

Read Free George
I Penguin
Monarchs The
George I
Lucky King
Penguin
Monarchs The
Lucky King

From the New
York Times
bestselling author
of Churchill and
Napoleon The last
king of America,
George III, has

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

been ridiculed as a complete disaster who frittered away the colonies and went mad in his old age. The truth is much more nuanced and fascinating--and will completely change the way readers and historians view his reign and legacy.

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

Most Americans dismiss George III as a buffoon--a heartless and terrible monarch with few, if any, redeeming qualities. The best-known modern interpretation of him is Jonathan Groff's preening, spitting, and pompous take in

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Monarchs The
Hamilton, Lin-
Lucky King

Manuel Miranda's
Broadway
masterpiece. But
this deeply
unflattering
characterization is
rooted in the
prejudiced and
brilliantly
persuasive
opinions of
eighteenth-century
revolutionaries like

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

Thomas Paine and
Thomas Jefferson,
who needed to
make the king
appear evil in
order to achieve
their own political
aims. After
combing through
hundreds of
thousands of pages
of never-before-
published
correspondence,

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award-winning
historian Andrew

Roberts has
uncovered the
truth: George III
was in fact a wise,
humane, and even
enlightened
monarch who was
beset by talented
enemies,
debilitating mental
illness,
incompetent

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Lucky King

ministers, and
disastrous luck. In

The Last King of
America, Roberts
paints a deft and
nuanced portrait of
the much-maligned
monarch and
outlines his
accomplishments,
which have been
almost universally
forgotten. Two
hundred and forty-

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

five years after the
end of George III's
American rule, it is
time for Americans
to look back on
their last king with
greater
understanding: to
see him as he was
and to come to
terms with the last
time they were
ruled by a
monarch.

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Monarchs, The
Lucky King

Henry II (1154-89)
through a series of
astonishing
dynastic coups
became the ruler
of an enormous
European empire.
One of the most
dynamic, restless
and clever men
ever to rule
England, he was
brought down both
by his catastrophic

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Monarchs The
relationship with
Lucky King
his archbishop
Thomas Becket
and his debilitating
arguments with his
sons, most
importantly the
future Richard I
and King John. His
empire may have
ultimately
collapsed, but in
Richard Barber's
vivid and

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Monarchs. The
Lucky King

sympathetic
account the reader
can see why Henry
II left such a
compelling
impression on his
contemporaries.

On Christmas Day
1066, William,
duke of Normandy
was crowned in
Westminster, the
first Norman king
of England. It was

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

a disaster: soldiers
outside, thinking
shouts of
acclamation were
treachery, torched
the surrounding
buildings. To later
chroniclers, it was
an omen of the
catastrophes to
come. During the
reign of William
the Conqueror,
England

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

experienced
greater and more
seismic change
than at any point
before or since.

Marc Morris's
concise and
gripping biography
sifts through the
sources of the time
to give a fresh view
of the man who
changed England
more than any

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Monarchs, The
Lucky King

other, as old ruling elites were swept away, enemies at home and abroad (including those in his closest family) were crushed, swathes of the country were devastated and the map of the nation itself was redrawn, giving greater power than ever to

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Monarchs, The
Lucky King

the king. When, towards the end of his reign, William undertook a great survey of his new lands, his subjects compared it to the last judgement of God, the Domesday Book. England had been transformed forever.

Edward the
Confessor, the last

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Lucky King

great king of Anglo-Saxon England, canonized nearly 100 years after his death, is in part a figure of myths created in the late middle ages. In this revealing portrait of England's royal saint, David Woodman traces the course of

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

Edward's twenty-four-year-long reign through the lens of contemporary sources, from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and the Vita Ædwardi Regis to the Bayeux Tapestry, to separate myth from history and uncover the

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

complex politics of
his life. He shows
Edward to be a
shrewd politician
who, having
endured a long
period of exile
from England in
his youth,
ascended the
throne in 1042 and
came to control a
highly
sophisticated and

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Monarchs The
powerful
administration.

The twists and turns of Edward's reign are generally seen as a prelude to the Norman Conquest in 1066. Woodman explains clearly how events unfolded and personalities interacted but, unlike many, he

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Monarchs The

shows a capable
and impressive

king at the centre
of them.

Madness and

Majesty

Partners in

Revolution

The Life and Reign

of Britain's Most

Misunderstood

Monarch

Never a Dull

Moment

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
Not Just a British
Monarch

George II

The Failed King

'To be a medieval
king was a job of
work ... This was a
man who knew
how to run a
complex
organization. He
was England's
CEO' The

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Monarchs The

youngest of
William the

Conqueror's sons,

Henry I came to

unchallenged

power only after

two of his brothers

died in strange

hunting accidents

and he had

imprisoned the

other. He was

destined to

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
become one of the
greatest of all
medieval
monarchs, both
through his own
ruthlessness, and
through his
dynastic legacy.
Edmund King's
engrossing
portrait shows a
strikingly
charismatic,

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

intelligent and
fortunate man,

whose rule was
looked back on as
the real post-
conquest founding
of England as a
new realm:

wealthy, stable,
bureaucratized
and self-confident.

