

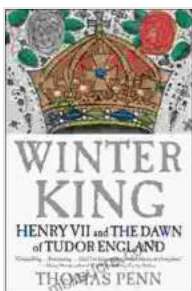
# Henry VII and the Dawn of Tudor England: A Comprehensive Guide

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Henry VII was the first king of the Tudor dynasty, which ruled England from 1485 to 1603. His reign marked a turning point in English history, as he brought an end to the Wars of the Roses and established a period of relative peace and prosperity.

Henry VII was a complex and enigmatic figure. He was a ruthless and ambitious politician, but he was also a devout Christian and a patron of the arts. He was a master of self-promotion, and he used his image to great effect to legitimize his rule.



## Winter King: Henry VII and the Dawn of Tudor England

by Thomas Penn

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 482 pages

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## Early Life and Rise to Power

Henry VII was born in Pembroke Castle in Wales in 1457. He was the son of Edmund Tudor, Earl of Richmond, and Margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond. His father died when he was only three years old, and he was raised by his mother and stepfather, Thomas Stanley, Earl of Derby.

Henry VII was a distant relative of the Lancastrian kings, but he had no strong claim to the throne. However, after the death of Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485, Henry VII was proclaimed king.

Henry VII's early reign was marked by instability. He faced several rebellions, including the Lambert Simnel rebellion in 1487 and the Perkin Warbeck rebellion in 1497. However, Henry was able to defeat his opponents and consolidate his power.

## **Reign and Accomplishments**

Henry VII's reign was a period of relative peace and prosperity. He implemented a number of reforms, including the establishment of the Court of Star Chamber and the Court of the King's Bench. He also promoted trade and commerce, and he established the Royal Navy.

Henry VII was a devout Christian, and he founded several religious institutions, including St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle and the Lady Chapel at Westminster Abbey. He was also a patron of the arts, and he commissioned many works of art, including the Bayeux Tapestry.



The Court of Star Chamber was established by Henry VII to deal with cases of treason and other serious crimes.

## **The Tudor Dynasty**

Henry VII's reign marked the beginning of the Tudor dynasty. The Tudors ruled England for over a century, and they presided over a period of great change and upheaval. The Tudor dynasty is best known for the reigns of Henry VIII, Edward VI, and Elizabeth I.

The Tudor dynasty was a time of great religious and political change. Henry VIII broke with the Catholic Church and established the Church of England.

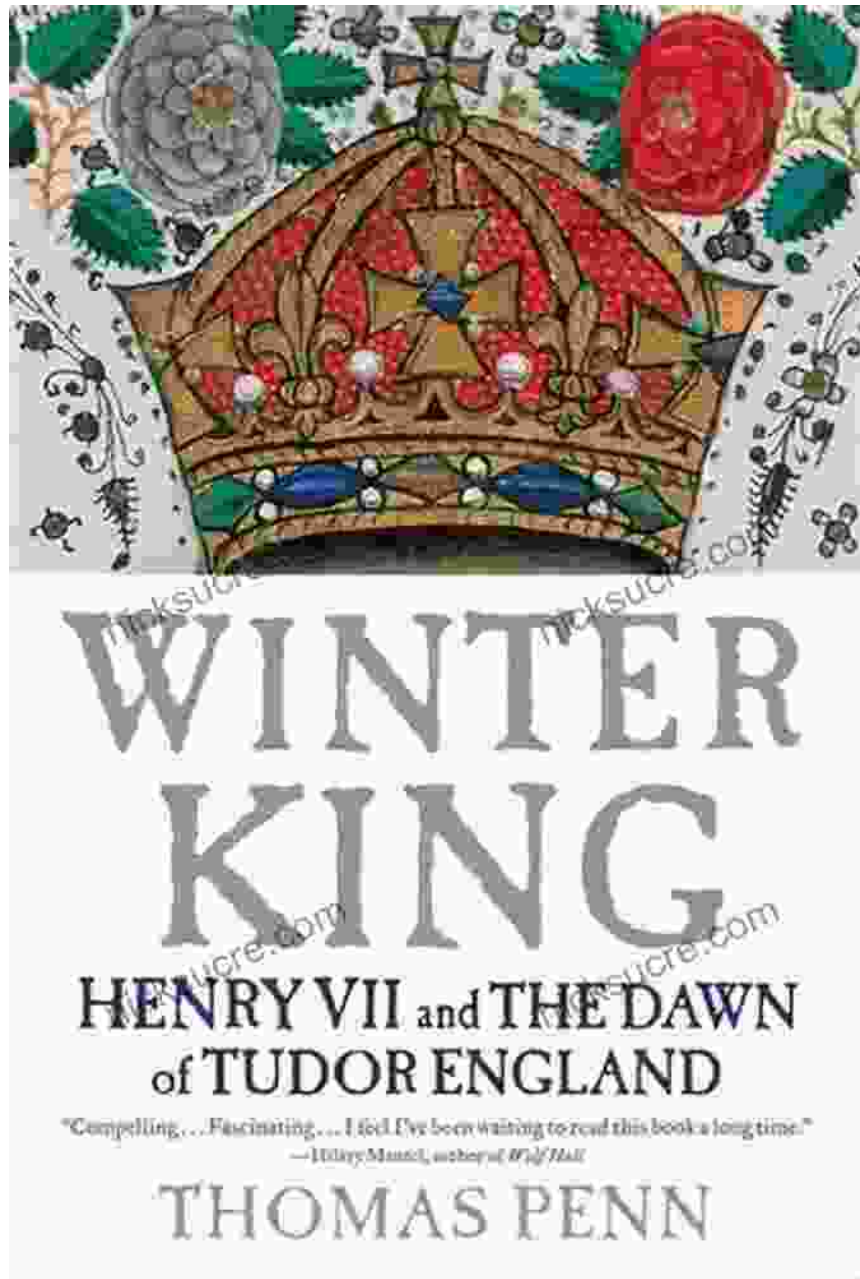
Edward VI and Elizabeth I continued the Reformation, and England became a Protestant country.

The Tudor dynasty was also a time of great economic and social change. England experienced a period of economic growth and prosperity, and the population increased dramatically. The Tudor dynasty also saw the rise of the middle class.

## **Legacy**

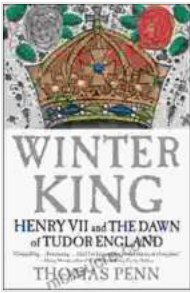
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Henry VII's legacy is complex and controversial. He is credited with ending the Wars of the Roses and establishing a period of relative peace and prosperity. However, he is also criticized for his authoritarian rule and his persecution of religious dissenters.



### Further Reading

- David Starkey, *Henry: Virtuous Prince* (2008)
- John Guy, *The Tudors: A History* (2009)
- Alison Weir, *The Six Wives of Henry VIII* (2011)

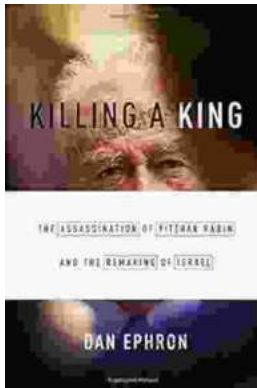


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