Aubrey sets sail for the South China Sea, shepherding a diplomatic mission to prevent links between Bonaparte and the Malay princes. At the barbaric court of Pulo Prabang a classic duel of intelligence unfolds: the French envoys versus the savage cunning of Stephen Maturin.

The Letter of Marque (Vol. Book 12) (Aubrey/Maturin Novels)

Set sail for the read of your life

Harbors and High Seas

The author of the New York Times bestseller *The Plantagenets* and *The Templars* chronicles the next chapter in British history—the historical backdrop for *Game of Thrones*. The inspiration for the Channel 5 series *Britain's Bloody Crown*, the crown of England changed hands five times over the course of the fifteenth century, as two branches of the Plantagenet dynasty fought to the death for the right to rule. In this riveting follow-up to *The Plantagenets*, celebrated historian Dan Jones describes how the longest-reigning British royal family tore itself apart until it was finally replaced by the Tudors. Some of the greatest heroes and villains of history were thrown together in these turbulent times, from Joan of Arc to Henry V, whose victory at Agincourt marked the high point of the medieval monarchy, and Richard III, who murdered his own nephews in a desperate bid to secure his stolen crown. This was a period when headstrong queens and consorts seized power and bent men to their will. With vivid descriptions of the battles of Towton and Bosworth, where the last Plantagenet king was slain, this dramatic narrative history revels in

bedlam and intrigue. It also offers a long-overdue corrective to Tudor propaganda, dismantling their self-serving account of what they called the Wars of the Roses.

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