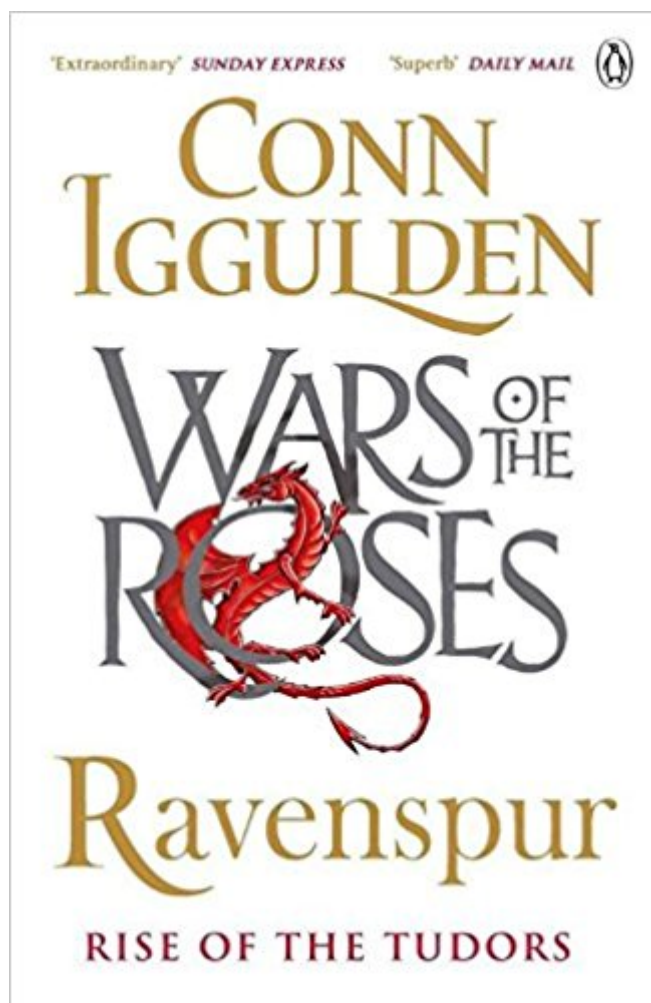


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Ravenspur: Rise Of The Tudors (The Wars Of The Roses)



Synopsis

The Yorkist king Edward IV is driven out of England, his wife and children forced to seek sanctuary from the House of Lancaster. Yet rage and humiliation prick Edward back to greatness. He lands at Ravenspur, with a half-drowned army and his brother Richard at his side. Though every hand is against them, though every city gate is shut, they have come home. The brothers York will not go quietly into banishment. Instead, they choose to attack. Yet neither Edward nor Richard realize that the true enemy of York has yet to reveal himself. Far away, Henry Tudor has become a man. He is the Red Dragon – the man of destiny: who seeks to end the Wars of the Roses. His claim will carry him to Bosworth Field. There will be silence and the mourning of queens. There will be self-sacrifice and terrible betrayals. Two royal princes will be put to death. There will be an ending – and a new royal house will stand over them all

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Witness the rise of the Tudors in the stunning conclusion to Conn Iggulden's powerful retelling of the Wars of the Roses, Ravenspur. * from the publisher's description * Absorbing and bloody. Iggulden handles the origins of the Tudor dynasty with great panache -- Antonia Senior * The Times * A tough, pacy chronicle of bloody encounters, betrayals and cruelties. Superb * Daily Mail * Breathes new life into the darkest and most dramatic of times * Star * One of our finest historical novelists has produced another impressively researched, cleverly plotted and gripping take on the Wars of the Roses * Daily Express * Iggulden is in a class of his own * Daily Mirror * Superbly plotted and paced

* The Times * Exceptionally well-written and gripping * Stylist * Compelling * Woman and Home * A page-turning thriller * Mail on Sunday * Pacey and juicy, and packed with action * Sunday Times * Superb. This fantastic novel reveals with extraordinary insight the ambitions and fears of the leading figures of the day, most memorably Richard III * Express *

Conn Iggulden is the coauthor of The Dangerous Book for Boys as well as the bestselling Emperor series and Conqueror series.

