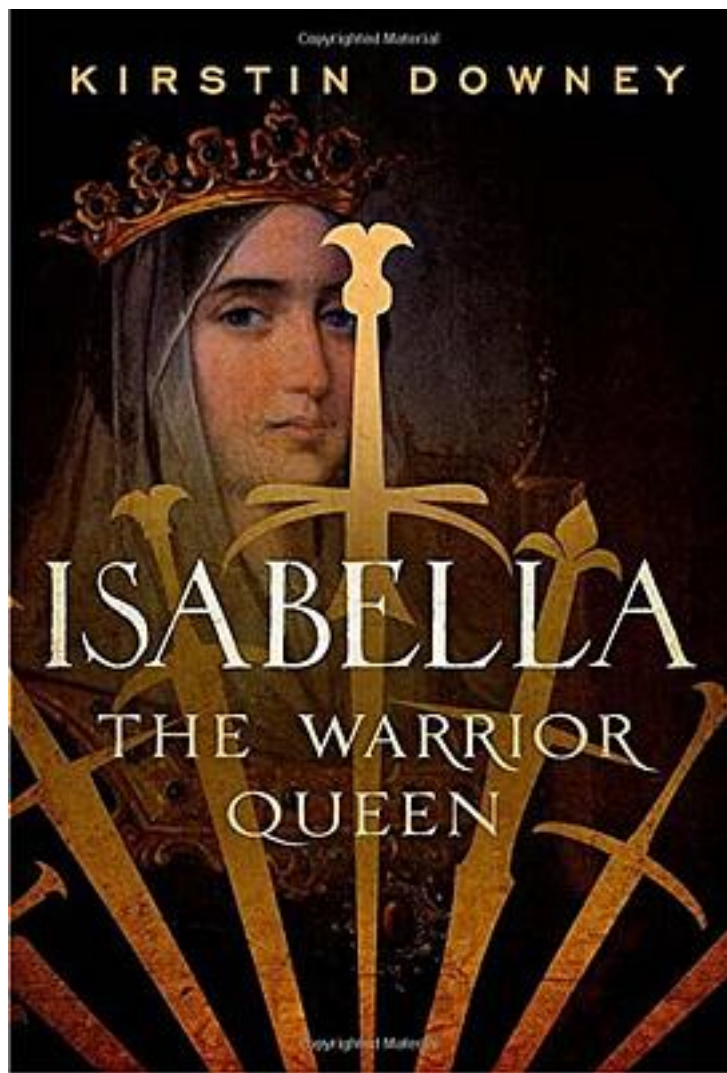


# Isabella



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The first full-length biography of one of history's most notorious femme fatales — Isabella — a much maligned Queen of England.

Isabella of France, Edward II's queen, was a woman much maligned in her day. Today, it is said that her maniacal laughter can be heard on stormy nights at Castle Rising in Norfolk, and that in the ruins of the 14th century church where she is buried, her angry ghost can be glimpsed, clutching the beating heart of her murdered husband. In literature she has fared no better; Christopher Marlowe's "unnatural Queen, false Isabel" has also been described as "a woman of evil character, a notorious schemer," and as the "She-Wolf of France." Tragic, cruel, tormented: how did Isabella acquire such a reputation?

Born in 1292, the daughter of Philip IV of France and sister to three future French kings, Isabella was a pawn in the game of international politics. She was married at the age of twelve to Edward II of England, thus beginning a public and private life more turbulent and eventful than any heroine, or anti-heroine, in fiction.

Through a long period of civil war, Isabella bore Edward four children but was constantly humiliated by his relationships with male favourites. Although she is known to have lived adulterously with Roger Mortimer, 1st Earl of March, accusations of murder and regicide remain unsubstantiated. Had it not been for her unfaithfulness, history may have immortalized her as a liberator — the saviour who unshackled England from a weak and vicious monarch.

作者介绍:

Alison Weir lives and works in Surrey. Her books include Britain's Royal Families, The Six Wives of Henry VIII, Children of England, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Henry VIII: King and Court, Mary, Queen of Scots and Isabella: She-Wolf of France.

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标签

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## 评论

在Isabella之后，所有的后来人要罢黜先王，都会走这条路。且不说形式主义要不得，或者没有意义，从司法的角度讲，却是必须的。换句话说，Isabella开启了议会制约君主特权的先河，也使得英格兰的民主法治化进程往前迈进，所以，也不能说她有的仅仅是阴人的手腕和母狼一般的野心。在孤看来，Isabella恰是证明了谁说女子无才便是德？谁说女人不能参政议政？又有谁能说，女人不具有掌握自己命运的能力和思维？只是权力这东西不能给绝大多数女人带来快乐，甚至绝大多数权倾天下的男人在临终也会感到为权势所累，那又更何况Isabella？和Mortimer共享统治权的作为，孤不赞成，但也必须说，一个女人，大多数女人，所有权倾天下的女人都会渴望的东西，孤有什么立场多加苛责呢？王后都是女人！

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这本书只读了一点。我对这位女士的恨是强烈的。然而这本书的作者似乎要表达不同的意思。那么就先拿去压箱底好了。

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