The short, action-
packed reign of

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

James II (1685-88)

is generally seen
as one of the most
catastrophic in
British history.

James managed,
despite having
access to
tremendous
reserves of good
will and deference,
to so alienate his
supporters that he

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Monarchs The Lucky King

had to flee for his life. And yet, most of that life was spent not as king but first as heir to Charles II, as Duke of York (after whom New York is named) and then in the last part of his life as the first Jacobite

'Pretender'

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
starting a problem
that would haunt
Britain's rulers for
generations.

Written by Philip
Ziegler, one of
Britain's most
celebrated
biographers,
George VI is part
of the Penguin
Monarchs series:
short, fresh, expert

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

accounts of
England's rulers in

a collectible format

If Ethelred was

notoriously

'Unready' and

Alfred 'Great', King

George VI should

bear the title of

'George the

Dutiful'.

Throughout his

life, George

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Monarchs The Lucky King

dedicated himself to the pursuit of what he thought he ought to be doing rather than what he wanted to do. Inarticulate and loathing any sort of public appearances, he accepted that it was his destiny to figure

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

conspicuously in
the public eye,
gripped his teeth,
battled his
crippling stammer
and got on with it.
He was not born to
be king, but he
made an admirable
one, and was the
figurehead of the
nation at the time
of its greatest trial,

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Lucky King

the Second World War. This is a brilliant, touching and sometimes funny book about this reluctant public figure, and the private man. Philip Ziegler is the author of the authorised biographies of Mountbatten,

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Harold Wilson and
Edward Heath. His

other books
include The
Duchess of Dino,
William IV, The
Black Death and
most recently
Olivier. Initially a
diplomat, he
worked for many
years in book
publishing before

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
becoming a full-
time writer.

'After my death,'
George V said of
his eldest son and
heir, 'the boy will
ruin himself within
twelve months.'

The forecast
proved uncannily
accurate. Edward
VIII came to the
throne in January

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Lucky King

1936, provoked a constitutional crisis by his determination to marry the American divorcée Wallis Simpson, and abdicated in December. He was never crowned king. In choosing the woman he loved over his

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

royal birthright,
Edward shook the
monarchy to its
foundations. Given
the new title 'Duke
of Windsor' and
essentially sent
into exile, he
remained a visible
skeleton in the
royal cupboard
until his death in
1972 and he

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

haunts the house
of Windsor to this
day. Drawing on
unpublished
material, notably
correspondence
with his most loyal
(though much
tried) supporter
Winston Churchill,
Piers Brendon's
superb biography
traces Edward's

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Monarchs The Lucky King

tumultuous public
and private life
from bright young
prince to troubled
sovereign, from
wartime colonial
governor to sad
but glittering
expatriate. With
pace and panache,
it cuts through the
myths that still
surround this most

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
controversial of
modern British
monarchs.

Elizabeth I

(Penguin
Monarchs)

Victoria (Penguin
Monarchs)

George III
(Penguin
Monarchs)

Edward III
(Penguin

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Monarchs The

Lucky King

Monarchs)

The Father of His

People

Henry I (Penguin

Monarchs)

A Failed King?

Part of the

Penguin Monarchs

series: short,

fresh, expert

accounts of

England's rulers

in a collectible

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Monarchs The

format Queen
Victoria King

inherited the
throne at 18 and
went on to
become the
longest-reigning
female monarch
in history, in a
time of intense
industrial,
cultural,
political,
scientific and

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Monarchs The

Lucky King

military change
within the
United Kingdom
and great
imperial
expansion
outside of it
(she was made
Empress of India
in 1876).

Overturning the
established
picture of the
dour old lady,

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

this is a fresh
and engaging

portrait from
one of our most
talented royal
biographers.

Jane Ridley is
Professor of
Modern History
at Buckingham
University,
where she
teaches a course
on biography.

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Monarchs The

Lucky King

Her previous books include The Young Disraeli; a study of Edwin Lutyens, The Architect and his Wife, which won the 2003 Duff Cooper Prize; and the best-selling Bertie: A Life of Edward VII. A

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Fellow of the
Royal Society

for Literature,
Ridley writes

for the

Spectator and
other

newspapers, and
has appeared on

radio and

several

television

documentaries.

She lives in

Read Free George I Penguin Monarchs, The Lucky King

London and
Scotland.

George I was not
the most
charismatic of
the Hanoverian
monarchs to have
reigned in
England but he
was probably the
most important.
He was certainly
the luckiest.
Born the

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
youngest son of
a landless

German duke, he
was taken by
repeated strokes
of good fortune
to become, first
the ruler of a
major state in
the Holy Roman
Empire of the
German Nation
and then the
sovereign of

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Monarchs, The
Lucky King
three kingdoms
(England,

Ireland and
Scotland). Tim

Blanning's
incisive short
biography

examines
George's life
and career as a
German prince,
and as King.

