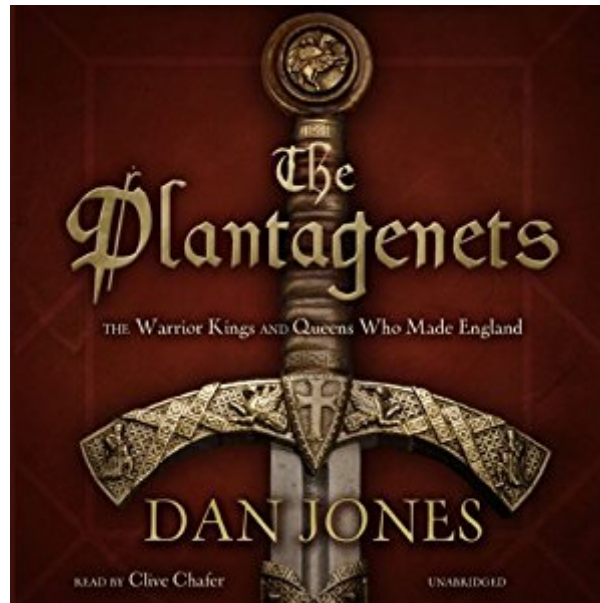


The book was found

# The Plantagenets: The Warrior Kings And Queens Who Made England



## Synopsis

The first Plantagenet king inherited a blood-soaked kingdom from the Normans and transformed it into an empire that stretched at its peak from Scotland to Jerusalem. In this epic history, Dan Jones vividly resurrects this fierce and seductive royal dynasty and its mythic world. We meet the captivating Eleanor of Aquitaine, twice queen and the most famous woman in Christendom; her son, Richard the Lionheart, who fought Saladin in the Third Crusade; and King John, a tyrant who was forced to sign Magna Carta, which formed the basis of our own Bill of Rights. This is the era of chivalry, Robin Hood, and the Knights Templar, the era of the Black Death, the Black Prince, the founding of Parliament, and the Hundred Years' War.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 20 hours and 49 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Blackstone Audio, Inc.

Audible.com Release Date: April 18, 2013

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B00BSUN1Y8

Best Sellers Rank: #31 in Books > History > Europe > Great Britain > England #44 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Europe #174 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe

## Customer Reviews

Dan Jones spectacular new (to America) history of England's Plantagenet dynasty from its founding by Geoffrey of Anjou to Richard II's loss of the Crown to Henry of Bolingbroke, or 1120-1399. It was a span of English history that saw the signing of the Magna Carta, the conquest of Wales, and the first half of the Hundred Years' War. The Plantagenet kings included some of the most well known English monarchs (well known even here in America)--Richard the Lionheart, John, and Edward Longshanks. It also included less well known (at least by me), but equally important, monarchs--Henry II and Edward III. Of lesser repute were Henry III, Edward II, and Richard II (and Jones accepts the conventional wisdom that John belongs in that group). Military tactics evolved from sieges led by mounted knights to pitched battles won by archers and dismounted men-at-arms.

The two centuries saw not only the Magna Carta (and the Charter of the Forest) but a number of other, important charters (and the Magna Carta itself needed constant renewal against kings chafing under its yoke). We see English power erode in France and grown in Wales and Scotland. Covering two centuries of history in a single volume is a tall order. Jones succeeds, but the task requires certain sacrifices nonetheless. The Plantagenets is a history of England, but it is one told through the eyes of its kings. The focus is on England's great battles and the struggle for power between the king and the barons. Jones does a particularly great job at tracking the progress of the great charters the barons forced out of successive kings.

This is a great book that covers the history of English Kings from White Ship disaster which killed Henry I son William (and pretty much ended the Norman dynasty) and ends with Henry Bollingbrook's invasion and usurping of the throne from Richard II. This is very much a kings, war and diplomacy book. It does not tell much about everyday life in medieval England. Instead it tells the hard facts of the Plantagenet dynasty from its beginning to end. The most surprising thing about the story is how few good kings England actually had. Really only Henry II and Edward III could be described as great kings and both of them left disastrous sons as heirs. Henry III was a religious flake who managed to get so cross ways with his barons he ended up being effectively disposed by Simon DeMontfort. Edward I, for all of his fame as conqueror of Wales and Hammer of the Scots, left the country bankrupt upon his death. And those two were not even particularly disastrous kings. Then of course there were the truly bad kings. First and foremost was of course John. The book is very instructive in debunking myths about kings. John for all of his fearsome reputation, was no worse a tyrant than his father and older brother and actually did his best to run a fair judicial system (so much for the Robin Hood myth). But what John didn't do, that is brother and father did, was protect the realm. John suffered devastating military defeats at the hands of King Phillip losing Normandy. The loss of Normandy explains many of the problems later kings would have with their barons. Before John lost Normandy, the barons were a cross channel aristocracy who had every reason to support the Kings wars in France.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Plantagenets: The Warrior Kings and Queens Who Made England The Lives Of The Kings & Queens of England Rat Queens Volume 2: The Far Reaching Tentacles of N'Rygoth (Rat Queens Tp) Kings and Queens Kings and Queens of Central Africa (Watts Library) The Wars of the Roses: The Fall of the Plantagenets and the Rise of the Tudors Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, and Brazil Win, and Why the U.S., Japan, Australia&#151;and Even

Iraq&#151;Are Destined to Become the Kings of the World&#146;s Most Popular Sport  
Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, and Brazil Win, and Why the U.S.,  
Japan, Australia&#151;and Even Iraq&#151;Are Destined to Become the Kings of the World's Most  
Popular Sport Dream Homes New England: Showcasing New England's Finest Architects,  
Designers and Builders Tudors: The History of England From Henry VIII to Elizabeth I: History of  
England, Book 2 New England Open-House Cookbook: 300 Recipes Inspired by the Bounty of New  
England Foundation: The History of England from Its Earliest Beginnings to the Tudors: The History  
of England, Book 1 Tudors: The History of England from Henry VIII to Elizabeth I (History of  
England series, Book 2) The Casserole Queens Make-a-Meal Cookbook: Mix and Match 100  
Casseroles, Salads, Sides, and Desserts Circus and Carnival Ballyhoo: Sideshow Freaks, Jabbers  
and Blade Box Queens The Sweet Potato Queens' Big-Ass Cookbook (and Financial Planner) City  
of Gods: Religious Freedom, Immigration, and Pluralism in Flushing, Queens The Hundred  
Thousand Fools of God: Musical Travels in Central Asia (and Queens, New York) The Rival  
Queens: Catherine de' Medici, Her Daughter Marguerite de Valois, and the Betrayal that Ignited a  
Kingdom Sister Queens: The Noble, Tragic Lives of Katherine of Aragon and Juana, Queen of  
Castile

[Dmca](#)