

Tudor England

John Guy

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John Guy : Tudor England before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tudor England:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Thorough but dry overview of Tudor EnglandBy Laurence R. BachmannTudor England is crammed into John Guy's one volume eponymous study. It is thorough, scholarly, convincing and generally dry as dust. Guy is a wonderful historian (his life of Mary Queen of Scots, My Heart Is My Own a terrific piece of scholarship and an engaging read). Chapters discussing Henry VII and the rise and fall of Wolsey are first rate. Others such as The Condition of England and Henrician Government are impressive but have a text book quality: there is no way to make the king's rents gripping or his ancient privileges sparkle, or his gaggle of bureaucrats scintillating. Ironically, the author's very thoroughness makes Tudor England less then fascinating--the day to day is rarely gripping.Also unique is how he presents the very outsized personalities of Tudor Monarchs: Henry VIII and his two daughters alone can hardly be contained in a few chapters. As a result, there is very little personality of the individual and more observation of how each used kingship to achieve their various goals and agendas. It's an understandable approach achieving the authors ambition of an overview of the period contained in a single volume. It's also very analytical and feels rather like a text book.Unsurprisingly, two thirds of the book focus upon Henry VIII and Elizabeth. Their outsized personalities' impact upon policy and the longevity of their reigns necessitate this focus. And there is much that is admirable, if not scintillating about Guy's discussion. In some way the compartmentalizing of information works against the author: chapters on social policy, religion, attitudes regarding "the state" become

segments that don't always fit together. A much slimmer work titled "A Tudor Tragedy" manages to connect dots far better than Tudor England. The sheer scope of the author's ambition does deserve commendation. It's no small task and he acquits himself in an admirable, if not always an engaging manner. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The definitive book on Henry VIII and Tudor England By Alexa Porter John Guy is one of the very foremost experts on Tudor England and Henry VIII. What can I say - a thousand details of how they lived, what they ate, how they dressed (no such thing as a "dress", a "dress" came in many pieces), did they use forks? Did they have hair brushes? The facts and amount of information is staggering. For the person teaching about Henry VIII and/or Tudor England, or the would-be author (as I was - still struggling with it), this book is a must. I can't imagine writing a book about these people or teaching this era without studying this book. So many things most people don't know, things both fascinating and absolutely necessary to know. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... the vendor for sending it overseas at such a fantastic price! By N. D. Picou Gold Star to the vendor for sending it overseas at such a fantastic price!

John Guy here provides the most complete narrative history of Tudor England in more than 30 years. A compelling account of political and religious developments from the advent of the Tudors in the 1460s to the death of Elizabeth I in 1603, his authoritative study discusses the far-reaching changes in government and the Reformation of the Church under Henry VII, Edward VI, Mary, and Elizabeth, and is enriched with illuminating character studies of the monarchs and politicians of the era. Taking into account new debates on the progress of the English Reformation and the strengths and weaknesses of Tudor Government at a local and national level, the book includes contextual analyses of the Tudor English economy, society, and political culture.

'John Guy's book, lucid, scholarly, remarkably accomplished, provides an excellent overview ... Guy handles the traditional themes of power and religion with authority and conviction.' Jonathan Clark, The Sunday Times 'It is a full and strong account... Notes of the 16 chapters, a select bibliography, a glossary and a detailed index are an invaluable plus.' Oldham Evening Chronicle 'John Guy provides a compelling account of political and religious developments.' Good Book Guide 'This is a huge book. It is a consistently interesting one. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading it, and would expect others to enjoy it also. The sheer range of coverage, based on the author's own work and his extensive knowledge of the writings of others, is deeply impressive. That, and much else besides, makes this quite excellent book a "must."' Jenny Wormald, Glasgow Herald 'John Guy is easily the most stimulating and vital Tudor historian writing today... a work of formidable erudition... it provides an invaluable and up-to-date guide to the historiography of the period.' Canadian Journal of History 'Judiciousness and equity are Guy's hallmarks. His sympathetic account of Wolsey is agile and humane, while the Machiavellian Thomas Cromwell emerges as a man of passionate evangelical faith ... painstaking book' Paul Hartle, Country Life 'closely argued, heavily weighted with detail and supplied with 54 pages of references ... The author's enthusiasm is engaging and his breadth of knowledge impressive.' Rosalind K. Marshall, The Scotsman 'Guy handles the traditional themes of power and religion with authority and conviction. John Guy's book, lucid, scholarly, remarkably accomplished, provides an excellent overview.' Jonathan Clark, Sunday Times 'the first comprehensive history of Tudor England for 30 years Patrick Collinson, Observer 'Guy's treatment of administration under Thomas Cromwell is a model of historical analysis and historiographical tact ... astonishingly up-to-date ... no historian can be expert and original on everything - and John Guy is expert and original on more than most of us' Christopher Haigh, Christ Church, Oxford. TES From the Back Cover Tudor England is a compelling account of political and religious developments from the advent of the Tudors in the 1460's to the death of Elizabeth I in 1605. About the Author John Guy is Reader in History at the University of Bristol and was John Hinkley Visiting Professor at the Johns Hopkins University (1989-90). He is the author of many books on the Tudor period and is a contributor to the Oxford Illustrated History of Britain