Fifty-four years
old when he

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Monarchs The

Lucky King

arrived in

London in 1714,

he was a battle-
hardened

veteran, who put
his long

experience and
deep knowledge
of international
affairs to good

use in promoting
the interests of

both Hanover and
Great Britain.

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

When he died,
his legacy was

order and
prosperity at
home and power
and prestige
abroad.

Disagreeable he
may have been to
many, but he was
also tough,
determined and
effective, at a
time when other

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Monarchs The
European thrones
Lucky King
had started to
crumble.

The acclaimed
Penguin Monarchs
series: short,
fresh, expert
accounts of
England's rulers
- now in
paperback For a
man with such
conventional
tastes and

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views, George V
had a

revolutionary
impact. Almost
despite himself
he marked a
decisive break
with his
flamboyant
predecessor
Edward VII,
inventing the
modern monarchy,
with its

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

emphasis on frequent public appearances, family values and duty. George V was an effective war-leader and inventor of 'the House of Windsor'. In an era of ever greater media coverage -

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Monarchs The

frequently
filmed and

initiating the
British Empire

Christmas
broadcast -

George became
for 25 years a
universally
recognised

figure. He was
also the only
British monarch
to take his role

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Monarchs The

Lucky King
as Emperor of
India seriously.

While his great
rivals (Tsar

Nicolas and

Kaiser Wilhelm)

ended their

reigns in

catastrophe, he

plodded on.

David

Cannadine's

sparkling

account of his

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

Lucky King

reign could not
be more
enjoyable, a
masterclass in
how to write
about Monarchy,
that central -
if peculiar -
pillar of
British life.

King of Britain
for sixty years
and the last
king of what

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Monarchs The
Lucky King,
would become the
United States,
George III
inspired both
hatred and
loyalty and is
now best known
for two reasons:
as a villainous
tyrant for
America's
Founding
Fathers, and for
his madness,

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

Lucky King

both of which
have been
portrayed on
stage and
screen. In this
concise and
penetrating
biography,
Jeremy Black
turns away from
the image-making
and back to the
archives, and
instead locates

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Monarchs The
George's life
within his age:

as a king who
faced the loss
of key colonies,
rebellion in
Ireland,
insurrection in
London,
constitutional
crisis in
Britain and an
existential
threat from

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Monarchs The

Lucky King

Revolutionary
France as part
of modern
Britain's
longest period
of war. Black
shows how George
III rose to
these challenges
with fortitude
and helped
settle
parliamentary
monarchy as an

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Monarchs The

Lucky King

effective
governmental
system,
eventually
becoming the
most popular
monarch for well
over a century.
He also shows us
a talented and
curious
individual,
committed to
music, art,

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
architecture and
science, who

took the duties
of monarchy
seriously, from
reviewing death
penalties to
trying to
control his
often wayward
children even as
his own mental
health failed,
and became

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Monarchs The

Britain's
longest reigning

king.

George I

(Penguin

Monarchs)

A King at Sea

The Quest for

Fame

John (Penguin

Monarchs)

Henry II

(Penguin

Monarchs)

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

The Last
Catholic King

William I

(Penguin

Monarchs)

A major new

title in the

Penguin Monarchs

series In his

fascinating new

book in the

Penguin Monarchs

series, Richard

Abels examines

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Monarchs The

Lucky King

the long and
troubled reign
of Aethelred II
the 'Unraed',
the 'Ill-
Advised'. It is
characteristic
of Aethelred's
reign that its
greatest
surviving work
of literature,
the poem The
Battle of

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

Maldon, should
be a record of
heroic defeat.
Perhaps no ruler
could have
stemmed the
encroachment of
wave upon wave
of Viking
raiders, but
Aethelred will
always be
associated with
that failure.

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
Richard Abels is
Professor

Emeritus at the
United States
Naval Academy.

He is the author
of Alfred the
Great: War,
Kingship and
Culture in Anglo-
Saxon England
and Lordship and
Military
Obligation in

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
Anglo-Saxon
England. He is a

Fellow of the
Royal Historical
Society.

Edward III lived
through bloody
and turbulent
times. His
father was
deposed by his
mother and her
lover when he
was still a

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Monarchs The

teenager; a
third of

England's

population was

killed by the

Black Death

midway through

his reign; and

the intractable

Hundred Years

War with France

began under his

leadership. Yet

Edward managed

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Monarchs The

Lucky King
to rule England
for fifty years,

and was viewed
as a paragon of
kingship in the
eyes of both his
contemporaries
and later
generations.

Venerated as the
victor of Sluys
and Crécy and
the founder of
the Order of the

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

Garter, he was
regarded with

awe even by his
enemies. But he
lived too long,
and was
ultimately
condemned to see
thirty years of
conquests
reversed in less
than five. In
this gripping
new account of

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

Edward III's
rise and fall,

Jonathan
Sumption

introduces us to
a fêted king who
ended his life a
heroic failure.

