

Wolf Hall Companion By Lauren Mackay Lauren Mackay was an excellent choice to write this companion to Mantel's trilogy as she is a historian and author specialising in Early Modern European diplomacy and has written two previous works focusing on the turbulent Court of Henry VIII. Lauren spent over five years researching the life of Imperial Ambassador Eustace Chapuys who for 18 years was the most important source of the Tudor period resulting in her debut book *Inside the Tudor Court: Henry VIII and His Six Wives Through the Eyes of the Spanish Ambassador*. What is the true story behind the blockbuster Wolf Hall trilogy—and of Thomas Cromwell its principal protagonist? This companion guide concisely illuminates both Cromwell's life and Tudor history covering the books' key court and political characters. It looks at everyone from Cromwell to Anne Boleyn Thomas Cranmer to Jane Seymour Henry VIII to Thomas Howard and Cardinal Wolsey to Richard Fox as well as the most significant sites including Hampton Court Cromwell's home Austin Friars and of course Wolf Hall. Family trees plans of Tower of London and beautiful woodcut portraits accompany the text along with incisive features on various aspects of Tudor society from the structure of government and royal hunting to the rules of courtly love and Tudor executions.

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Lauren Mackay's third book delves into the world that has been made famous through the writings of Booker Prize winner Dame Hilary Mantel and her Wolf Hall trilogy. The England of King Henry VIII has been a source of fascination for many people over the centuries and even more so now as the story of the rise and fall of the most famous of King Henry VIII's courtiers has gripped us in both writing and portrayal on the small screen. We are taken on a journey from the streets of Putney to the continent of the Renaissance as we learn that Thomas Cromwell was more than a problem solver for his Tudor employer. The inclusion of text from the trilogy is a stroke of genius as it reminds you of where exactly it appeared in the books - something I enjoyed as it made me go "Yes I remember that. How true is Mantel's portrayal of Cromwell and the court of Henry VIII during some of the most tumultuous times of his reign? What was life like for those who lived in privilege during Henry VIII's reign? How did Cromwell rise to the pinnacle of power and why did he fall spectacularly? In Dr. Mackay's challenge is how to write a book that is just as engaging for the readers as Mantel's trilogy while still being educational and informative while incorporating her feelings about these novels. It is not an easy task but Mackay can take on this task and write a gorgeous companion piece with exquisite woodcut images to follow the story of Thomas Cromwell's life his rise to power and his downfall. If you are a fan of Hilary Mantel's Wolf Hall trilogy or if you just love learning about the Tudor dynasty from a different point of view you need to check out Lauren Mackay's latest masterpiece "Wolf Hall Companion". So convincing was Mantel's gorgeous writing that historians are now routinely confronted with the question indeed the assumption the novel's storyline that Thomas Cromwell sentimentally chose the men to frame as Anne Boleyn's lovers because they had participated in a mean-spirited masque mocking his mentor Cardinal Wolsey a few years earlier. (That as is a novel's right is a complete fiction; Henry Norris identified as one of the Wolsey-mockers in the novel was in reality one of the few courtiers to go out of his way to show the Cardinal some kindness after he fell. Given that she completed her PhD on the Boleyn men she is refreshingly magnanimous about the trilogy's depressingly one-note characterisation of the Boleyns particularly Thomas's son George who emerges from the Wolf Hall novels as a demented unlikeable talentless idiot somewhere between the monstrous and the moronic. (Anne it has to be said fares little better but perhaps that's to be expected in a novel rehabilitating Cromwell whose most nebulous action surely was how he behaved will destroying Anne in 1536. ) Dr Mackay also highlights Mantel's achingly tangible portrayals of the places everyday life and etiquette in Thomas Cromwell's London - for me personally Mantel's descriptions of palaces suppers and fireside chats have an immediacy a realness which takes the breath away. Dr Mackay has written a thoughtful well-researched respectful moving and intelligent companion to Hilary Mantel's beloved trilogy of novels; in the process reminding us why Wolf Hall and its two sequels have become beloved by millions of readers across the world. In particular as you would expect she spends a fair bit of time on Cromwell himself going over what various historians have recorded about him how certain interpretations became 'common knowledge' or

accepted as fact to arrive finally at Mantel's blend of fact and fiction where 'people personalities and motivations have been imagined and embellished for dramatic effect interwoven with documentary evidence,

Pavilion Books and NetGalley for the opportunity to read this advance copy in exchange for a fair and honest review. 1911358618 My thanks to Pavilion Books for an eARC via NetGalley of 'Wolf Hall Companion' by Lauren Mackay in exchange for an honest review, Its subtitle 'The People • The Places • The History' well sums up the contents of this work: I found this an informative and insightful book that covered the key events and players in all three books.

