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CONQUEROR'S WIFE

A NOVEL OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT

AUTHOR OF THE TIGER QUEENS

STEPHANIE THORNTON

The Conquerors Wife

Thomas B. Costain

The Conquerors Wife:

Queen of the Conqueror Tracy Joanne Borman, 2012-04-03 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER Around the year 1049 William Duke of Normandy and future conqueror of England raced to the palace of Baldwin V Count of Flanders The count s eldest daughter Matilda had refused William's offer of marriage and publicly denounced him as a bastard Encountering the young woman William furiously dragged her to the ground by her hair and beat her mercilessly Matilda's outraged father immediately took up arms on his daughter's behalf But just a few days later Baldwin was aghast when Matilda still recovering from the assault announced that she would marry none but William since he must be a man of great courage and high daring to have ventured to come and beat me in my own father's palace. Thus began the tempestuous marriage of Matilda of Flanders and William the Conqueror While William's exploits and triumphs have been widely chronicled his consort remains largely overlooked Now in her groundbreaking Queen of the Congueror acclaimed author and historian Tracy Borman weaves together a comprehensive and illuminating tapestry of this noble woman who stood only four foot two and whose role as the first crowned Queen of England had a large and lasting influence on the English monarchy From a wealth of historical artifacts and documents Matilda emerges as passionate steadfast and wise yet also utterly ruthless and tenacious in pursuit of her goals and the only person capable of taming her formidable husband who unprecedented for the period remained staunchly faithful to her This mother of nine including four sons who went on to inherit William's French and English dominions confounded the traditional views of women in medieval society by seizing the reins of power whenever she had the chance directing her husband's policy and at times flagrantly disobeying his orders Tracy Borman lays out Matilda's remarkable story against one of the most fascinating and transformative periods in European history Stirring richly detailed and wholly involving Queen of the Conqueror reveals not just an extraordinary figure but an iconic woman who shaped generations and an era that cast the essential framework for the world we know today Praise for Queen of the Conqueror Tracy Borman brings to life Queen Matilda's enormous accomplishments in consolidating early Norman rule Alongside her warrior husband William I Matilda brought legitimacy a deeper degree of education diplomatic savvy and artistic and religious flowering to the shared Norman English throne Borman the chief executive of Britain's Heritage Education Trust fleshes out the personality of this fascinating woman who set the steely precedent for subsequent English female sovereigns by displaying great longevity and stamina in a rough paternalistic time A richly layered treatment of the stormy reign that yielded the incomparable Bayeux Tapestry and the Domesday Book Kirkus Reviews Tracy Borman tells this story with a steady eye and a steady hand tracing what can be known of Matilda's part in the events that were to change the Costain, 2022-08-16 In The Conquerors The Pageant of England Thomas B Costain embarks on an ambitious narrative that chronicles the tumultuous and vibrant tapestry of English history during the Norman period With a masterful command of

prose Costain weaves historical analysis with vivid storytelling bringing to life pivotal figures such as William the Conqueror and the sweeping societal changes that follow the Battle of Hastings The book s style reflects an engaging blend of erudition and narrative flair positioning it as both an informative text and a gripping historical saga appealing to both scholars and general readers alike Thomas B Costain a Canadian journalist and historian drew upon his extensive background in storytelling and his fascination with England s past to create this illuminating work His meticulous research and attention to detail reflect a deep seated curiosity about the political and cultural shifts of the era Costain s previous works established him as a notable figure in historical literature and The Conquerors serves as a culmination of his efforts to explore character and consequence within the historical narrative I wholeheartedly recommend The Conquerors to readers intrigued by the complexities of England s past Costain not only educates but also entertains making the book an indispensable addition to any history enthusiast s collection Through its eloquent prose and rich historical context the reader will gain not just knowledge but a genuine appreciation for the dynamic forces that shaped England The Conqueror's Wife Samuel Edwards, 1958

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Table of Contents The Conquerors Wife

- 1. Understanding the eBook The Conquerors Wife
 - The Rise of Digital Reading The Conquerors Wife
 - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
- 2. Identifying The Conquerors Wife
 - Exploring Different Genres
 - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
 - Determining Your Reading Goals
- 3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
 - Popular eBook Platforms
 - Features to Look for in an The Conquerors Wife
 - User-Friendly Interface
- 4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from The Conquerors Wife
 - Personalized Recommendations
 - The Conquerors Wife User Reviews and Ratings
 - The Conquerors Wife and Bestseller Lists
- 5. Accessing The Conquerors Wife Free and Paid eBooks

- The Conquerors Wife Public Domain eBooks
- The Conquerors Wife eBook Subscription Services
- The Conquerors Wife Budget-Friendly Options
- 6. Navigating The Conquerors Wife eBook Formats
 - o ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
 - The Conquerors Wife Compatibility with Devices
 - The Conquerors Wife Enhanced eBook Features
- 7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
 - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of The Conquerors Wife
 - Highlighting and Note-Taking The Conquerors Wife
 - Interactive Elements The Conquerors Wife
- 8. Staying Engaged with The Conquerors Wife
 - o Joining Online Reading Communities
 - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
 - Following Authors and Publishers The Conquerors Wife
- 9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books The Conquerors Wife
 - Benefits of a Digital Library
 - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection The Conquerors Wife
- 10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
 - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
 - Minimizing Distractions
 - Managing Screen Time
- 11. Cultivating a Reading Routine The Conquerors Wife
 - Setting Reading Goals The Conquerors Wife
 - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
- 12. Sourcing Reliable Information of The Conquerors Wife
 - Fact-Checking eBook Content of The Conquerors Wife
 - Distinguishing Credible Sources
- 13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
 - Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development

- Exploring Educational eBooks
- 14. Embracing eBook Trends
 - Integration of Multimedia Elements
 - Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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