

THE ROMANCE AND THE TRAGEDY IN THE HEVER CASTLE ROSE: ANNE BOLEYN AND HENRY VIII

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Abstract

The article devoted to Hever Castle and the rose "Hever Castle" introduced by English hybridizer Colin Horner for the UK in 2011. This rose is named after unique among the castles of Great Britain, Hever Castle, childhood home of Anne Boleyn, the Queen of England from 1533 to 1536 as the second wife of King Henry VIII. On 7 September 1533, she gave birth to Queen Elizabeth I.

Presented films dedicated to the tragic love of Anna and Henry VIII, and actresses who embodied Anne's image in the cinema. Considered Oscar-winning film "Anne of the Thousand Days" (1969), its filming location at Heaver Castle. The text of the article is supplemented with illustrations for a better understanding and perception. Described history of the song 'My Lady Greenleaves', the authorship of which is mistakenly attributed to King Henry VIII, in which he expressed his love for Anne.

Key words: Anne Boleyn, King Henry VIII of England, Hever Castle (Kent), Hever gardens, song 'My Lady Greenleaves', "Anne of the Thousand Days" (1969) the rose "Hever Castle", Colin Horner, the rose "Anne Boleyn", David Austin.

*The ache for home lives in all of us, the safe place
where we can go as we are and not be questioned.*

Maya Angelou

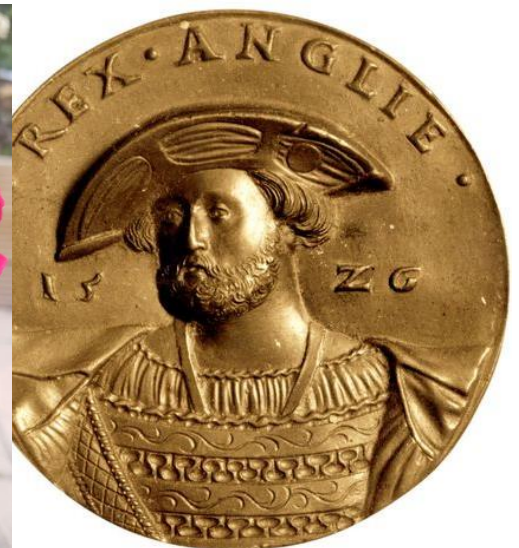


Fig. 1 Young Anne Boleyn. **Fig. 2.** The Rose 'Hever Castle'. **Fig. 3.** Coins depicting Henry VIII (gold).

The members of our project group are researching roses named after prominent people. This is our next work dedicated to Hever Castel, childhood home of Queen Anne Boleyn (see the video [13]). Many people think why this woman (Fig. 1) captivates so many people around the globe – 500 years after her too-brief life came to its tragic conclusion. "After all, there have been many compelling figures throughout history whose lives were cut short in dramatic fashion. Even amongst the cadre of Tudor

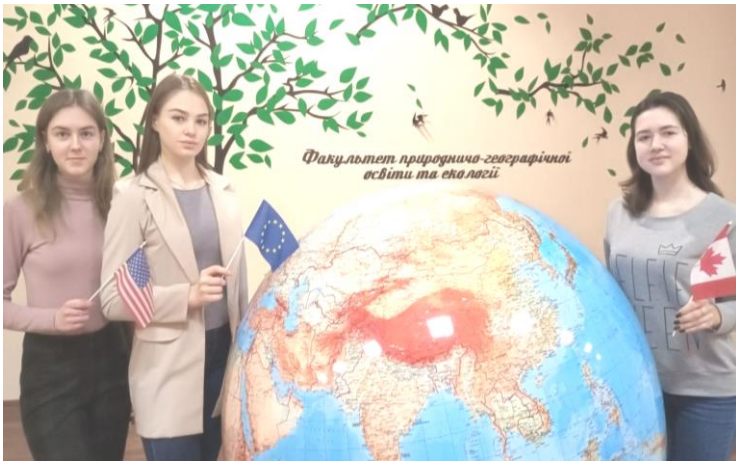


Fig. 4. Our project group: Kirilchuk N. [45] (left), Maksymenko A. [65], and Porokhnitska A. [69; 70] (right).

