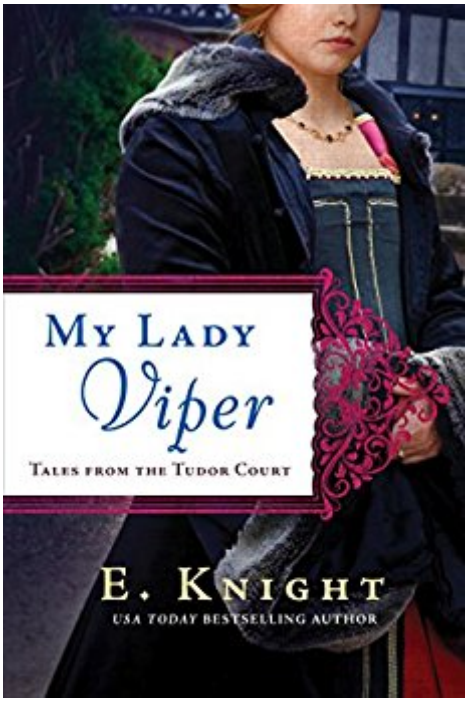
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My Lady Viper (Tales From The Tudor Court Book 1)



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Synopsis

When Anne Boleyn falls to the executionerÃ¢â ¬â„¢s ax on a cold spring morning in 1536, Anne Seymour knows her family faces peril. As alliances shift and conspiracies multiply, the Seymours plot to establish their place in the treacherous court of King Henry VIII, where a courtierÃ¢â ¬â„¢s fate is decided by the whims of a hot-tempered and fickle monarch.Lady AnneÃ¢â ¬â„¢s own sister-in-law, Jane Seymour, soon takes Anne BoleynÃ¢â ¬â„¢s place as queen. But if Jane cannot give King Henry a son, history portends that she, too, will be executed or set asideÃ¢â ¬â •and her family with her. In desperation, Lady Anne throws herself into the intoxicating intrigue of the Tudor court, determined to ensure the success of the new queenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s marriage and the elevation of the Seymour family to a more powerful position. Soon her machinations earn her a reputation as a viper in a den of rabbits. In a game of betrayal and favor, will her familyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s rise be worth the loss of her soul?Revised edition: This edition of My Lady Viper includes editorial revisions.

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Customer Reviews

Tudor fiction. The phrase alone makes me cringe. Wolf Hall, The Other Boleyn Girl, The

Autobiography of Henry VIII, The Sixth Wife, Secrets of the Tudor Court, Queen's GambitÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â| there are enough titles on the market that I could go on all day.With so many options, itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s hard to imagine an author bringing something new to the table. Are there really angles that havenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t been tried, schemes that havenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t been woven, or characters who havenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t been featured? I know it sounds improbable, but such a distinction does not make something in and of itself impossible which leads me to E. KnightÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s My Lady Viper.Overflowing with intrigue, conspiracy, and romance, this book had me hooked from the first chapter and that isnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t easy for a skeptic such as myself to admit. HenryÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s court comes vibrantly to life under KnightÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s pen, drawing the audience into a refreshing original web a danger and deceit.Anne SeymourÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s divided loyalties and multiple alliances really appealed to me. The complexity of her situation built tension IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m entirely unused to seeing in this subgenre and conveyed a tangibly authentic degree of turmoil within the narrative.The nontraditional love triangle was equally alluring. AnneÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s emotional connections to Edward and Anthony are not clear cut or easy define and though they are remarkably different, both are passionate affairs that leave the reader genuinely absorbed in AnneÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s romantic liaisons.A brilliant illustration of a capricious monarch and the nest of serpents that surrounded him, My Lady Viper is an absolute must. Intricately detailed, cleverly constructed and utterly irresistible.

I must applaud E. Knight for finding a new subject to pursue related to the Tudor Dynasty, and SOME new information about the characters and details of that era. I have, I suppose, a morbid interest in this narrow time in history, which led to my purchase of the book, and, I'll admit I will probably buy the sequel just because Knight's approach is so different and the story is interesting. The book, however, is simply a good story told very simply. The author's vocabulary leaves much to be desired (perhaps fourth-grade level), and the characters possess little or no complexity. I was particularly dismayed at the obligatory and formulaic sex scenes which served no purpose other than an appeal to the puerile. If you like soap operas, you'll be enthralled with this book. If you want something the least bit thought-provoking, look elsewhere; there are many choices available.

I managed to get through this book because I have an interest in the subject, but as I do my reading at night to help me fall asleep, it did take a long time, as I'd fall asleep easily reading this. That is the only good thing I can say. The story dragged on with endless unnecessary details of the heroine's

anguish over the obvious. Some of the writing tried to be in the style of the times, but in other places it was written in very vernacular and poor grammar of today. The switch back and forth seemed very haphazard and was confusing. I will not recommend this to friends, nor read any more work by E. Knight, even if my insomnia gets worse.

Although not entirely historically accurate, the characters did indeed exist & some events did as well. Anne is an excellent heroine. She & Edward Seymour are portrayed as not only a powerful force at court, but a genuinely equal & loving partnership. It is a good read; however, the historical inaccuracies can be mildly frustrating for readers who know their Tudor history well.

My Lady Viper by E. KnightBook #1: Tales from the Tudor CourtSource: PurchaseMy Rating: 4/5 starsMy Review:The death of Anne Boleyn turned the court of King Henry VIII on its head and sent shockwaves out through every level of the country. Those most closely related to the throne and the King knew, with absolute certainty Henry was desperate for a male heir and willing to topple families in pursuit of his goal.Lady Anne Seymour is constantly attended by several companions, most notably guilt, fear, and extreme aspirations for herself and her family. On the morning of Anne BoleynÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s execution, Lady Anne stood among those gathered and watched, watched what could so easily be her fate if she isnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t always several steps ahead of everyone else. As a Seymour by marriage, Lady Anne is now the sister-in-law to EnglandÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s next queen which makes her place in the world both lofty and precarious. In order to ensure her safety and that of her family, Lady Anne must play a very dangerous game at court.From the moment the SeymourÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s realize Henry has his eye on their Jane, the intrigues, plots, and planning begin. Lady Anne is an ever-present member of court life and serves as one of JaneÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s most trusted ladies. From this position, Lady Anne is able to keep an eye on other courtiers and gather information which will most certainly be used at an appropriate time and place. Anne doesnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t just gather information, she wields it like a weapon and often shares what she has learned with her husband, Edward Seymour, one of King HenryÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s most trusted advisors. Between the two of them, there is little to nothing that happens at court that they donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t know about and use to their advantage.As if the information gathering isnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t enough, Lady Anne also has to be attentive to the young Queen and her situation. It is clear Henry adores Jane Seymour, but as everyone knows, he also adored Anne Boleyn. From the beginning, Anne helps Jane navigate life as both a married woman and a Queen. Anne is a master manipulator and helps Jane understand

what it is she needs to do to keep her husband in her bed, conceive an heir, and advance the Seymour family. Though her plans donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t always go precisely as planned, Anne is generally successful and within months she and her family are reaping the benefits of being the QueenÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s closest relations. Titles, land, homes, and preferred rooms at court are claimed by the SeymourÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s but those rewards come with a price.At every turn, Lady Anne has to be cautious of her actions and her words. From the moment she wakes to the moment she falls into bed each day, Anne has to be on guard for trusting the wrong person, acting in the wrong way, or simply saying the wrong thing could cost her, her head. Though she is married to a strong, capable, and trusted man, that man is nearly always gone doing the KingÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s bidding which leaves Anne to fend for herself. To do so, Anne has cultivated a circle of allies and always stands her ground when confronted. As a result, her reputation is that of a formidable woman who should not be crossed. As with everything else in her life, this reputation comes with a price.The Bottom Line: Knight doesnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t have to do any real world building in this read as history has done that for her. She does, however have to bring that world alive and she does so through the life of Lady Anne Seymour. When you think of the court of King Henry VIII, Lady Anne Seymour isnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t the first name that comes to mind and that is one of the things I very much enjoyed about this read. Knight has taken the liberty of choosing a lesser known historical figure and telling a well-known story through her eyes and from her perspective which affords the reader a new view of old characters. It is, quite frankly, refreshing to have such a different view of the famous Tudor court. From the moment the read begins to the moment it ends, Lady Anne is at work for herself and her family and it is fascinating to see how diligent she must be in her pursuits. Lady AnneÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s machinations are dangerous which creates a pervasive tension throughout the read as plots and plans are constantly being hatched and executed. As a reader, you always feel that tension which is certainly laced with a healthy dose of fear and that will keep you moving through the pages. My only complaints about this read are related to the extreme amount of detail and the ending. IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m not a huge fan of copious amounts of detail and at 450+ pages, My Lady Viper is full of detail, most of which I skipped as the story moved forward. As to the ending, My Lady Viper just sort of stops and I didnÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t feel like there was any real explanation regarding the fate of Lady Anne and her family. Aside from those two things, My Lady Viper is an interesting read that takes a familiar time and place and works it from a different angle.P.S. I did find out what happened to Lady Anne and some of her family at the beginning of the second Tales from the Tudor Court book, Prisoner of the Queen.

Could have been a great story but has many misspelled words and bad grammar. Disjointed. Too many plots and much too long.

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