Part of the
Penguin Monarchs
series: short,
fresh, expert
accounts of
England's rulers

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
in a collectible
format Henry VII

was one of
England's
unlikeliest
monarchs. An
exile and
outsider with
barely a claim
to the throne,
his victory over
Richard III at
Bosworth Field
seemed to many

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

in 1485 like
only the latest
in the sequence
of violent
convulsions
among England's
nobility that
would come to be
known as the
wars of the
roses - with
little to
suggest that the
obscure Henry

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

would last any longer than his predecessor. To break that cycle of division, usurpation, deposition and murder, he had both to maintain a grip on power and to convince England that his rule was both rightful and

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Monarchs The Lucky King

effective. Here,
Sean Cunningham
explores how, in
his ruthless,
controlling and
personal
kingship, Henry
VII did so; in
the process
founding the
Tudor dynasty
and, arguably,
helping to lay
the foundations

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

for modern
government. Sean

Cunningham is a

Principal

Records

Specialist at

The National

Archives. A

Fellow of the

Royal Historical

Society, he has

published widely

on late medieval

and early Tudor

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

England. His
books include,

most recently, a
historical
biography of
Henry VII.

Despite a long
and eventful
reign, Britain's
George II is a
largely
forgotten
monarch, his
achievements

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
overlooked and
his abilities
misunderstood.

This landmark
biography
uncovers
extensive new
evidence in
British and
German archives,
making possible
the most
complete and
accurate

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
assessment of
this thirty-

three-year
reign. Andrew C.
Thompson paints
a richly
detailed
portrait of the
many-faceted
monarch in his
public as well
as his private
life. Born in
Hanover in 1683,

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George Augustus first came to London in 1714 as the new Prince of Wales. He assumed the throne in 1727, held it until his death in 1760, and has the distinction of being Britain's last foreign-born

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Monarchs The

Lucky King
king and the
last king to

lead an army in

battle. With

George's story

at its heart,

the book

reconstructs his

thoughts and

actions through

a careful

reading of the

letters and

papers of those

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Monarchs The
around him.

Lucky King
Thompson

explores the
previously
underappreciated
roles George
played in the
political
processes of
Britain,
especially in
foreign policy,
and also charts
the intricacies

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
of the king's
complicated

relationships
and reassesses

the lasting
impact of his
frequent return
trips to

Hanover. George
II emerges from
these pages as
an independent
and cosmopolitan
figure of

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

undeniable
historical

fascination.

Edward IV

(Penguin

Monarchs)

George IV

George VI

(Penguin

Monarchs)

A Simple and God-

Fearing King

George V,

1910-1936

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

Henry VII

Lucky King

(Penguin

Monarchs)

A Study in

Insecurity

For a man with

such

conventional

tastes and

views, George V

had a

revolutionary

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Monarchs The Lucky King

impact. Almost
despite himself
he marked a
decisive break
with his
flamboyant
predecessor
Edward VII,
inventing the
modern
monarchy, with
its emphasis on

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
frequent public
appearances,
family values
and duty.

George V was an
effective war-
leader and
inventor of 'the
House of
Windsor'. In an
era of ever
greater media c

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

coverage--frequently filmed and initiating the British Empire Christmas broadcast--George became for 25 years a universally recognised figure. He was also the only

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

British monarch
to take his role
as Emperor of
India seriously.
While his great
rivals (Tsar
Nicolas and
Kaiser Wilhelm)
ended their
reigns in
catastrophe, he
plodded on.

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

David
Cannadine's
sparkling
account of his
reign could not
be more
enjoyable, a
masterclass in
how to write
about Monarchy,
that central--if
peculiar--pillar

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

of British life.

King John ruled
England for
seventeen and a
half years, yet
his entire reign
is usually
reduced to one
image: of the
villainous
monarch
outmanoeuvred

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

by rebellious
barons into
agreeing to
Magna Carta at
Runnymede in
1215. Ever
since, John has
come to be seen
as an archetypal
tyrant. But how
evil was he? In
this perceptive

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

short account,
Nicholas Vincent
unpicks John's
life through his
deeds and his
personality. The
youngest of four
brothers,
overlooked and
given a
distinctly
unroyal name,

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Monarchs The Lucky King

John seemed doomed to failure. As king, he was reputedly cruel and treacherous, pursuing his own interests at the expense of his country, losing the continental

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Monarchs The

empire

Lucky King

bequeathed to

him by his

father Henry

and his brother

Richard and

eventually

plunging

England into

civil war. Only

his lordship of

Ireland showed

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

some success.

Yet, as this
fascinating
biography asks,
were his crimes
necessarily
greater than
those of his
ancestors - or
was he judged
more harshly
because,

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
ultimately, he
failed as a
warlord?

William III and
Mary II,
England's only
ever 'joint
monarchs',
changed the
course of the
country's
history, coming

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Monarchs The Lucky King

to power
through a coup,
re-establishing
parliament on a
new footing and
initiating a long
period of
expansion that
transformed
England into a
world power.

