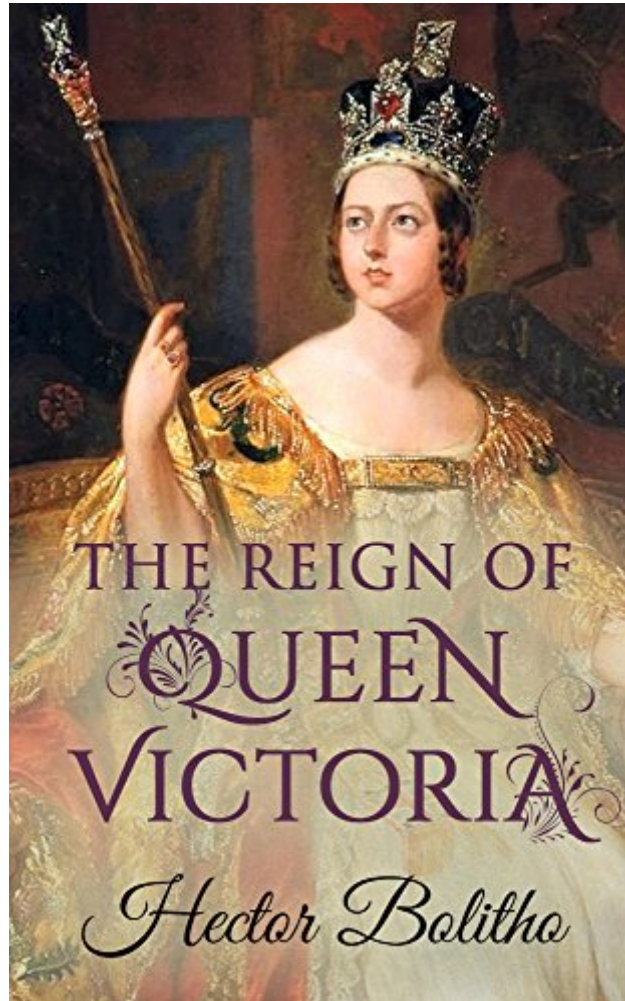




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The Reign Of Queen Victoria



Synopsis

Queen Victoria remains one of the greatest figures in British history, not simply because of the tremendous position which she occupied for so long, but because she was in so many ways herself an extraordinary character. From the day when, as a young girl of eighteen, she succeeded to the throne, she showed that a constitutional monarch could still have a will of her own and that her words could make statesmen tremble. In this classic biography Hector Bolitho analyses the phases of the Queen's life; her childhood and upbringing, her all too brief married life with Albert, the years of retirement behind the great walls of Windsor and the more remote fastnesses of Deeside. Although Bolitho calls his book *The Reign of Queen Victoria*, his work is essentially a record of a remarkable woman and her husband, their personal lives and characters, rather than a political history of her reign. It describes the childhood and youth of Victoria and Albert in alternate chapters so that the reader can see the two growing up side by side yet independently, and can trace the gradual evolution of their characters in isolation until they come together. The expansion of the Prince's influence, first over the Queen, then on successive Cabinets and Prime Ministers, and finally on every aspect of the national life, is traced, and the importance of his reforming zeal is clearly brought out, particularly in its lasting influence on Victoria herself, which controlled to the end the more irrational elements of her character. Praise for Hector Bolitho – "Flowing and lively" – "Cobden Sanderson" Hector Bolitho (1897-1974) was born in New Zealand but settled in Britain, where he wrote over fifty books and worked as a freelance journalist. His other books include *Albert: Prince Consort* and *A Penguin in the Eyrie*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

She may have been this long running but very 19th century and the book is almost as long as her reign. Yawner for most part. Unless marooned on a desert island, you can find a better way to spend 10 hours.

I haven't read it yet, but what I see, I am anxious to start.

very interesting history references. Liked the tale.

The Reign of Queen Victoria by Hector Bolitho is a free NetGalley ebook that I read in between the latter part of finals week and Christmas of 2015. Since a few monarchy biographies have dotted my reading list this year, I thought I'd focus on the Queen Vic. The Reign of Queen Victoria is a mighty 400+ page tome that is surprisingly light - originally published in 1949 with its second edition being released in 2015, Bolitho lets the reader know right away that he doesn't want to bog the text down with needless referencing and footnotes. So, each 1-6 page chapter covers the spanse of a month or two in the day-to-day life of V.R. with depth, yet also with levity and strong feminine character.

This is a splendid book which tells the story of a truely fascinating historical personality. Before I read this book, I knew the basic outlines of Queen Victoria's life. This book provides the reader with the details context and background that filled in the blanks. The author covers Victoria's long life and reign year by year. Each chapter approximates one year. Although this approach may seem intimidating given the length of Victoria's life, these chapters are reasonably short. The author covers all the main events and characters. I really enjoyed the depiction of the personalities involved and the author's balanced portraits. I did find the political struggles somewhat confusing which is probably a reflection of my lack of a detailed understanding of British history. In addition, I found it hard to follow all the titles and distinguish between all the children and relatives. Photographs of the

main characters would have been greatly appreciated. I especially enjoyed the relationship between Victoria and Albert as well as the depiction of their relationship with Bertie. Overall I learned a lot and enjoyed this book.

I received this book in exchange for an honest review. If you are interested in the history of Queen Victoria or the English Monarchy in general then this book is for you. It is very well written and she was just an all out fascinating woman. The author did a great job bringing Queen Victoria to life. Great job.

I received this book from NetGallery in exchange for an honest review. I love anything about Queen Victoria after watching the movie young victoria. I really enjoyed reading her fathers letters I didn't know much about him before now. While I am 3/4 of the way through I highly recommend it to anyone who enjoys Queen Victoria. Hector Bolitho did his research very well.

I very much enjoyed this book, which was written not so long after the queen's demise. The chapters have headings with a cast of characters so you know who's who. It's a brilliant book.

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