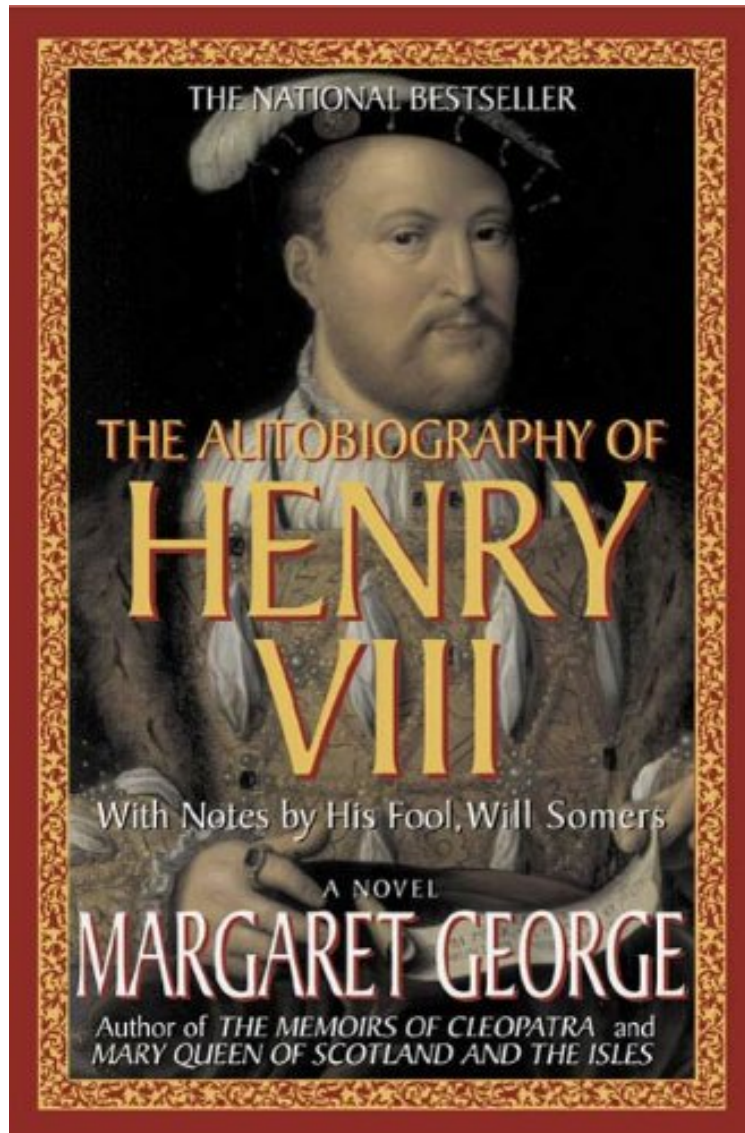


(Get free) The Autobiography of Henry VIII: With Notes by His Fool, Will Somers: A Novel

The Autobiography of Henry VIII: With Notes by His Fool, Will Somers: A Novel

Von Margaret George
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Von Margaret George : The Autobiography of Henry VIII: With Notes by His Fool, Will Somers: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Autobiography of Henry VIII: With Notes by His Fool, Will Somers: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A tad too fictionalVon iHeartBooksThe book is excellent if only the view point of Henry 8 is considered. It is probably how