Anna Bolein, the future Queen of England (see the video [13]), executed by his wife Henry VIII, mother Elizabeth I, was born and thrust in the castle of Hever (see the video [35; 104]), Fig. 5.

The Hever was built in 1270. The castle, fortified by the thick walls, the impaired moat was acquired by the Bolin family in the middle of the XV century. Inside the castle was completely rebuilt, which is more cozy and modern. So the building gained a classic "Tudor" style (see the video [78]).



Fig. 5. Hever Castle in Kent [37].

The beginning of the XVI century became the time of geographic and trading development and development. The middle class was the opportunity to acquire stacks, furniture and the subject of the interior became more affordable [41].

In 1500, Thomas Boleyn married Elizabeth Howard (Fig. 9). Three children were born in this marriage – Mary (1499–1543) (Fig. 6), Anna (1501–1536) (Fig. 7) and George (1504–1536) (Fig. 8).



Fig. 8. George Boleyn

Fig. 6. Hever Castle Mary Boleyn.

Fig. 7. Hever Castle Anne Boleyn.

by Hans Holbein.

Anna Boleyn's exact birthdate is unknown (see the video [77]). According to some sources, it could have been as early as 1500 or 1501. Other sources say 1507 or 1509 but she was the child of Sir Thomas Boleyn and Elizabeth Howard and spent most of her youth at Hever Castle.

Heinrich VIII was not one here. Thomas Bolein was a court and diplomat and the king came to hunt his estate (see the video [33]), Fig. 9. King Henry VIII became interested in Anne while he was still married to Catherine.



Fig. 9. Hever wax figure tableau [37].

The lives of Anne and Mary Boleyn are misunderstood (Fig 10). Anne, the beheaded wife of Henry VIII, has been both celebrated and damned, seen as both a less remembered and often dismissed as a

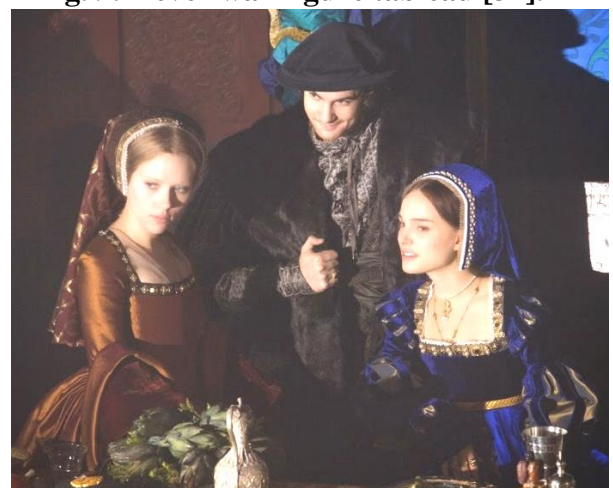


Fig. 10. *The Other Boleyn Girl* (2008). Scarlett Johansson as Mary Boleyn, Jim Sturgess as George Boleyn, Natalie Portman as Anne Boleyn.

fool and a whore. But what was the truth? This remarkable documentary goes on the hunt for answers, seeking out the fascinating truths of one of history's most beguiling sisterhoods (see the documentary [89]).

"I was born to be your rival,' she (Anne) said simply. 'And you mine. We're sisters, aren't we?" (Philippa Gregory, *The Other Boleyn Girl*), see the video [83].



Fig. 11. Mary, her son and Anne.
The Other Boleyn Girl (2008).



Fig. 12. Two sisters.



Fig. 13. Eric Bana as Henry VIII.

Unique among the castles of Great Britain, Hever Castle (Fig. 14) is a treasured monument to the joys of home and family – a shelter not from war and conquest, but instead from the storms of life. Through the centuries – generation after generation – from the de Hevers to the Boleyns, from the Astors to the Gunthries, Hever Castle was witness to countless births, weddings, and holiday celebrations – along with the love, joy, and heartache common to all of us. Today, if the castle staff are not vigilant – like Mary, Anne, and George Boleyn before them – children still skip along the hallways on their way to staircases worn through the centuries of life's ups and downs [20].