Henry already had his eye on another woman - Jane Seymour. This is a very well written treatise on the Wolf Hall trilogy. Mackay has done a masterful job in helping the reader to interpret and understand Hilary Mantel's three books: I highly recommend it to everyone who has read even one of the trilogy: There is also a nice list of further reading interests for those who would like to further explore the subject. Mackay ends the treatment of the Wolf Hall trilogy with a very true statement> ". beneath every history is indeed another history.

If you like Tudor history especially controversial Henry VIII this is the perfect book for you, I knew a lot of these stories and figures inside like Thomas Cromwell Cardinal Wolsey the Boleyns and more but I read about some people I forgot about, This book discusses everyone in Henry VIII's life and why he was sometimes feared and why his court was not all rainbows and butterflies for those who lived in his castle, Highly recommended!!!Thanks to Netgalley Lauren Mackay and Pavillion Books Batsford for an ARC in exchange for an honest review: Available: 9/3/20 1911358618 I loved this companion to Hilary Mantel's Wolf Hall: I have read the trilogy plus all of the reviews and podcasts with the writer, I was thrilled to discover that this companion was written for readers/fans like me. It is a thorough and researched book that dutifully presents the people their lives and customs of the Tudor era, The characters themselves are described and referenced with respect to the novels' world: I thought it was definitely worth reading and Recommend it Tudor enthusiasts and lovers of the wolf hall trilogy: I would like to thank Lauren MacKay including pointing out where Mantel exercised creative licence , After the main text there are suggestions for further reading and an index. This is a beautifully produced edition with a richly detailed cover and woodcut style illustrations throughout by Joanna Lisowiec: I especially liked her family trees laid out on tree branches, The Tudor one was particularly enlightening as I often get confused about the marriages and offspring of Henry's sisters Mary and Margaret, A treat for fans of Mantel and anyone interested in Tudor history, 1911358618 160 pages5 starsThis book works very well as a companion to Hilary Mantel's Wolf Hall series, Mantel's book while it is speculative fiction does make some very good points based on what historical data she could find, Of the writers of the day Chapuys may have been the most detached and reliable. Mackay's take on just who was responsible for Anne's downfall: Was it Henry VIII or Cromwell? It is a known fact that Anne and Cromwell's relationship deteriorated over time. Neither had Cromwell forgotten the identities of the men who participated in a satire about Thomas Wolsey's demise: It appears that the major testimony against Anne may have come from her own ladies primarily Jane George Boleyn's wife: In the mini-series "The Tudors" Cromwell appeared to have to drag information out of the ladies - except Jane: Mackay goes on to say that there is no real evidence to show that Jane had much to do with Anne's downfall: Was Cromwell doing Henry's bidding? Or were the proceedings Cromwell's own idea? Mackay's theory is that Henry and Cromwell worked in concert to rid themselves of Anne. " I want to thank NetGalley and Pavilion Books/Batsford for forwarding to me this wonderfully done companion piece to read enjoy and review: 1911358618 I have read The Wolf Hall series and can say this is a perfect companion novel to the series: It has through research on the lives of people in the Tudor Era: Thanks to NetGalley and Pavilion books for an early review copy in exchange for my honest review, 1911358618 Dr Lauren Mackay is an historian of Early Modern Europe specialising in Tudor history.