he would have seen himself. However the will Sommers notes, that serves as 3rd party narrative could have pointed out the historically accurate facts. There was no mention of Harry and Kathrine's first fight. Time lines seem a bit garbled too. Him fathering Katherine Knollys is always disputed. And the author and her book is singularly biased against Anne Boleyn portraying her as the big bad villain. Its a good historical fiction and should have considered so. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Great portrait of a humane Henry VIII! Von Inna Goldenberg Margaret George took a story that has been told numerous times before and breathed a new life into it. Having Henry VIII's story from Henry's point of view was a stroke of genius. Many books have speculated about what motivated Henry to do the things that he did (breaking with Catholicism, having so many wives and disposing of them, same goes for his ministers Wolsey and Cromwell and etc.) but Margaret George actually goes inside Henry's head. The portrait she paints is that of a vain but vulnerable man who wants greatness and cherishes the simple things in life: like having a picnic with friends or hunting. From a vigorous man full of hope Henry slowly turns into a mass of flesh, full of regrets and reflection. Henry presents the circumstances of his life as being beyond his control and he has to act the part of the king throughout, which means making hard choices. Margaret George makes Henry sound so convincing that by the time he sends that person or other to their death, the reader feels sorry for Henry instead of the real victim. Although it is a nice sentiment, making Henry a victim of circumstances seems to be an easy way out. But on the other hand, that is probably how he WOULD see himself. The comments by Will Sommers are very cleverly combined with Henry's narrative and provides well as a reality check. All in all, this is a great achievement. The 800+ pages flew by as I became immersed in Henry's story. Of all the books I read by Margaret George, this is the best. I do have one comment: Anne Boleyn's demise was not as well done as everything else in the novel. Her being a witch and mass murderess lies on a shaky foundation and it seems Henry was too eager to jump to conclusions. However, no other reason for his being disenchanted with her is hinted at. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. a devil NOT in disguise... a completely complex man Von Ein Kunde i know she was trying to speak as Henry would have; trying to explain why he did what he did, his motives, fears, beliefs... sure he felt he was doing what God had ordained him to do but i still left the novel with this feeling that he only fell back on God to justify what he otherwise felt was wrong... he began to hate Katherine of Aragon and to further his own cause broke with Rome in order to grant himself the divorce he sought... he made laws to justify each of his actions so that he could go ahead and carry them out, rather than see what the law permitted and using that as his guide, as when he redefined the word treason which ultimately led him to execute his own friend Thomas More... how could anyone feel sympathy for such a man... who always made new laws, twisted old ones and killed people anyways... nonetheless, this book is outstanding... it takes one away from their surroundings and transports them to 'court' ... i felt like i was in another world, another time and place... i breathed in every word, and let it swish around in my mind as a wine connoisseur swishes around the sip of wine in his mouth... breathing in the aroma and letting it engulf my taste buds, only i didn't spit it out afterwards... Margaret George writes in a style that makes me want to go back to England and touch what Henry touched, see what Henry saw and feel the magic and grandeur of a bygone time... this book belongs to no single class of readers... it's a must read for anyone who considers themselves literate... i will read it again someday... perhaps outside Windsor Castle on a fine summer's day... thanks Margaret

Kurzbeschreibung The Autobiography of Henry VIII is the magnificent historical novel that established Margaret George's career. Evocatively written in the first person as Henry VIII's private journals, the novel was the product of fifteen years of meticulous research and five handwritten drafts. Much has been written about the mighty, egotistical Henry VIII: the man who dismantled the Church because it would not grant him the divorce he wanted; who married six women and beheaded two of them; who executed his friend Thomas More; who sacked the monasteries; who longed for a son and neglected his daughters, Mary and Elizabeth; who finally grew fat, disease-ridden, dissolute. Now, in her magnificent work of storytelling and imagination Margaret George brings us Henry VIII's story as he himself might have told it, in memoirs interspersed with irreverent comments from his jester and confidant, Will Somers. Brilliantly combining history, wit, dramatic narrative, and an extraordinary grasp of the pleasures and perils of power, this monumental novel shows us Henry the man more vividly than he has ever been seen before. From Publishers Weekly If Henry VIII had written his memoirs, what a fascinating document they might have been. Unfortunately, George's attempt to do the job for him in this massive, impressively researched first novel fails to capture either the brilliance, the cunning or the ruthlessness of the grim monarch who tore down monasteries to fill his coffers, executed two of his six wives and sacrificed friend and enemy alike for political expediency. This is a romanticized Henry, pleasure loving, sentimental and superstitious enough to blame the executions of his most faithful ministers Wolsey, Cromwell and Sir Thomas More on the "witch" Anne Boleyn. George is strongest at portraying Henry the ardent lover and frequently enraged husband, weakest at depicting Henry the warrior, navy builder and Machiavellian statesman. Her story has its moments, as when Henry first meets his unprepossessing wife-to-be, Anne of Cleves, plus touches of wit and a whole cartload of history. It is, however, hard to imagine a potentate of Henry's

stamp feeling the need to justify his life, and harder still to imagine him doing so at such length or in such mild and distinctly 20th century prose. As for Will Somers, who interjects comments on his master, he's a far cry from the witty and entertaining fellow he must have been to keep his postand perhaps his head. 60,000 first printing; \$60,000 ad/promo. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Henry VIII ascended the throne as a vigorous and handsome youth. The story of his long, turbulent reign is well documented, and many authors have used it as background for novels. But George takes a different tack than most in this first novel by telling Henry's story from his own perspective. We are given an intimate view of how it must have felt for Henry to grow up under the influence of a dour father and a frail, distant mother. When he becomes king we watch as his exuberant, trusting nature slowly turns sinister and cruel. Interspersed with Henry's words are comments by his fool, Will, a man who loved his master, served him faithfully, but saw clearly his failings. The author has done a brilliant job and readers will find this book enlightening as well as enjoyable. Patricia Altner, Dept. of Defense Lib., Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc.