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Sophia Of Hanover: From Winter Princess To Heiress Of Great Britain, 1630–1714



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Synopsis

The detailed memoirs and letters ofÃ Â a gifted and prolific chroniclerÃ Â provide an insiderÃ¢â ¬â„¢s view of life for the top echelons of society in the 16th centuryÃ Â Sophia, Electress of Hanover (1630–1714), granddaughter of James I, and mother of George I, is best remembered as the link between the Houses of Stuart and Hanover. A true European, Sophia spoke English, French, German, Dutch, and Italian fluently, andÃ Â was open-minded and intellectually curious. Her writings cover an astonishing variety of subjects: religion, philosophy, international gossip, household hints, politics, and the details of her family life.

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Customer Reviews

J. N.Ã Â Duggan has translated Sophia’s memoir and thousands of letters to paint a remarkable portrait of a woman who deserves to be known by modern-day readers.

Entertaining history read. Brings to life a seldom mentioned character.

Sophia of Hanover is the descendant who links the Stuart line on the British throne to the current royal family’s right to inherit. However, at her birth her becoming heiress to the throne seemed the most unlikely thing that could happen. She was the daughter of Princess Elizabeth Stuart, "the winter Queen" and her husband Frederick, Elector of Palantine. She was born and grew up in the Hague in Holland in a background of gentile poverty with a mother who was generous beyond her means but who nevertheless never forgot her royal heritage.Sophia had an interesting life and made

the best of what it dealt her. In her 50s when she hit a low patch she even started writing her memoirs. Luckily for us the multi lingual Sophia was an excellent writer. The author has even included a number of Sophia's letters in their original language at the back of the book as a "challenge" for readers to translate (a bit annoying but at least they are published).I would have to say this was an interesting look at Sophia's life. Given her extensive letter writing and the quality of her letters this is unlikely to be the be-all-end-all biography of Sophia but as an overview of her life and a look at a woman who was fascinating in her own right this is a good read.

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