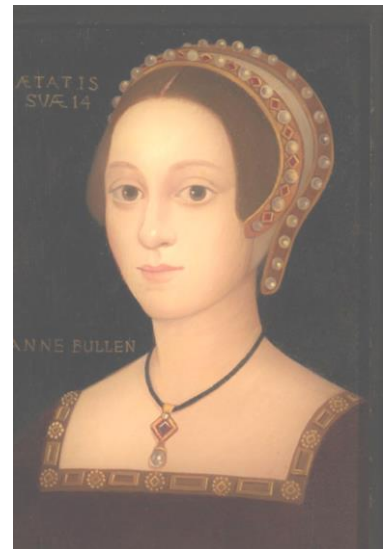
Fig. 14. Hever Castle.

Anne Boleyn and her older sister, Mary, grew up at Hever (Fig. 11, 12). Both were educated and independent, schooled in the royal courts of Europe, where they became well-versed in cultural matters and learned languages as well as the latest fashions and styles. And both caught the eye of the King Henry VIII (Fig. 9, 13), who was still married to his first

wife, Catherine of Aragon, at the time. Mary became his mistress. Then the king turned to Anne. "One of the most scandalous courtships of English history played out at Hever. This is where Henry VIII came a-courting. And you really are walking in the footsteps of these characters when you visit" [71].

Earlier historians considered 1507 to be the accepted Anna's birthdate, but in 1981, the art historian Hugh Paget successfully demonstrated that a letter Anne had written in 1513 from Brussels when she was a maid of honour in that court, a position which was only open to a 12 or 13 yr old was not the hand of a 6 yr old (E. Ives "Life & Death of Anne Boleyn" [11].

Anne was transferred to Paris (Fig. 15), France upon the marriage of Louis XII to Mary Tudor, Henry VIII's youngest sister (late 1514). Louis died within months of the marriage, but Anne remained in France upon the accession of Francis I. While in France, she became a favoured lady-in-waiting to the pious, dignified Queen Claude and may have served as an interpreter whenever high-ranking English dignitaries visited the French court. It is quite possible she might have seen Leonardo da Vinci and his "La Gioconda". In the queen's household, she completed her study of French and acquired a thorough knowledge of French culture and etiquette; as well as French and English, she demonstrated a working knowledge of Latin. She also developed an interest in fashion and religious philosophy that called for reform of the Church.



15. Anne Bullen and given the age of 14 years.

Her European education ended in the winter of 1521 when she was summoned back to England on her father's orders. She sailed from Calais, which was then still an English possession, in January 1522...[11].

Her debut in court was in March 1522 at a pageant, the "Chateau Vert" as "Perseverance" (Fig. 16). No evidence survives indicating that Anne made any impression on the King during this performance. At the time of the pageant, Henry was just beginning his affair with Anne's older sister, Mary, and it was not until years later that Henry began showing an interest towards the younger Boleyn. However, Anne's role as Perseverance seems appropriate considering her refusal to settle for the position of mistress and her eventual rise to queen. The location of her debut is even more fitting. York Place was transformed into Whitehall Palace by Henry VIII in 1530 as Cardinal Wolsey fell out of favour. Anne Boleyn was the first queen to live at Whitehall Palace and the building works that transformed Wolsey's townhouse into one of the greatest palaces in Europe were as much her doing as they were Henry's [71].



**Fig. 16. Anne as "Perseverance".
The Tudors [94; 95].**

But Dr David Starkey discusses Anne's upbringing, and her fateful debut at the Court of King Henry VIII. Using clips from Starkey's "Six Wives of Henry VIII", "Anne of the Thousand Days" & the 70's BBC series "The Six Wives of Henry VIII", Anne is described as a highly intelligent, determined and ambitious young lady. The

film focuses on her childhood, her time in France, and her debut at the English court, where more than one man falls for her charm. When the King himself turns his affections toward Anne, a union is sealed that would change the course of History (see the film [12]).

