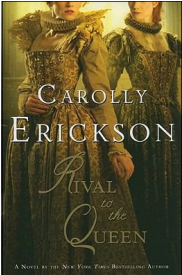


Elizabeth I, Queen of England

Historical fiction insights into the woman who claimed

"I have the heart of a man, not a woman, and I am not afraid of anything."

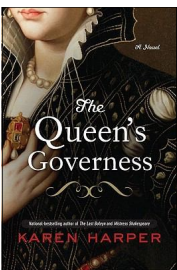
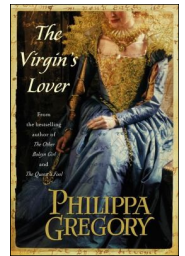


Rival to the Queen by Carolly Erickson

Erickson again displays her remarkable ability to paint an exquisitely realistic portrait of Tudor England. Opening during the reign of Queen Mary Tudor, the book follows Lettie Knollys the future Queen Elizabeth's cousin, from her exile in Frankfurt to her successful out-maneuvering of Elizabeth for Robert Dudley's heart. Much more than a historical romance; Erickson's attention to historical detail and depiction of Elizabeth's struggle to maintain control over her kingdom make for compelling reading.

The Virgin's Lover by Philippa Gregory

Gregory brings us another emotionally charged account of the lives of the Tudors. This time we are drawn into the love triangle among the newly crowned Elizabeth I; her lover, Robert Dudley; and his wife, Amy Robsart Dudley. The insight into Amy Dudley's life brings a new perspective to this already captivating story. Gregory weaves an engrossing tale of passion, love, and betrayal, where the fate of Elizabeth's reign and the Kingdom hangs in the balance.

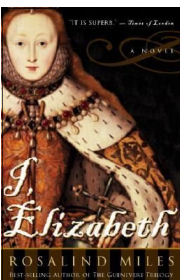
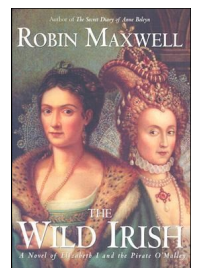


The Queen's Governess by Karen Harper

"Yes, I will ever say that Anne Boleyn gave me life, but Kat Ashley gave me love." Harper, very popular for her Tudor mysteries (e.g., *The Poyson Garden*), is well versed in the history of Elizabeth Tudor, but here she retells the familiar story from the point of view of Elizabeth's always present governess, Kat Ashley. Well paced and full of pitch-perfect detail.

The Wild Irish: a Novel by Robin Maxwell

Historical novelist Maxwell reveals a complex, passionate, and remarkable woman in Grace O'Malley, the legendary 16th-century pirate. As the novel opens, Grace is in London to petition Elizabeth I for relief from the brutal occupation of her beloved Ireland. Her story comprises nearly a third of the novel, which also examines Elizabeth's campaign in Ireland, that country's determined rebellion, and the tragic fall of Robert Devereaux, Earl of Essex. While Maxwell's fans will be enthralled with Grace, the Elizabeth presented here is now aging and cranky, still powerful and still vain in spite of her decline.



I, Elizabeth: A Novel by Rosalind Miles

From the days of her brutal father, Henry VIII, to her final dying moments, Elizabeth tells her story in her own words. When she died in 1603, after a forty-five year reign, her empire spanned two continents, was united under one church, victorious in war, and blessed with an overflowing treasury. This spellbinding novel brings to life the woman behind the myth.



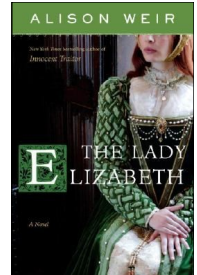
Elizabeth I, Queen of England

Historical fiction insights into the woman who claimed

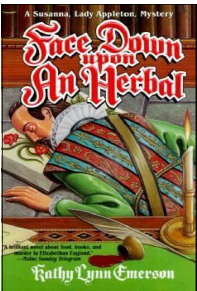
"I have the heart of a man, not a woman, and I am not afraid of anything."

[The Lady Elizabeth : A Novel](#) by Alison Weir

The experiences of Elizabeth I make for the ultimate royal bedtime story. Weir's offering about the life of Elizabeth before she ascended to the throne is the finest of these to date. From the time of her mother's death when she was three to her inheritance of the throne in her twenties, danger always came at Elizabeth from some corner. Weir successfully depicts this extraordinary young woman who beat the odds to become one of the world's greatest rulers. A solid, gripping historical novel chock-full of detail.



Looking for more? Try these Elizabethan mysteries...

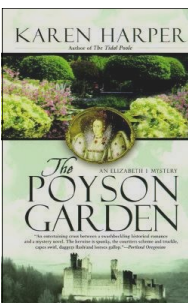
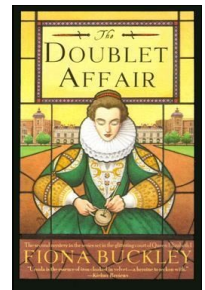


[Face Down Upon an Herbal](#) by Kathy Lynn Emerson

Treason, conspiracy and political scheming in Elizabethan England form a complex and sinister background for Susanna, Lady Appleton's latest foray into sleuthing. The self-assured herbalist is bid by the queen to visit Madderly Castle, to help Lady Madderly complete her own book on herbs. But a series of murders at the castle puts that project on hold. The story is wonderfully enhanced by herbal lore (decoctions, potions and balms) and a heated and forbidden romance.

[The Doublet Affair](#) by Fiona Buckley

Ursula, young widowed lady-in-waiting to Queen Elizabeth I, is torn between her duties and her personal life, and asks permission from the Queen to leave the court for a time. But Elizabeth will only grant that request if Ursula will first assist Sir William Cecil in his investigation of a troubling plot against Elizabeth -- one that could place her cousin, Mary, Queen of Scots, on the throne of England. The compelling [Ursula Blanchard](#) series also includes [To Ruin a Queen](#), [Queen of Ambition](#), and [The Fugitive Queen](#).



[The Poison Garden](#) by Karen Harper

The letter came in secret, with a pearl eardrop from an aunt long thought dead, resurrecting the forbidden past. Banished by her half sister, Queen Mary, to Hatfield House in the English countryside, twenty-five-year-old Princess Elizabeth cannot refuse the summons. She is marked for death by a master poisoner whose reign of terror may have royal sanction. Elizabeth escapes to Kent where she must find a brilliant, powerfully connected killer - before the killer finds her. Harper's *Elizabeth I* series includes [The Tidal Poole](#), [The Twylight Tower](#), [The Queene's Cure](#), [The Thorne Maze](#), and [The Hooded Hawke](#).