Her second book *Among The Wolves of Court: the Untold Story of Thomas and George Boleyn* is the first scholarly biography of Thomas and George Boleyn. She is a regular contributor to BBC History and a lively and engaging voice on Tudor history. An accessible but hugely authoritative companion to the bestselling *Wolf Hall* trilogy by Hilary Mantel. Along with the full history of these people and places there's insight into Hilary Mantel's individual interpretation: This beautiful and insightful book enriches the reading of Mantel's work, The plethora of information is written in a way that it does not overburden the reader and make them lose track of what they are actually reading about. "In all this book is well written and is to be considered a worthy accompaniment to Mantel's trilogy: Thank you to Batsford Books for forwarding me an advanced copy to review, 1911358618 One of the most popular Tudor historical fiction series in recent memory has revolved around the enigmatic Thomas Cromwell, Of course I am talking about the famous *Wolf Hall* trilogy by Dame Hilary Mantel. As many dive into this monumental series certain questions arise: Lauren Mackay's third book she takes up the monumental task of explaining to readers what is fact and what is fiction in Mantel's series, I would like to thank Batsford Books and Net Galley for allowing me the opportunity to read and review this book: I will admit that I have not yet read the *Wolf Hall* trilogy but this book might have convinced me to take up the challenge and read the trilogy soon, Mackay starts this delightful book by exploring Thomas Cromwell's origins and what his family life was like. To uncover the truth about Cromwell's life Mackay relies heavily on the behemoth biography of Cromwell written by Diarmaid MacCulloch which makes perfect sense. She also looks into the lives of those who either influenced Cromwell or were affected by Cromwell's decisions. People like Anne Boleyn and the entire Boleyn family Cardinal Wolsey Katherine of Aragon Thomas Cranmer Anne of Cleves and Stephen Gardner just to name a few: Mackay balances how Mantel portrays these figures in her novels with the facts that we know about them and the events from numerous sources. Mackay also tackles the aspects of the Tudor court and life that adds another layer of details for readers. Things like important holidays how Henry VIII's court was structured gentlemanly activities and sports and the Renaissance and the Reformation. It breathes new life into the Tudor dynasty and the people who lived during this time: A combination of being well-researched bite-size biographies and gorgeous woodcut illustrations make this book an absolute treat for fans of *Wolf Hall* and the Tudor dynasty alike, The way Mackay describes Mantel's writing style and how she created her characters may not be the way I envision them but that is the great thing about historical fiction: It can challenge your views about a person while still being entertaining, I wish more historical fiction series had companion books like this one: 1911358618 This companion to the *Wolf Hall* trilogy a publishing juggernaut is a gem. Dr Mackay whose previous published works include biographies of Eustace Chapuys and Thomas Boleyn weaves in and out of Mantel's Tudor-inspired novels: Rather than a dry discussion it is well written lively and thoughtful, I also loved the accompanying illustrations vaguely in the style of modernised early modern woodcuts. Mackay manages well the tricky task of balancing her critiques on the novels' much-vaunted accuracy with her respect for their beautiful prose. ) Going through a companion piece which constantly harps on with Well actually what happened was. would be a depressing enough task for any reader and Mackay avoids it: 1911358618 A handy vade mecum to accompany Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall* trilogy: It's definitely "history light" but nonetheless a useful reference guide giving the historical background and the low-down on the characters and putting everything into context, Particularly useful for anyone not already familiar with Tudor places people and politics, 1911358618 Lauren Mackay has created a very appealing companion book to have to hand whilst reading Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall* trilogy, I love beautifully produced and packaged books - this is definitely one: *The Wolf Hall Companion* is perfect for those who want to read *The Mirror and the Light* but do not want to reread the first two: It revisits key moments from the first two books to bring you up to speed if it's a while since you read them: But it has also been wonderful to have it by my side as I've reread the first two books in preparation for reading *The Mirror and the Light*: Mackay fills in background details about most of the main players in the books. She discusses any changes omissions and controversies in Mantel's version compared to the historical record as we currently know it. History has provided us with the

how and what but Mantel has made her own suggestions as to why. Dr. Ms. This book is wonderfully accessible and easy to read. Ms. A very detailed summary of Ms. Mantel's trilogy. Overall an excellent companion to the Wolf Hall trilogy. It would also make an excellent gift. I have read all three books and Ms. Mackay makes some very good points. Ms. Especially Cromwell's friendship with Eustace Chapuys was useful. Chapuys wrote several letters on a daily basis. He was a great chronicler and very observant. I was interested in Ms. She wanted to see him beheaded. Henry seemed to still be supporting Anne in early 1536. But by May she was done. By this time and each one deserves to be told. Originally from Sydney Australia. Her book is aptly titled "Wolf Hall Companion". I found this companion book a sheer delight. Full review here - <https://bronasbooks.com/2021/06/05/wo.1911358618>