Around 1522, Anne began being courted by Lord Henry Percy (Fig. 17), the son of the earl of Northumberland & probably in the spring of 1523, they were secretly betrothed. Lord Henry's father refused to sanction the marriage... Anne was sent from court to Hever Castle in Kent. It is not known how long she remained away from court, although she was certainly back by mid-1525 [11].



Fig. 17. Anne and Henry Percy (Hever Castle). *Anne of the Thousand Days* (1969) [17]. Genevieve Bujold as Anne Boleyn.

Fig. 18. Henry VIII, Anne and Cardinal Wolsey. *Richard Burton as King Henry VIII.*

Sixteenth-century history comes thrillingly alive in a novel that features a teeming canvas of iconic real-life characters: Cardinal Thomas Wolsey (Fig. 18), the enemy Anne vows to destroy; Henry's first wife, the proud and pious Queen Catherine of Aragon; and Thomas Cromwell, who engineers Anne's downfall. From the halcyon early days of courtship to her imprisonment in the palace tower for treason, this is a tale of love, ambition, and the tragic destiny of *Anne of the Thousand Days* (1969) [18] (see the movie [17]), filming at Hever Castle.

Anne was forever changed when Genevieve Bujold (Fig. 17) ripped up that rulebook. The Anne's portrayed by Dorothy Tutin (Fig. 19), see the movies [90; 91], Helena Bonham-Carter (Fig. 20), see the movie [31], Natalie Dormer (Fig. 16), see the movies [94; 95], Claire Foy (Fig. 21), see the movie [105], Charlotte Rampling (Fig. 22), Vanessa Redgrave (Fig. 23), see the movie [103], and Natalie Portman (Fig. 12), see the movie [94; 95]) all have their roots in Bujold's performance. Audiences no longer expect to see an uncomplicated Anne. They want the fire and the spark of blood that Bujold gave us: an Anne who, as Thomas Wyatt observed,

would set the 'country in a roar' [29].

Below we give **three videos** in them we can see some different Anne Boleyn depictions on screen in historical movies and TV shows. Some of the actresses were already Hollywood icons when playing Anne, for others the role meant their first major breakthrough in the movie industry. And our reader can give an answer to the question: Who is the best? [7; 74; 106].



Fig. 19. Dorothy Tutin as Anne Boleyn.



Fig. 20. Helena Bonham-Carter.



Fig. 23. Vanessa Redgrave. *A Man for All Seasons*, 1966.



Fig. 24. Hever Castle.



Fig. 25. Queen Elizabeth II met Geneviève Bujold, 23.02.1970.

Anne of the Thousand Days (1969) [17] for a third of the 1969 film was shot on location at Anne Boleyn's former home. This film is captivated: the castle, the costumes, but above all the fire and blood of the 'thousand days' queen... Setting and filming scenes in the film at Hever (Fig. 24, 26) added to a sense of authenticity [29]. We found a short video, where Queen Elizabeth II met Geneviève Bujold at the 1970 Royal Film performance of "Anne of the Thousand Days" (Fig. 25), see **the video** [99].

They say that the model by which we understand Anne Boleyn today was born during that film shoot at Hever Castle in 1969 (Fig. 26, 27; 28, 29, 30; 31).

Genevieve Bujold (Fig. 17; 18; 28, 30) brought something completely new to filmic representations of Anne's life and it should be recognised as one of the turning points of Anne's 'image' Anne's initials [29].



Fig. 27.



Fig. 26. Nineteenth century drawing depicting Henry VIII arriving at Hever Castle, courtyard. Anne Boleyn is shown opening the window to look out into the court yard at the top left of the of the picture.

Fig. 27. Arms of the Boleyn family.

Fig. 28. Genevieve Bujold as Anne Boleyn from *Anne of a Thousand Days* looking down from the upper window in the inner courtyard picture.



Fig. 29. Hever Castle.



