

THE CHILDREN OF HENRY VIII AUDIO BOOK! UNABRIDGED, RECORDED BOOKS pdf

1: Editions of The Children of Henry VIII by Alison Weir

This book revealed a wealth of information about each of Henry VIII's children, including many fascinating, illuminating tidbits of which I was unaware. I highly recommend this book for all Tudor devotees, history buffs, and generally inquisitive minds.

Written at the height of Edwardian confidence in the British Empire, it tells the history of Britain from its beginnings to the death of Queen Victoria. This is exactly what children need to counter the disconnected history now taught in schools. Amanda Craig, Independent on Sunday History has all the best stories, and all the best histories are more compelling heard aloud. The immediacy of H. Long-rubbished by the politically correct, it has just enjoyed a centenary renaissance in print, and could do even better as an unabridged audiobook as much for parents as children. Here is the history that we grew up on: Narration is divided between Anna Bentinck and Daniel Philpott. It was written at the beginning of the 20th century by H. Marshall – her full name was Henrietta Elizabeth Marshall – and she wrote a number of books for younger readers boys and girls, she called them in the gracious manner of the time. History fascinated her, and she liked nothing better than to re-tell history through the personalities of the people who made it. Our Island Story for Boys and Girls to give it the full original title, tells the story of Britain by shining a friendly spotlight on the major gures – the rulers, the heroes, the villains and even the weak and the vanquished. Addressing her readers, H. There are many facts in school histories that seem to children to belong to lessons only. Some of these you will not find here. Marshall was writing at a time when the British Empire cast its rule over a quarter of the globe But you will find some stories that are not to be found in your school books – stories which wise people say are only fairy tales and not history. But it seems to me that they are part of Our Island Story, and ought not to be forgotten, any more than those stories about which there is no doubt. Then, when you find out how much has been left untold in this little book, do not be cross, but remember that, when you were very small, you would not have been able to understand things that seem quite simple and very interesting to you as you grow older. Remember, too, that I was not trying to teach you, but only to tell a story. These accessible life stories stayed with the young readers because the accounts are well-told – in a lively and colourful fashion. Wat Tyler rebelled and was slain – this is true. King John was forced to sign Magna Carta, the bowman of England won the Battle of Agincourt against exceptional odds, and the Wars of the Roses – the red and the white – divided England and civil war raged. All this did happen. But the stories of Albion and Brutus, the legendary beginnings of England, Robin Hood, and perhaps the greatest story of them all, King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, are the stuff of myth. Does it matter that fact and ction interweave seamlessly? Not really, because ction can in uence history, as it has done so powerfully in the case of King Arthur. Knightly chivalry has affected the behaviour, thought and art of many following centuries – including our own. Marshall was writing at a time when the British Empire cast its rule over a quarter of the globe. Now, in the 21st century, Britain plays a very different role in world affairs. And within itself, it is a very different place, having much more of a multi-ethnic populace with broader horizons and more versatile attitudes towards life and the way to live it than when Our Island Story was written Yet there is no reason to ignore the rich and thrilling history that made England and, more widely still, Britain. There may be times when H. Marshall speaks in a tone which seems dated; that is inevitable. Nevertheless, it is not surprising that many of our current prominent historians say it was this book that started them on the historical road, that awoke in them a love for the past, the characters and the events. She takes her story to the beginning of the 20th century, the death of Queen Victoria and the gathering clouds of the First World War. Since then another century has passed, and the world has changed in ways that not even she could have imagined. But her book lives on. The great event at Runnymede on 15 June , when the Magna Carta was signed by King John, gives us a vivid picture of a time when the barons supported the rights of the people. However, we know about the past not only through major political events, wars, the passage of kings and queens, and of cial records

