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Isabel The Fair



Synopsis

"Turns a brilliant light on one of the lustiest and one of the most dramatic periods of English history."
- Philadelphia Inquirer
Isabel the Fair, so called because of her beauty, the daughter of King Philip of France, seemed to have the perfect life as wife of Edward II of England. But nothing in the Plantagenet court was as it seemed. Their marriage would prove to be the undoing of both of them. Edward loved no one more than Piers Gaveston, the Earl of Cornwall. Isabel finds herself taking a backseat to the two lovers, a position that did not sit well with the beautiful and resentful Isabel, whose only desire had been to have a happy marriage. This love triangle would lead England to civil war. And Isabel would come to be known as 'The She-Wolf of England'. Fans of Allison Weir and Philippa Gregory are sure to love Margaret Campbell Barnes' Isabel the Fair along with her many other historical novels set during the Plantagenet and Tudor reigns. Praise for Isabel the Fair: "Margaret Campbell Barnes has added brilliant hues to a picture which never lacked in color." - Vancouver (BC) Daily Province "Immensely entertaining and absorbing." - Chicago Tribune "Turns a brilliant light on one of the lustiest and one of the most dramatic periods of English history." - Philadelphia Inquirer "Barnes has a way with words and I love some of her descriptions of the time and place." - So Many Precious Books, So Little Time "Campbell Barnes' writing and story telling shine." - The Literate Housewife Margaret Campbell Barnes was one of the most popular historical novelists of her time. She wrote over a dozen novels and over two million copies of her books were sold. While little is known of her personal life, her books had a wide readership in her time and are experiencing a resurgence of popularity today. Endeavour Press is the UK's leading independent digital publisher. For more information on our titles please sign up to our newsletter at www.endeavourpress.com. Each week you will receive updates on free and discounted ebooks. Follow us on Twitter: @EndeavourPress and on Facebook via <http://on.fb.me/1HweQV7>. We are always interested in hearing from our readers. Endeavour Press believes that the future is now.

Book Information

File Size: 928 KB

Print Length: 280 pages

Publisher: Endeavour Press (February 29, 2016)

Publication Date: February 29, 2016

Sold by: Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01CEU5UXU

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #10,954 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #3 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Europe > Renaissance #82 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Romance > Historical Romance > Medieval #95 in Books > Romance > Historical > Medieval

Customer Reviews

In this well-written book, set amidst the pageantry and tumult of the fourteenth century, the author expertly chronicles the tragic story of Isabel the Fair, daughter of King Philip of France, who became wife to Edward II, King of England. Their marriage would prove to be the undoing of both of them. Unfortunately for Isabel, her charms, while a hit with the English people who adored her, were apparently lost on Edward who, quite charming and attractive himself, seemed to have eyes only for those of the same sex. In particular, he had a very strong attachment to Piers Gaveston, a childhood friend with whom he had been raised. It appears that his relationship with Gaveston was of a romantic nature, and Isabel found herself taking a backseat to these two lovers, a position that did not sit well with the beautiful and resentful Isabel, whose only desire had been to have a happy marriage. Moreover, Edward II's relationship with Piers Gaveston was totally indiscreet and, as a royal favorite, Gaveston incurred the enmity of the all powerful barons of England who looked upon Edward II as a weak king unable to govern his kingdom properly. Consequently, England would always seem to be on the brink of civil war during his reign. Still, King Edward II did his duty in terms of securing an heir, and, though an errant husband, he would prove to be a loving father. He and Isabel would have several children with Isabel functioning as a royal brood mare, a role that she was to resent. The affair with Gaveston reached scandalous proportions and even temporary exile to Ireland did not cool Gaveston's and Edward II's ardor.

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