The entertaining chronicle of the Wars of the Roses that began with Stormbird concludes in Ravenspur that takes the reader from the year 1470 to 1485 in a succession of battles, attainments and dramatic journeying of historic personalities that all command the pages until the departing historical notes from the author. As with the other novels in this intriguing series we are briefly introduced to the old wounds and painful grievances that refuse to heal over with time or seizing of the crown and thrown directly onto the path of vengeance and cruel struggles of survival or conscience that will be met by enemy and ally in different ways. Unlike *Bloodline* (#3 Wars of the Roses) or *Stormbird* (#1 Wars of the Roses), where only action rules the chapters with little dialogue to connect the reader to important scenes or historic names, we are given in Ravenspur (#4 Wars of the Roses) rich passages of believable discussions with the familiar lyrical descriptions of the surrounding landscapes and symbolic scenes of weather changes or wonderfully timed observations from characters that may remind many of *Trinity/Margaret of Anjou* (#2 Wars of the Roses). I don't believe I can honestly call Ravenspur a stand-alone novel (I would recommend to anyone new to this series or portion of history to please pick up and begin with Stormbird to get the full experience of events or explanation of certain motives, but that is your choice). It may disappoint some returning readers to know that this final novel is a slow burn story with quite a bit of repetition hitting the passages, however, on the other side of the coin, the heart-pounding battles scenes are as vivid as they come and Mr. Iggulden's gift for weaving a compelling story ultimately creates a finale that raises the right banners over a true "season of revenge" and really shouldn't be missed.

I'm a big fan of Conn Iggulden and this book didn't disappoint me. I was kinda surprised this came out so soon after *Bloodline*, but pleasantly so. It's got everything you expect from Iggulden, decisive battles, intrigue, hot and cold blooded murder, and lots and lots of treachery. I was especially intrigued by the main characters on both sides. They seemed to have some good traits, but were so

blinded by ambition they did despicable things. I enjoy reading about England and this time period, but nothing I've ever read has ever explained why people were so obsessed with ruling it. The Romans had already looted most of the resources. With apologies to Anglophiles, all it had was revolting peasants, backstabbing nobles, and lousy weather. Unless you lusted after wool and mutton, why would you want the place?

Iggulden is one of my favorite historical novelists, and this (apparent) conclusion to the Wars of the Roses caps off a wonderfully entertaining series. He is adept at making sure we can place the multitudes of characters (and there!) in perspective (the inserts at the beginning of family trees is quite helpful). He explains in detail in the appendix what is real and what is invented. But most of all, he captures the feel of what life must have been like in the time, from those among the highest levels of society to those at the bottom. The harshness and difficulty of life come through with great clarity. Any lover of historical fiction MUST read this series (and it wouldn't hurt to read his other works as well).

Conn Iggulden is such a superb writer! I just finished this book after reading the three previous books in the series back to back and they were all outstanding. With each book, it was hard to find a good stopping point so I could go to sleep at night. This period in history was wrought with conflict, betrayal and wars, and at times I felt exhausted just reading about it. The battle scenes were phenomenal. Iggulden's style of writing is so real and descriptive you feel like you are actually there. While I have read some reviews that complain his books are not factually accurate, I have loved every book I have ever read by him, so I will excuse some literary license for the sake of his excellent stories. He really knows how to create a riveting story of some very complicated historical times, creating characters who are memorable and complex. I hope there is more to come in this series.

Let me start by saying I am a really big fan of Conn Iggulden. I have read all his historical series and have thoroughly enjoyed them. I love period books and sagas and I really enjoyed the whole series on the Lancastrians and Tudors. I also appreciated the comprehensive family trees and the appendix explaining the characters and any deviations from history and why these deviations were made. I love Conn Iggulden's books because they are so interesting, well written, extremely engaging and I also learn a lot from them.

Conn Iggulden is an amazing writer for historical fiction, I have read all of his books on the Wars of the Roses, Ghenghis Kahn, and Caesar. All outstanding novels that put you right into the story and action. Violence is the type such as graphic battles and clashes, not gratuitous violence.

An outstanding close to the Wars of the Roses series. Iggulden never disappoints.

Great book, part of a series. Well done in typical Iggulden fashion. Page turning accurate historical fiction.

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