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such as the Domesday Book. We also gain much information through the art of the times – not just paintings and sculptures, but the written word, architecture and music too. This recording covers the reign of England by two families: Henry II was the first Plantagenet king when he came to the throne in 1154; and the dominance of the family lasted until Richard III died in the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485, more than 130 years later. Books were rare, precious and expensive – but they did exist. The victor on that day was Henry IV, the first of the Tudors. He was the first of the Stuarts. Artistic life changed quite a lot in those four and a half centuries. The Plantagenet reign took place in the medieval period, and the Catholic Church was a dominant force in artistic life. It was a time when the great Gothic cathedrals were built: These large and magnificent building projects were ambitious for the age and costly to build. Each incredible example of tall, shaped stone, thrusting up to the sky, could take as long as one hundred years to complete. These cathedrals needed sacred music for the monks to sing. In the early medieval period, before the Plantagenets, the choral music was quite simple. There was Gregorian chant: But as the centuries went by, the music became more complex, with different lines being sung by different voices. For the first time, the names of individual composers began to emerge: There was also secular music – music which was not for religious purposes. It was by ordinary people for ordinary people, because music has always been an important part of everyday life. It was played in towns and villages by local musicians and travelling minstrels. But generally the music was not written down – people played by ear and passed on tunes from generation to generation. So we can only guess what it sounded like from the few pieces of written music in quite simple notation that survive. There was travelling theatre, but most of the plays were based on religious stories; or if they did involve ordinary life, there was always a moral at the end. People liked laughing, of course life was hard but not always miserable! We know about all these mainly through passages and illustrations in books. Books were rare, precious and expensive – but they did exist. The written word played an increasingly important role in the medieval world. This was despite the fact that before the invention of the printing press in the 15th century, all books were copied by hand. Sometimes, in the big monasteries, there would be large rooms where one monk would read from a book and lines of other monks seated at rows of desks would write down what they heard. Many of these books would also be beautifully illustrated, with tiny drawings of animals or people decorating a letter at the start of a paragraph. The books were mainly religious, containing stories from the Bible or writings of monks. Some great folk tales from the past were written down, like Beowulf, and some poems. Increasingly, just as composers did, individual authors began to emerge. One of the first whom we know about was William Langland: At the end of the 14th century Geoffrey Chaucer c. 1387. Books, and reading, became more widespread after when William Caxton c. 1470. Many more people started to think for themselves, and not just do what they were told to do by the Church and their lords and masters. A keen interest in the arts and education spread across Europe – and that included England. The arts themselves changed too. Composers still wrote music for the Church despite battles between the Catholics and the Protestants. But they, and many others, also wrote secular music that has survived through the years – because music, like words, was printed and distributed around the country. There was music for the organ and other keyboard instruments, and for small orchestras. Other composers such as John Dowland wrote songs for lute and voice. At the Tudor court, words, and their inventive and gracious use, were prized. Courtiers, and explorers such as Sir Walter Raleigh, wrote poetry. And it was at this time that great dramatists emerged. Then came William Shakespeare – Theatres, such as the Swan in Southwark, were built specifically for such plays to be performed. As he produced one masterpiece after another, he invented many new words. It is said that he invented some 1,700 words which we use regularly. Castles and cathedrals are the main medieval buildings that have survived, as well as some grand banqueting halls. Painting also began to play a prominent role in life. During the medieval period, most painting concentrated on religious subjects, and was relatively undeveloped. But as the Renaissance dawned during the early Tudor period, painting in England became increasingly sophisticated. We even have exquisite miniatures by artists such as Nicholas Hilliard. It was during the Renaissance, too, that people began to take a renewed interest in the great times of Classical Greece and Rome – their architecture and their writing. This

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also had a strong influence on poetry, drama and other art forms in Tudor times: So, artistic life developed considerably from the time of the Magna Carta and the Plantagenets to the end of the Tudors and the beginning of the Stuarts. Religion continued to play a key part in music, the written word, the visual arts and architecture. However, the lives of ordinary people became increasingly reflected in various art forms, and this contributed to a broader and more lively development. Religion was still a most important issue for many people. In 1611, a new translation of the Bible was published. It came to be known as both the King James Bible because it was published in his reign and the Authorised Version. Some 50 years before, men such as William Tyndale were burnt for translating the Bible into English, but at last it was accepted that people should be able to read it in their own language.