Jonathan Keates'

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

account of their
dramatic reign
makes both
monarchs vivid:
the shrewd
'Dutch' military
champion
William of
Orange, and the
vulnerable,
shortlived Mary,
whose life as a

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Monarchs The Lucky King

'celebrity' royal
and untimely
death at thirty-
four inspired
Purcell to write
some of his
greatest music.
As Keates
makes clear,
William and
Mary's reign was
crucial to the

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

evolution of the
modern nation,
from the
'Glorious
Revolution' that
began it, to the
creation of the
Bank of England,
the modern
British armed
forces and, most
crucially, a

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
realm in which
royal power

required popular
consent.

Henry III was a
medieval king
whose long reign
continues to
have a profound
impact on us
today. He was
on the throne

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Monarchs The Lucky King

for 56 years and during this time England was transformed from being the private plaything of a French speaking dynasty into a medieval state in which the king answered

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Monarchs The Lucky King

for his actions to
an English
parliament,
which emerged
during Henry's
lifetime. Despite
Henry's central
importance for
the birth of
parliament and
the
development of

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

a state
recognisably

modern in many
of its

institutions, it is

Henry's most

vociferous

opponent,

Simon de

Montfort, who is

in many ways

more famous

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Monarchs The

Lucky King

than the
monarch

himself. Henry is
principally
known today as
the driving force
behind the
building of
Westminster
Abbey, but he
deserves to be
better

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

understood for
many reasons -
as Stephen
Church's
sparkling
account makes
clear. Part of the
Penguin
Monarchs series:
short, fresh,
expert accounts
of England's

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
rulers in a highly
collectible
format

The Unexpected
King

The Dutiful King

The Making of
England

Edward VIII

(Penguin

Monarchs)

William III and

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

Mary II
Lucky King
King in Waiting

Richard III

(Penguin
Monarchs)

George IV spent most of his life waiting to become king: as a pleasure-loving and rebellious Prince of Wales during the sixty-year reign of

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I Penguin

Monarchs, The
Lucky King

**his father, George
III, and for ten years
as Prince Regent,
when his father
went mad. 'The days
are very long when
you have nothing to
do' he once wrote
plaintively, but he
did his best to fill
them with pleasure -
women, art, food,
wine, fashion,
architecture. He**

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King

**presided over the
creation of the
Regency style,
which came to
epitomise the era,
and he was, with
Charles I, the most
artistically literate of
all our kings. Yet
despite his life of
luxury and
indulgence, George
died alone and
unmourned. Stella**

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

Lucky King

Tillyard has not written a judgemental book, but a very human and enjoyable one, about this most colourful of all British kings.

From one of the most beloved and distinguished historians of the British monarchy, here is a lively,

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I Penguin

Monarchs, The
Lucky King

**intimately detailed
biography of a long-
overlooked king
who reimagined the
Crown in the
aftermath of World
War I and whose
marriage to the
regal Queen Mary
was an epic
partnership The
grandfather of
Queen Elizabeth II,
King George V**

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

reigned over the
British Empire from
1910 to 1936, a
period of
unprecedented
international
turbulence. Yet no
one could deny that
as a young man,
George seemed
uninspired. As his
biographer Harold
Nicolson famously
put it, "he did

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

nothing at all but kill
animals and stick in
stamps.” The

contrast between
him and his
flamboyant,
hedonistic, playboy
father Edward VII
could hardly have
been greater.

However, though it
lasted only a quarter-
century, George's
reign was

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Monarchs The

immensely
consequential. He

faced a

constitutional crisis,

the First World War,

the fall of thirteen

European

monarchies and the

rise of Bolshevism.

The suffragette

Emily Davison threw

herself under his

horse at the Derby,

he refused asylum

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

**to his cousin the
Tsar Nicholas II
during the Russian
Revolution, and he
facilitated the first
Labour government.
And, as Jane Ridley
shows, the modern
British monarchy
would not exist
without George; he
reinvented the
institution, allowing
it to survive and**

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King

**thrive when its very
existence seemed
doomed. The status
of the British
monarchy today,
she argues, is due
in large part to him.
How this
supposedly limited
man managed to
steer the crown
through so many
perils and adapt an
essentially Victorian**

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King

**institution to the
twentieth century is
a great story in
itself. But this book
is also a riveting
portrait of a royal
marriage and family
life. Queen Mary
played a pivotal role
in the reign as well
as being an
important figure in
her own right. Under
the couple's**

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King

**stewardship, the
crown emerged
stronger than ever.
George V founded
the modern
monarchy, and yet
his disastrous
quarrel with his
eldest son, the Duke
of Windsor,
culminated in the
existential crisis of
the Abdication only
months after his**

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King

**death. Jane Ridley
has had
unprecedented
access to the
archives, and for the
first time is able to
reassess in full the
many myths
associated with this
crucial and dramatic
time. She brings us
a royal family and
world not long
vanished, and not**

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

so far from our own.
Lucky King
William IV, the

'Sailor King',

reigned for just

seven years. Rash

and impetuous as a

young man, he was

sent to join the navy

by his father,

George III, to bring

him to order, but he

was overpromoted

at an early age and

saw his years of

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Monarchs, The
active service

Lucky King
marked by a series
of calamities. He
was also notorious
for his mounting
debts and his long
relationship with the
actress Mrs Jordan,
with whom he had
ten children. Yet, as
Roger Knight, one
of Britain's foremost
naval historians,
shows in this

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King
concise and
perceptive

biography, William's
bluff, unpolished
sailor's manner
made him popular
with the people.