Fig. 30. *Anne of the Thousand Days* (1969) [133].

Born in 1501, Anne Boleyn had excellent training, serving as a lady-in-waiting to a French queen. In addition to courtly savoir faire and cultural refinement, she gained worldly sophistication at the courts of France [14].

Anne's family name was Bullen but when she was in France in the king's court, she decided to adopt the way a French person would spell it phonetically. Boleyn sounded cool and more sophisticated and in those days of handwritten documents, there was no agreed way for spelling words. When printing came in, more books and documents were produced and read by more people and so they had to agree on correct spellings [40], see the video [8]).

Anne quickly caught Henry's eye when she returned to England in the early 1520s (see the video [15]). She caused quite a stir: Beautiful and intelligent, she spoke French fluently and knew some Latin; she wore the latest continental fashions, and used her flair for dancing to show them off. Henry declared his love for her in 1526, but she refused to be his concubine (see the video [104]). Anne had greater ambitions: A marriage that would make her queen. She flirted with the monarch to stoke his passion while refusing to consummate their relationship. The letters the king wrote to her between 1527 and 1529 testify to the ardor she aroused in him [14], see the movie *Henrich VIII* (2003) [31]:

Katherine of Aragon: What did I do to upset you, that a maid of mine should turn against me like this?

Anne Boleyn: You failed to give England an heir.

Katherine of Aragon: And that upsets you so?

Anne Boleyn: What upsets the King, upsets me.

Katherine of Aragon: Let me tell you this. You want me to lie before God, and admit my first marriage was consummated? Well, it was not. You want me to retire, and withdraw my daughter's claim as sole rightful heir to the throne? Well, I shall not. Not in a thousand years. Not if you rack me within an inch of my life. So, I hope you have the belly for a fight, Anne Boleyn, because I'll fight you, every inch of the way [31], Fig. 32.



**Fig. 31. Anne of the Thousand Days, 1969.
Hever Castle.**



Fig. 32. Katherine is depicted playing cards with Anne Boleyn. This is based on a fictional story first mentioned by George Wyatt in his work on the life of his grandfather, the poet Thomas Wyatt the elder and on Anne Boleyn.

While Anne Boleyn was undeniably ambitious, it's highly unlikely that her ambition ran as far as telling the King of England that if he wanted her in his bed he'd have to divorce his wife and break with the Church (**see the video [1]**). The first indication that Henry had doubts as to the validity of his marriage came as early as 1522, some years before his affair with Mary (Anne's sister) had begun let alone his infatuation with Anne. Such considerations came to little until Anne promised



Fig. 33. Mary Boleyn and Henry VIII.
The Other Boleyn Girl (2008).



Fig. 34. Mary (left), Henry VIII, Anne Boleyn.
The Other Boleyn Girl (2008).

Henry her love. At this point, Henry's vague concerns became absolute imperatives but Anne was likely the focus of these events rather than the driving force [25], (Fig. 33, 34), **see the video [86]**.

In the video "Hever Castle: In Search of the Boleyn Family Home", Sarah explores Hever Castle, the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, with Owen Emmerson, House Manager at Hever. Sarah and Owen take a stroll through the rooms and discuss how the house would have appeared in the sixteenth century when the Boleyn family were in residence and Anne Boleyn was being pursued by the mighty King Henry VIII (1491–1547) (**see the video [39]**).

The lives of Anne and Mary Boleyn are misunderstood (Fig. 34). Anne, the beheaded wife of Henry VIII, has been both celebrated and damned, seen as both a schemer or a victim. Her sister Mary is less remembered and often dismissed as a fool and a whore. But what was the truth? This remarkable **documentary [89]** goes on the hunt for answers, seeking out the fascinating truths of one of history's most beguiling sisterhoods.

Mary grew up in the French court in service to the queen and while she was there, at some point, she became the mistress of the French king. She returned to England in 1519 where she became a maid of honour to Katherine of Aragon (see the video [3]).

