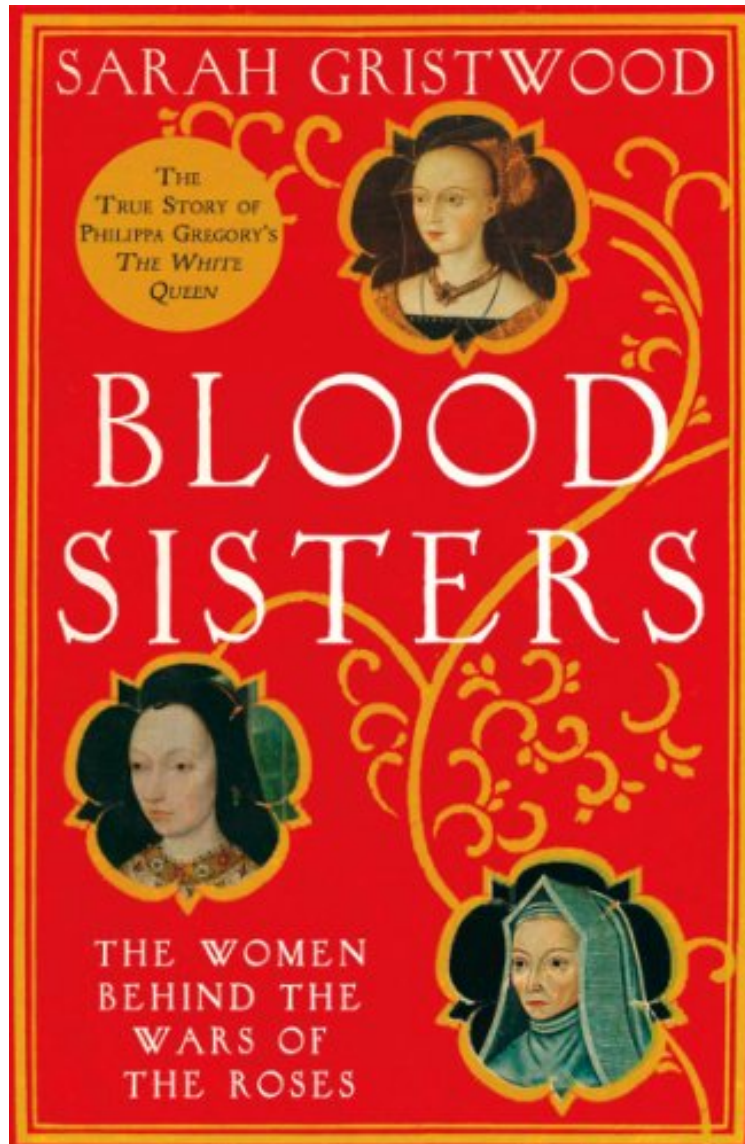


(Download pdf) Blood Sisters: The Hidden Lives of the Women Behind the Wars of the Roses

