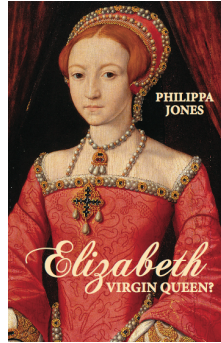




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## ELIZABETH VIRGIN QUEEN?

Philippa Jones



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'Gloriana', 'Faerie Queene', 'Queen Bess' are just some of the names given to Elizabeth I, the daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. But the name for which she is perhaps best remembered and which best explains why Elizabeth was the last of the Tudor monarchs, was the 'Virgin Queen'. But how appropriate is that image? Were Elizabeth's suitors and favourites really just innocent intrigues? Or were they much more than that?

Was Elizabeth really a woman driven by her passions, who had affairs with several men, including Thomas Seymour, while he was still the husband of her guardian Catherine Parr, and Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester – a man adjudged to have been the great love of her life? And, are the rumours of Elizabeth's illegitimate children true?

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**Philippa Jones** is a historian and read Egyptology at Cambridge University. She lives in Henleaze, Bristol and has worked at Bristol's Museum and University. She has published many books and articles; including *The Other Tudors: Henry VIII's Mistresses and Bastards* (New Holland, 2009).