Inheriting the throne
amid strikes, riots
and the push for
parliamentary
reform, he helped
see the country
through the great

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King

**constitutional crisis
of the era. Despite
his many flaws, he
was perhaps a
better king than
sailor, leaving the
monarchy in a
healthier state than
when he found it,
and enabling the
smooth succession
of his niece,
Victoria.**

George III, Britain's

Page 125/195

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King
longest-reigning
king, has gone
down in history as
'the cruellest tyrant
of this age' (Thomas
Paine, eighteenth
century), 'a
sovereign who
inflicted more
profound and
enduring injuries
upon this country
than any other
modern English

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
**king' (WEH Lecky,
nineteenth century),**

**'one of England's
most disastrous
kings' (JH Plumb,
twentieth century)**

**and as the
pompous, camp and
sinister monarch of
the musical
'Hamilton' (twenty-
first century).**

**Andrew Roberts's
magnificent new**

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King
biography takes
entirely the opposite
view. It convincingly
portrays George as
intelligent,
benevolent,
scrupulously
devoted to the
constitution of his
country and (as
head of government
as well as head of
state) navigating the
turbulence of

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King

**eighteenth-century
politics with a
strong sense of
honour and duty. He
was a devoted
husband and family
man, a great patron
of the arts and
sciences, keen
(‘Farmer George’) to
advance Britain’s
agricultural capacity
and determined that
her horizons should**

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

be global. The book gives a detailed, revisionist account of the American War of Independence, amongst other things persuasively taking apart a significant proportion of the Declaration of Independence. In a later war, it shows how George's

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support for William Pitt was crucial to the battle against Napoleon. And it makes a credible, modern diagnosis of George's terrible malady which robbed him of his mind for the last 10 years of his life - his other main claim to the popular imagination.

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

**Roberts argues that,
far from being a
tyrant or
incompetent,
George III was one
of our most
admirable
monarchs. George
III shows one of
Britain's premier
historians at his
sparkling best.
The Last King of
America**

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

**Hot Dog! Eleanor
Roosevelt Throws a
Picnic**

**Henry VIII (Penguin
Monarchs)**

**The Uncrowned
King**

**From Playboy
Prince to Warrior
King**

**Athelstan (Penguin
Monarchs)**

**James I (Penguin
Monarchs)**

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Monarchs The Lucky King

In 1461 Edward earl of March, an able, handsome, and charming eighteen-year old, usurped the English throne from his feeble Lancastrian predecessor Henry VI. Ten years on, following outbreaks of civil conflict that culminated in him losing, then regaining the crown, he had

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

finally secured his kingdom. The years that followed witnessed a period of rule that has been described as a golden age: a time of peace and economic and industrial expansion, which saw the establishment of a style of monarchy that the Tudors would later develop. Yet, argues

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

A. J. Pollard, Edward,
who was drawn to a
life of sexual and
epicurean excess,
was a man of limited
vision, his reign
remaining to the very
end the narrow rule of
a victorious faction in
civil war. Ultimately,
his failure was
dynastic: barely two
months after his death
in April 1483, the

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

throne was usurped
by Edward's youngest
brother, Richard III.

No English king has
so divided opinion,
both during his reign
and in the centuries
since, more than

Richard III. He was
loathed in his own
time for the never-
confirmed murder of
his young nephews,
the Princes in the

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

Tower, and died fighting his own subjects on the battlefield. This is the vision of Richard we have inherited from Shakespeare.

Equally, he inspired great loyalty in his followers. In this enlightening, even-handed study, Rosemary Horrox builds a complex

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

picture of a king who by any standard failed as a monarch. He was killed after only two years on the throne, without an heir, and brought such a decisive end to the House of York that Henry Tudor was able to seize the throne, despite his extremely tenuous claim. Whether

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Monarchs The Lucky King

Richard was undone by his own fierce ambitions, or by the legacy of a Yorkist dynasty which was already profoundly dysfunctional, the end result was the same: Richard III destroyed the very dynasty that he had spent his life so passionately defending.

In June of 1939, the

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Monarchs The Lucky King

United States played host to two very special guests. British monarchs King George VI and Queen Elizabeth were coming to America. As it was the first visit ever by reigning British royalty, it was a chance for America to build a stronger relationship with the British, especially in

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
those challenging
times. On the

domestic side, many
people didn't have
jobs, housing, or food.
Internationally, Adolf
Hitler, Germany's
leader, was
threatening the
countries around him
and war loomed on
the horizon. But First
Lady Eleanor
Roosevelt saw the

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Lucky King

visit as an opportunity for America to set aside its cares for a while and extend a warm welcome and hand of friendship to the royal guests. As part of the festivities, Eleanor hosts an all-American picnic that includes hot dogs, a menu item that shocks some people. The formation of

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Lucky King

England occurred against the odds: an island divided into rival kingdoms, under savage assault from Viking hordes. But, after King Alfred ensured the survival of Wessex and his son Edward expanded it, his grandson Athelstan inherited the rule of both Mercia and

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
Wessex, conquered
Northumbria and was
hailed as Rex totius
Britanniae: 'King of
the whole of Britain'.