Mary was married to William Carey in 1520 and she was a lady in the queen's retinue while Carey was a prominent member of the king's household, as well as a personal friend of Henry. Though it's been speculated that the marriage was made and attended by Henry so that he could cover his affair with Mary... There is evidence to suggest that their affair began in 1522 and ended three or four years later. We know as much about Mary's pregnancies as we do the rest of her barely documented life: basically nothing. Mary had two children around the time of her affair. Both of her children took the name Carey and neither were acknowledged by the king [144], see the video [51].

Mary was likely beside her sister during this time, if nothing else because she was still in the queen's service... So, where was Mary in all this? She was mostly at Hever Castle, living quietly, raising her daughter. Her husband William Carey died of the sweat in 1528. When Henry took Anne to Calais, Anne wrote to her sister, requesting her attendance and added that the marriage was in sight [25], see the video [50].

The striking thing about Mary is Anne got out of Henry's court and married. The rest of the family stayed in the royal circle, fatally so for George and Anne (Fig. 35). We are curious what kind of relation Anne and Mary had with their mother. After the demise of Anne and George, was Mary a comfort to her mother for example? We are sure we will never know (see the video [5]).



Fig. 35. George and Anne. *The Other Boleyn Girl* (2008). Fig. 36. The Rose Anne Boleyn.

While Henry VIII and Mary conducted their affair behind closed doors, Anne Boleyn was establishing herself as a glittering courtier. Henry Percy was indeed among her admirers though as heir to one of the most prominent Earldoms in the country, and already betrothed to the daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury, she was never a likely prospect for him [25] (Fig. 37).



Fig. 37. Henry VIII (left), Henry Percy, Anne Boleyn. *Anne of the Thousand Days* (1969)

Fig. 38. The Rose Hever Castle.

Nevertheless, Percy and Anne exchanged a promise that they would be married (Fig. 17, 37). The king had Wolsey break off the arrangement so that he could pursue Anne himself but it's more likely that Wolsey acted to preserve etiquette. The marriage between the Earl of Northumberland was a matter of state and not to be left in the hands of Percy himself. Although Anne was establishing herself as a central figure at court, she was still only the daughter of a noble [25].

But let's emphasize that they find Anne too intelligent, too headstrong, worldly and cultured, and with too much ambition to make her mark on the society of the day to marry a young inexperienced courtier like Percy and be banished to Northumberland. Percy was just not her match [102].

On a lovely midsummer afternoon, Henry Tudor rides to Hever Castle (Fig. 40, 41). There, he feasts his eyes on Anne Boleyn, who caught his roving attention at court a few months earlier (Fig. 39). Anne is in no mood to receive her king. He has torn from her the one man she loved: Harry Percy, who was forced to marry another. But King Henry VIII is not a man who gives up—the thrill of the chase only excites him more. Yet the woman he desires so passionately is no fool. Educated at the French court, Anne vows that she will not share the fate of her naïve sister, Mary, who after bearing Henry a bastard son was cast away. No, Anne will settle for nothing less than the crown of England, even if Henry has to break with Rome in order to marry her [18].



Fig. 39. *The Other Boleyn Girl* (2008).



Fig. 40. The Rose Anne Boleyn at Hever Castle.



Fig. 41. The Rose Hever Castle at Hever Castle.

The Howards might have been one of the most prominent families at court but under Henry VII their fortunes had fallen somewhat. They'd fought with Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth which saw them put under attainder for the initial part of Henry Tudor's reign. Thomas Boleyn by contrast was a rising star at the Tudor court and was actually a good name for the Howards to ingratiate themselves with [125].

We don't know what Anne's family thought of the prospect of a Boleyn on the throne, or if they even thought it was a prospect. Anne herself might not have been aware of the precarious state of the royal marriage but regardless, as Henry and Mary had long been over, we can assume that she wasn't dragged before her family to explain herself. Mary was also not sent away to Hever, remaining at court in service to the queen as was her sister [25], (see the video [83]).

