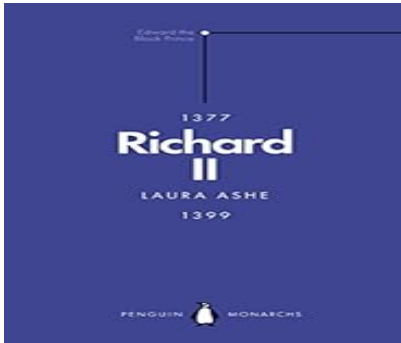


# Richard iceman



So far I've read 4 other biographies in the Penguin Monarch series This one was written rather differently to those It's presented not as a historical chronology of Richard II's reign but rather as a series of themes Parliament; Battlefield; City and Shrine The other Penguin Monarch series biographies successfully gave me an overview of the monarch in question's life along with interesting details and vignettes into their reign This didn't and so it left me dissatisfied as it got bogged down with too many diversions into interesting but nevertheless tenuously related other topics mainly literary appreciation The Penguin Monarch series are by design short overviews limiting themselves to anything between 75 to 150 pages so they have to be concise if you are going to cover a biography in that restricted space when you arrange it thematically you make it even more restrictive end result an unsatisfying read Normally with a straight chronological presentation of a monarch's reign you get a sense of the person how they change how they mature how they react to events as they unfold but when you present a life thematically you get a very narrow view on that one theme you are reading at that moment You rob the reader of some of the context to be able to understand the events unfolding because you are stuck restricted within that theme In addition your contextual understanding is naturally reduced because you won't have read later chapters yet in which they may have illuminated you on something or some event that has gone before and crucial to what you are reading right at that moment In of themselves the different themes are interesting but I felt they failed to illuminate me with any wider understanding of Richard or his reign For example quotes from Shakespeare who was writing his plays nearly 200 years after the reign of Richard is hardly germane to understanding Richard's reign but to understanding how Shakespeare and his generation interpreted it or maybe demonstrating the literary credentials of the author I found myself getting irked as I read through this book as it failed to get to the point of discussing Richard and instead circled around interesting but none the less esoteric discussions for example several pages in one of the chapters veer off on a discussion of a British library manuscript on a 7th century Anglo Saxon bishop Erkenwald The justification as to why this was relevant was tenuous to say the least So on the whole I wasn't really very impressed with the way it was written & the way it was presented If you want a straightforward concise summary or analysis of the life of Richard II then this book is probably not for you Richard II (Penguin Monarchs) I am an actor and purchased the book to do some character study This book looks beautiful with its hard back small design with colour sleeve and golden details But the real treasure is inside this book is not too long unlike other books on R II it gives you a concise breakdown of the reign and person that is King Richard This book flows and is broken down into segments and is written in a way that even Joe blogs can understand previous books have been so heavy I bought the e book first as it was so much cheaper but needed to make notes in pencil of course so brought the physical copy and it is worth the extra dosh It does what it says on the tin Whether you are an actor like me researching a role or just interested this book is great Richard II (Penguin Monarchs) It was enthralling to be able to

look through a window at medieval life as it existed during Richard's time and to get a sense of his uncompromising view of his attitude to his kingship Richard II (Penguin Monarchs) While this gave me the outline of Richard's reign it was disappointingly verbose in that the extracts from contemporary documents were too long and the details about Richard's reign too brief It was almost as if this were a half hearted chore rather than a passionate enterprise Richard II (Penguin Monarchs) I love this series I hope to buy them all in hardback and this is the sixteenth I have read but it is the first to really disappoint me The author makes no attempt at giving a biography or history of Richard II but indulges in four mini articles suited to a low readership academic journal with endless quotations The first reference to Richard's first wife is at her funeral My knowledge of Richard II is largely from the Shakespeare play and I was looking forward to a readable but scholarly concise biography Does the author regard the general reader as beneath her I found it unreadable and ended up skimming through I'm sorry but if this series is to be a longstanding feature on our shelves and I hope it is this volume needs to be rewritten Richard II (Penguin Monarchs) Concise and elegantly written study of this Plantagenet king Some background knowledge of his reign is necessary to benefit from it fully Richard II (Penguin Monarchs) The acclaimed Penguin Monarchs series short fresh expert accounts of England's rulers now in paperback Richard II 1377-99 came to the throne as a child following the long domineering martial reign of his grandfather Edward III He suffered from the disastrous combination of a most exalted sense of his own power and an inability to impress that power on those closest to the throne Neither trusted nor feared Richard battled with a whole series of failures and emergencies before finally succumbing to a coup imprisonment and murder Laura Ashe's brilliant account of his reign emphasizes the strange gap between Richard's personal incapacity and the amazing cultural legacy of his reign from the Wilton Diptych to Sir Gawain and the Green Knight Piers Plowman and The Canterbury Tales The acclaimed Penguin Monarchs series: short.

## Richard Iannelli

Fresh expert accounts of England's rulers - now in paperback Richard II (1377-99) came to the throne as a child following the long domineering martial reign of his grandfather Edward III. **Best book on Richard III** Laura Ashe's brilliant account of his reign emphasizes the strange gap between Richard's personal incapacity and the amazing cultural legacy of his reign - from the Wilton Diptych to Sir Gawain and the Green Knight Piers Plowman and The Canterbury Tales. **Richard III book adaptations** The acclaimed Penguin Monarchs series: short fresh expert accounts of England's rulers - now in paperback Richard II (1377-99) came to the throne as a child following the long domineering martial reign of his grandfather Edward III. **EPub Richard III** Laura Ashe's brilliant account of his reign emphasizes the strange gap between Richard's personal incapacity and the amazing cultural legacy of his reign - from the Wilton Diptych to Sir Gawain and the Green Knight Piers Plowman and The Canterbury Tales. **Richard II hollow crown cast** He suffered from the disastrous combination of a most exalted sense of his own power and an inability to impress that power on those closest to the throne, **Richard I ceman** Neither trusted nor feared Richard battled with a whole series of failures and emergencies before finally succumbing to a coup imprisonment and murder. **Book Richard e grant** He suffered from the disastrous combination of a most exalted sense of his own power and an inability to impress that power on those closest to the throne, **Richard II act 5 scene 5** Neither trusted nor feared Richard battled with a whole series of failures and emergencies before finally succumbing to a coup imprisonment and murder. Richard II (Penguin Monarchs).