Tom Holland recounts
this extraordinary
story with relish and
drama, transporting
us back to a time of
omens, raven
harbingers and blood-
red battlefields. As
well as giving form to

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

the figure of Athelstan
- devout, shrewd, all
too aware of the
precarious nature of
his power, especially
in the north - he
introduces the great
figures of the age,
including Alfred and
his daughter
Aethelflaed, 'Lady of
the Mercians', who
brought Athelstan up
at the Mercian court.

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

Making sense of the family rivalries and fractious conflicts of the Anglo-Saxon rulers, Holland shows us how a royal dynasty rescued their kingdom from near-oblivion and fashioned a nation that endures to this day.

The Phoenix King
Queen, Matriarch,

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

Empress

Lucky King

America's Last King

Edward the Confessor

(Penguin Monarchs)

A Prince Among

Princes

George VI

Aethelred the

Unready (Penguin

Monarchs)

From the

celebrated

historian and

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Monarchs The
author of Europe:
Lucky King
A History, a new

life of George II
George II, King of
Great Britain and
Ireland and
Elector of
Hanover, came to
Britain for the
first time when he
was thirty-one. He
had a terrible
relationship with

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

his father, George I, which was later paralleled by his relationship to his own son. He was short-tempered and uncultivated, but in his twenty-three-year reign he presided over a great flourishing in his adoptive country -

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

economic, military
and cultural - all

described with
characteristic wit
and elegance by
Norman Davies.

(George II so
admired the
Hallelujah chorus
in Handel's
Messiah that he
stood while it was
being performed -

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

as modern
audiences still

do.) Much of his attention remained in Hanover and on continental politics, as a result of which he was the last British monarch to lead his troops into battle, at Dettingen in 1744.

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

Charismatic,
insatiable and
cruel, Henry VIII
was, as John Guy
shows, a king who
became
mesmerized by
his own legend -
and in the process
destroyed and
remade England.
Said to be a
'pillager of the

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King
commonwealth',
this most instantly
recognizable of
kings remains a
figure of extreme
contradictions:
magnificent and
vengeful; a devout
traditionalist who
oversaw a
cataclysmic
rupture with the
church in Rome; a

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

talented, towering
figure who

nevertheless

could not bear to

meet people's

eyes when he

talked to them. In

this revealing new

account, John Guy

looks behind the

mask into Henry's

mind to explore

how he

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

understood the
world and his

place in it - from
his isolated

upbringing and the
blazing glory of

his accession, to
his desperate

quest for fame

and an heir and

the terrifying

paranoia of his

last, agonising,

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King
54-inch-waisted
years.

The definitive
biography of
George VI, the
hero of The
King's Speech
George VI reigned
through taxing
times. Acceding to
the throne upon
his brother's
abdication, he was

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Monarchs, The
Lucky King

immediately
confronted with

the turmoil in
European politics
leading up to the
Second World
War, then the War
itself, followed by
a period of
austerity, social
transformation
and loss of
Empire. George

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

was unprepared for kingship, suffering from a stammer which could make public occasions very painful for him. Moreover he had grown up in the shadow of his brother, a man who had been idolized as no

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

royal prince has
been, before or
since. However,
as Sarah Bradford
shows in this
sympathetic
biography,
although George
was not born to be
king, he died a
great one. 'A
triumph ... Sarah
Bradford looks set

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King

to inherit Lady
Longford's mantle
as royal
biographer
supreme' Mail on
Sunday 'Lucid,
convincing and
admirably fair ...
George VI has
been fortunate in
his biographer'
Philip Ziegler
'Vivid, thorough

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I Penguin

Monarchs The
Lucky King

and enjoyable'
Independent Sarah
Bradford is a
historian and
biographer. Her
books include
Cesare Borgia
(1976), Disraeli
(1982), winner of
the New York
Times Book of the
Year, Princess
Grace (1984),

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Monarchs The

Sacherevell
Sitwell (1993),

Elizabeth: A

Biography of Her

Majesty the

Queen (1996),

America's Queen:

The Life of

Jacqueline

Kennedy Onassis

(2000), Lucrezia

Borgia (2005) and

Diana (2007).She

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
lives in London
and is married to
the 8th Viscount
Bangor. She is
currently working
on a full scale
biography of
Queen Victoria.
Foremost
medieval historian
Anne Curry offers
a new
reinterpretation of

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Monarchs The Lucky King

Henry V and the battle that defined his kingship: Agincourt Henry V's invasion of France, in August 1415, represented a huge gamble. As heir to the throne, he had been a failure, cast into the political wilderness amid

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Monarchs The Lucky King

rumours that he planned to depose his father. Despite a complete change of character as king - founding monasteries, persecuting heretics, and enforcing the law to its extremes - little had gone right since. He

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

was insecure in his kingdom, his reputation low. On the eve of his departure for France, he uncovered a plot by some of his closest associates to remove him from power.