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2: Our Island Story (complete) (unabridged) – Naxos AudioBooks

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Etymology[edit] The term "talking book" came into being in the s with government programs designed for blind readers, while the term "audiobook" came into use during the s when audiocassettes began to replace records. Less than a year after the invention of the phonograph, this drawing offered a future vision. Novels however would remain impractical for phonographs until the s. Spoken word recordings first became possible with the invention of the phonograph by Thomas Edison in . The newly passed GI Bill of Rights guaranteed a college education to all veterans, but texts were mostly inaccessible to the recently blinded veterans, who did not read Braille and had little access to live readers. Macdonald mobilized the women of the Auxiliary under the motto "Education is a right, not a privilege". Members of the Auxiliary transformed the attic of the New York Public Library into a studio, recording textbooks using then state-of-the-art six-inch vinyl SoundScriber phonograph discs that played approximately 12 minutes of material per side. In , Macdonald established recording studios in seven additional cities across the United States. Caedmon Records was a pioneer in the audiobook business, it was the first company dedicated to selling spoken work recordings to the public and has been called the "seed" of the audiobook industry. By May , Publishers Weekly initiated a regular column to cover the industry. The nominees are announced each year by February. The winners are announced at a gala banquet in May, usually in conjunction with BookExpo America. Another innovation was the creation of LibriVox in by Montreal-based writer Hugh McGuire who posed the question on his blog: By the end of , LibriVox had a catalog of over 12, works and was producing about 1, per year. Because trams rattled past, these first productions took place at night. Later, texts were recorded by trained speakers in professional studios and distributed to users by mail. Until the s recordings were on tape reels, then later cassettes. Since , the offerings have been recorded in the DAISY Digital Talking Book MP3 standard, which provides additional features for visually impaired users to both listen and navigate written material aurally. Only by did Audiobooks gain popularity in the Indian market. This is primarily due to lack of previous organized efforts on the part of publishers and authors. The marketing efforts and availability of Audiobooks has made India as one of the fastest growing Audiobooks markets in the world. Audio books are being released in various Indian languages. In Malayalam , the first audio novel, titled Ouija Board, was released by Kathacafe in . They are offering ample audio books freely. To access the entire catalog they are charging nominal membership of Rs. Production[edit] Producing an audiobook consists of a narrator sitting in a recording booth reading the text, while a studio engineer and a director record and direct the performance. Narrators are usually paid on a finished recorded hour basis, meaning if it took 20 hours to produce a 5-hour book, the narrator is paid for 5 hours, thus providing an incentive not to make mistakes. Timeline of audio formats An audiobook collection in a library. Audiobooks are distributed on any audio format available, but primarily these are records, cassette tapes, CDs, MP3 CDs , downloadable digital formats e. In , a German inventor introduced the Sound Book cassette system based on the Tefifon format where instead of a magnetic tape the sound was recorded on a continuous loop of grooved vinylite ribbon similar to the old 8-track tape. Even though the original Tefifon upon which it was based ran at 19 CPS and could hold a maximum of 4 hours, one Sound Book could hold eight hours of recordings as it ran at half the speed or 9. However, just like the Tefifon, the format never became widespread in use. Audiobooks may come as fully dramatized versions of the printed book, sometimes calling upon a complete cast, music, and sound effects. Effectively audio dramas , these audiobooks are known as full cast audio books. It came in a 2-LP vinyl set, or as a downloadable MP3, but with no published text. Audiobooks have been used to teach children to read and to increase reading comprehension. They are also useful for the blind. The National Library of Congress in the U. Founded in ,

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The Children of Henry VIII by Alison Weir is a wonderfully written account that has educated, entertained and enthralled me and I cannot more highly recommend this book. 2 of 2 people found this review helpful.

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