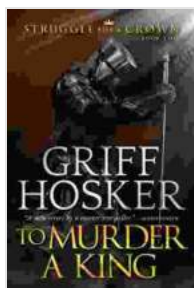


# To Murder a King: The Struggle for the Crown in Medieval England

The murder of King Edward II in 1327 was a pivotal moment in medieval English history. It marked the end of the Plantagenet dynasty and the beginning of a new era of instability and conflict.



## To Murder A King (Struggle For a Crown Book 2)

by Griff Hosker

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Edward II was a weak and indecisive king who was dominated by his favorites, most notably Hugh Despenser the Younger. This led to widespread resentment among the nobility, who felt that their power was being undermined.

In 1325, Edward's wife, Isabella of France, returned to England with an army of mercenaries. She was determined to overthrow her husband and install her son, Edward III, on the throne.

Isabella and her allies quickly gained control of the country. Edward II was captured and imprisoned in Berkeley Castle. In September 1327, he was brutally murdered, probably by being suffocated with a red-hot poker.

The murder of Edward II was a shocking event that sent shockwaves throughout Europe. It was a clear sign that the monarchy was in crisis and that the country was on the brink of civil war.

### **The Motives of the Killers**

There are many different theories about the motives for the murder of Edward II. Some historians believe that Isabella and Mortimer were motivated by personal revenge. Isabella had been humiliated and mistreated by her husband, and she may have wanted to see him dead.

Other historians believe that the murder was a political act. Isabella and Mortimer may have feared that Edward would regain his power and seek revenge against them. They may also have wanted to secure the throne for Edward III, who was still a minor.

Whatever their motives, Isabella and Mortimer's actions were ultimately successful. They overthrew Edward II and installed Edward III on the throne. However, their victory was short-lived. In 1330, Edward III came of age and had Mortimer executed. Isabella was imprisoned for the rest of her life.

### **The Long-Term Consequences of the Murder**

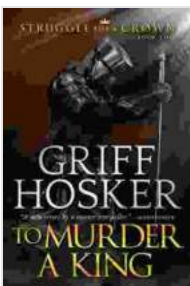
The murder of Edward II had a profound impact on medieval England. It led to a period of instability and conflict that lasted for many years.

The Plantagenet dynasty was weakened by the murder of Edward II. The new king, Edward III, was a minor, and the country was ruled by a regency council. This led to a power struggle between different factions of the nobility.

The murder also led to a decline in the power of the monarchy. Edward III was a strong and capable king, but he was unable to fully restore the authority of the crown. The nobility continued to play a major role in English politics, and the monarchy was never again as powerful as it had been under Edward I.

The murder of Edward II is a reminder of the fragility of power in medieval England. The monarchy was constantly under threat from both within and without. The murder of Edward II showed that even the king was not safe from violence and treachery.

The murder of King Edward II was a pivotal moment in medieval English history. It marked the end of the Plantagenet dynasty and the beginning of a new era of instability and conflict. The murder had a profound impact on the country, both in the short and long term. It is a reminder of the fragility of power in medieval England and the constant threat of violence and treachery.



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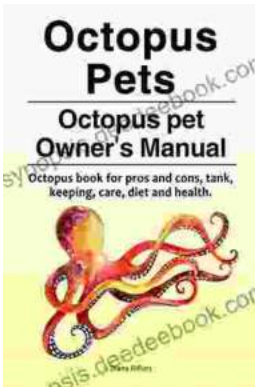
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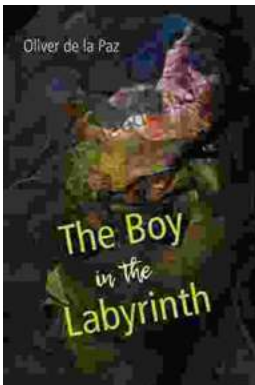
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