Agincourt was a battle that Henry

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

should not have won - but he did, and the rest is history. Within five years, he was heir to the throne of France. In this vivid new interpretation, Anne Curry explores how Henry's hyperactive

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

efforts to expunge
his past failures,
and his
experience of
crisis - which
threatened to ruin
everything he had
struggled to
achieve - defined
his kingship, and
how his
astonishing
success at

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Monarchs The

Agincourt

Lucky King
transformed his

standing in the

eyes of his

contemporaries,

and of all

generations to

come.

The Lucky King

The Sainted King

George IV

(Penguin

Monarchs)

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I Penguin

Henry V (Penguin
Monarchs)

A Heroic Failure

George V

(Penguin
Monarchs)

England's

Conqueror

Part of the

Penguin

Monarchs

series: short,

fresh, expert

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
accounts of
England's

rulers in a
collectible
format In the
popular
imagination, as
in her
portraits,
Elizabeth I is
the image of
monarchical
power. The

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Monarchs The
Virgin Queen
Lucky King

ruled over a
Golden Age: the
Spanish Armada
was defeated
and England's
enemies
scattered;
English
explorers
reached almost
to the ends of
the earth; a

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Monarchs The Lucky King

new Church of
England rose
from the ashes
of past
conflict, and
the English
Renaissance
bloomed in the
genius of
Shakespeare,
Spenser and
Sidney. But the
image is also

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

armour. In this
illuminating
new account of
Elizabeth's
reign, Helen
Castor shows
how England's
iconic queen
was shaped by
profound and
enduring
insecurity—an
insecurity

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

which was both
a matter of
practical
political
reality and
personal
psychology.

From her
precarious
upbringing at
the whim of a
brutal,
capricious

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

father and her
perilous

accession after
his death, to
the religious
division that
marred her
state and the
failure to
marry that
threatened her
line, Elizabeth
lived under

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

Lucky King

constant
threat. But,
facing down her
enemies with a
compellingly
inscrutable
public persona,
the last and
greatest of the
Tudor monarchs
would become a
timeless,
fearless queen.

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Monarchs The Lucky King

The sixty-year reign of George III (1760–1820) witnessed and participated in some of the most critical events of modern world history: the ending of the Seven Years' War with

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Monarchs, The
Lucky King

France, the
American War of
Independence,
the French
Revolutionary
Wars, the
campaign
against
Napoleon
Bonaparte and
battle of
Waterloo in
1815, and Union

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

with Ireland in
1801. Despite
the pathos of
the last years
of the mad,
blind, and
neglected
monarch, it is
a life full of
importance and
interest.

Jeremy Black's
biography deals

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
comprehensively
with the

politics, the
wars, and the
domestic
issues, and
harnesses the
richest range
of unpublished
sources in
Britain,
Germany, and
the United

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

States. But,
using George

III's own
prolific
correspondence,
it also
interrogates
the man
himself, his
strong
religious
faith, and his
powerful sense

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Monarchs The Lucky King

of moral duty
to his family
and to his
nation. Black
considers the
king's
scientific,
cultural, and
intellectual
interests as no
other
biographer has
done, and

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

explores how he
was viewed by

his

contemporaries.

Identifying

George as the

last British

ruler of the

Thirteen

Colonies, Black

reveals his

strong personal

engagement in

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

the struggle
for America and
argues that
George himself,
his intentions
and policies,
were key to the
conflict.

James's reign
marked one of
the very rare
major breaks in
England's

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I Penguin

Monarchs The

monarchy.

Lucky King

Already James

VI of Scotland

and a highly

experienced

ruler who had

established his

authority over

the Scottish

Kirk, he

marched south

on Elizabeth

I's death to

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

become James I
of England and
Ireland,
uniting the
British Isles
for the first
time and
founding the
Stuart dynasty
which would,
with several
lurches, reign
for over a

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Monarchs The
Lucky King

century. Indeed
his descendant
still occupies
the throne. A
complex,
curious man and
great survivor,
James
drastically
changed court
life in London
and presided
over such major

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Monarchs The
Lucky King
projects as the
Authorized

Version of the
Bible and the
establishment
of English
settlements in
Virginia,
Massachusetts,
Gujarat and the
Caribbean.
Although he
failed to unite

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Monarchs The Lucky King

England and
Scotland, he
insisted that
ambassadors
acknowledge him
as King of
Great Britain
and that
vessels from
both countries
display a
version of the
current Union

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Flag. He was often accused of being too informal and insufficiently regal - but when his son, Charles I, decided to redress these criticisms in his own reign he was

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destroyed. How
much of the
roots of this
disaster were
to be found in
James's reign
is one of the
many problems
dramatized in
Thomas
Cogswell's
brilliant and
highly

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entertaining
Lucky King
new book.

James II

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William IV

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George II

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Monarchs)

The

Misunderstood

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Reign of George
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III

King and

Elector

George V

An Evil King?