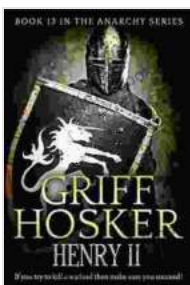


# Henry II and the Anarchy

Henry II was one of the most significant kings in English history. His reign, which lasted from 1154 to 1189, was a period of great change and upheaval. One of the most notable events of Henry's reign was the Anarchy, a period of civil war that lasted from 1135 to 1153.

## The Early Life of Henry II

Henry II was born in Le Mans, France, in 1133. He was the son of Matilda, the daughter of Henry I of England, and Geoffrey of Anjou. Henry's early life was spent in Anjou, where he was raised by his mother and stepfather. He received a good education, and he became fluent in both French and English.



### Henry II (The Anarchy Series Book 13) by Griff Hosker

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 3509 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 275 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported



In 1152, Henry's cousin, Stephen of Blois, died without an heir. This left Henry as the rightful heir to the English throne. However, Stephen's

supporters were not willing to accept Henry as their king. They supported Stephen's son, Eustace, instead.

This led to a civil war between Henry and Eustace. The war lasted for two years, and it devastated England. In 1153, Henry and Eustace finally came to an agreement. Henry was recognized as the rightful king of England, and Eustace was given the earldom of Boulogne.

## **The Anarchy**

The Anarchy was a period of great chaos and upheaval in England. The country was divided between those who supported Henry and those who supported Eustace. There was widespread violence and looting. The economy was also severely damaged.

The Anarchy came to an end in 1153, when Henry and Eustace came to an agreement. However, the effects of the war were felt for many years to come. The country was deeply divided, and the economy was in ruins.

## **The Impact of the Anarchy**

The Anarchy had a profound impact on English society and government. The war weakened the power of the monarchy, and it led to a decline in law and order. The economy was also severely damaged.

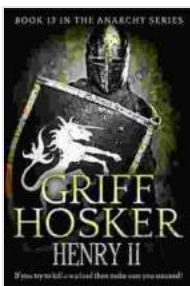
The Anarchy also had a long-term impact on English government. The war led to the development of a stronger Parliament. Parliament was originally a body of advisors to the king. However, during the Anarchy, Parliament began to assert itself as a more independent body.

The Anarchy also led to the development of common law. Common law is a system of law that is based on the customs and traditions of the people. During the Anarchy, the royal courts began to develop a more consistent and centralized system of law.

## The Legacy of Henry II

Henry II was a complex and controversial figure. He was a brilliant and ambitious king, but he was also ruthless and unforgiving. His reign was a period of great change and upheaval, but it also laid the foundation for the later development of English government and law.

Henry II's legacy is still felt today. He is remembered as one of the most significant kings in English history. His reign is a reminder of the challenges that England faced during the Middle Ages, and it is a testament to the resilience of the English people.



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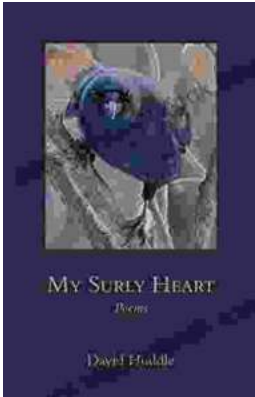
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