Blood Sisters: The Hidden Lives of the Women Behind the Wars of the Roses

Von Sarah Gristwood

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Von Sarah Gristwood : **Blood Sisters: The Hidden Lives of the Women Behind the Wars of the Roses** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blood Sisters: The Hidden Lives of the Women Behind the Wars of the Roses:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Fascinating - exiting - well written! Von Jorg W The book describes the "War of the Roses" from a female perspective throughout the whole war period and gives a detailed insight, how the lives of these ladies were linked to each other and to the fate of their respective husbands and alliances until the early years of Henry VIII. The author succeeds in bringing the main personalities alive and the whole story reads like a family adventure saga and it is difficult to put the book aside. No fiction is needed - it was history which has been written the script - retold in a perfect way in this book! From my perspective this book is highly recommendable for those interested in British history. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Royal feuding in the 15th century Von Peter Durward Harris The first thing to say is that it definitely helps to have some knowledge of this period of British history, acquired elsewhere, before reading this book. In my case, I had a very basic knowledge (insufficient on its own) from my schooldays. I built on it when I looked into my ancestry, and that extra knowledge aroused my interest. As far as I know, none of the seven women that the author designates the main characters are among my ancestors (though my research is incomplete), but Margaret Beaufort, Elizabeth Woodville and Cecily Neville are all children of my ancestors. Thus, I was fully informed about their family tree before I bought the book, but I still didn't know much about their lives and I knew nothing about what they thought of each other. The wars of the roses (more accurately called the cousins' war) inevitably dominate the story, but it's not as simple as the red rose of Lancaster (descendants of John of Gaunt) versus the white rose of Yorkshire (descendants of his brothers, Edmund and Lionel) because of inter-marriages in subsequent generations. In those days, the population was much smaller and it was fairly common for people to marry their cousins or second cousins. The picture is further complicated by non-royals with allegiances to Lancaster or York didn't mind marrying royals from the other side. Presumably they thought the chance to marry royalty was worth changing sides for. In those days, there was the further complication that royal marriages were usually politically motivated, so apart from the problems in England, there were issues with some of the countries in mainland Europe too. So the story is one of ever-changing loyalties and ever-changing fortunes. While I can see how all the twists and turns could be confusing, I found it all fascinating. I am sure that a lot of information has been lost forever, but there was plenty here to hold my interest. From other sources, I'd got the impression that the Yorkists really ought to have won in the end, but they lost because they fought among themselves after they thought they'd beaten the Lancastrians. This book reinforced that impression. This is an excellent book, providing you have some knowledge of either the main characters or the cousins' war to start with. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Interesting enough, but author's preference too clearly present Von Cassandra41 The cousin's war has always interested me and I have read several books on this topic. I thought it would be interesting to read about the women involved in this struggle as I knew there were some fascinating women around then. The book is interesting enough, I especially liked reading more about Cecily Neville, and written in an easy-to-read style, however it remains somewhat superficial throughout. What I really did not like is how clearly the author lets it be known that she does not like Margaret Beaufort. She hardly has a good thing to say about her, but plenty of snide comments pepper the book. If you write history, you should always try to be balanced in the assessment of the characters you write about and Gristwood signally fails to do that when writing about Margaret Beaufort.

Kurzbeschreibung The true story of the White Queen and more, this is a thrilling history of the extraordinary noblewomen who lived through the Wars of the Roses. The events of the Wars of the Roses are usually described in terms of the men involved: Richard Duke of York, Henry VI, Edward IV, Richard III and Henry VII. But these years were also packed with women's drama and in the tales of conflicted maternity and monstrous births alive with female energy. In this completely original book, Sarah Gristwood sheds light on a neglected dimension of English history: the impact of Tudor women on the Wars of the Roses. She examines, among others, Cecily Neville, who was deprived of being queen when her husband died at the Battle of Wakefield; Elizabeth Woodville, the commoner who married Edward IV in secret; Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII, whose love and ambition for her son knew no bounds. Until now, the lives of these women have remained little known to the general public. Sarah Gristwood tells their stories in detail for the first time. Captivating and original, this is historical writing of the most important kind. Pressestimmen `For viewers who plan to settle in with `The White Queen', one recent work of history will guide them through the distaff maze of the Wars of the Roses: `Blood Sisters' by Sarah Gristwood' Boyd Tonkin, Independent `In this gem of a book, she effortlessly weaves the dramatic, often tragic, lives of seven royal women... If you treat yourself to one history book this Christmas, make it this one. It's the book that I wish I had written' Alison Weir, Books of the Year, BBC History Magazine `Entertaining and vividly drawn ... A different way of looking at this complex period and Gristwood weaves the story with considerable skill ... highly readable' Literary `Gristwood successfully evokes the lives of all these women, and in doing so brings a new and welcome perspective on the Wars of the Roses... [a] very agreeable narrative' Dan Jones, Sunday Times `Gristwood's sensitive approach marks out Blood Sisters as much more than the narrative of an age. It is an exploration of what it was to be a medieval queen... A compelling portrait of this bloody age, complete with the heartbreak and triumphs that went with it... Like a delicately

woven tapestry, threads of evidence have to be gathered and pulled together with care. Gristwood does an excellent job of examining in sensory detail the impact of ermines, cloths of gold, Spanish leather and purple velvet' SpectatorWerbetext"[A] gem of a book... enlivened by incisive analysis, exquisite detail and an elegant and witty style."-Alison Weir, BBC History Magazine