By refusing to be Henry's mistress, unlike her sister Mary, her allure to Henry was such that he became determined to get her as his wife and it could be argued this was her plan all along. In her book on the six wives, Alison Weir wrote: "He was intrigued by her grace and her sharp wit, while her sophistication and sexual allure were in delightful contrast to queen Katherine's piety and grave dignity. Anne was twenty four, Katherine approaching forty; in every way Anne was in direct contrast his ageing wife... When he looked at Anne, he found himself drawn to her as he had been to no other woman before her...." (*The Six Wives of Henry VIII* by Alison Weir) [40].

Historian Claire Ridgway, who has written several books on the Boleyns, is often asked about Mary Boleyn's links to the present royal family, so she thought she'd explain more about it. Queen Elizabeth II was descended from Mary Boleyn (see the video [52]). So there is a line of descent from Mary Boleyn to King Charles III (Fig. 42), the princes' father, to Prince William and Prince Henry. What's interesting, though, is that Princes William and Harry are also descended from Mary Boleyn (Fig. 43) through their mother's Spencer line. Prince William married Catherine Middleton in 2011 and they have three children: Prince George (b. 2013), Princess Charlotte (b. 2015) and Prince Louis (b. 2018) (Fig. 44, 45). Prince Harry married Meghan Markle in 2018 and they have two children (Fig. 44). The Boleyn bloodline continues.

The Tudor dynasty ended with Elizabeth I in 1603 because she died childless, but Henry VIII had two sisters, Margaret and Mary, and their bloodlines continued. For example, Elizabeth II descended from Margaret Tudor [42].



Fig. 42. Queen Elizabeth II and King Charles III (2022).



Fig. 43. Princes William and Harry, and Mary Boleyn.



Fig. 44. Windsor. September, 10 2022.



Fig. 45. Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee celebration, June 2022.

Anne was not a "looker" according to the standards the times which prized pale skin & blonde hair. Her looks were more exotic with her olive-toned complexion, dark brown hair, and captivating dark eyes. Anne was also noted for her long, elegant neck. She knew she possessed a beauty like no other and used this fact to her advantage [11].

The beginning of Henry and Anne's relationship has been much documented and likely has little to do with Mary Boleyn, directly or indirectly. Anne was one of



the brightest stars at court. She was young, unmarried, and beautiful even if her looks were not traditionally fair like her sister Mary. She dazzled with her conversation and wit, and her manners were distinctly French and eminently fashionable [25], **see the video [92].**

Fig. 46. Cardinal Wolsey and courtiers with, on the right, the King meeting Anne Boleyn at the Cardinal's residence, York Place, later Whitehall Palace. Royal Collection Trust/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2017.

Henry and Anne both exchanged gifts and Henry wrote a series of 17 letters to profess his love for her (he even drew love hearts around her initials!), e. g. he wrote:



"I Promise...to take you as my sole mistress, casting off all others than yourself out of mind and affection, and to serve you only" – Henry VIII [59], **see the video [48].**

"Mine own sweetheart...wishing myself (especially an evening) in my sweetheart's arms, whose pretty dukkys I trust shortly to kiss" – King Henry VIII [59] (Fig. 47).

Fig. 47. Eric Bana as Henry VIII. *The Other Boleyn Girl* (2008).

Andreas Capellanus, in his definitive twelfth century book, *The Art of Courtly Love*, set out to inform "lovers" which gifts could be offered, (among them a girdle, a purse, a ring, or gloves) and to clarify the signs and signals that indicated such a love game was underway – or on the wane. This way the participants, and those around them at court, would know that the game was afoot. Physical attraction was one of many factors in courtly love, but sexual expression was not necessarily an element of the relationship. Cappellanus further posits that a beautiful figure, excellence of character, and extreme readiness of speech are required for a man or woman to fall in love, with character being the most noble element of all [23], Fig. 48, 49, 50.



Fig. 48. Henry VIII Meets Anne Boleyn painted by Daniel Maclise.



Fig. 49. King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn.

Kings also had mistresses – women honored, in their way, given privileges and even titles (see the videos [81; 82]). Surely Anne Boleyn would come to understand that, and to accept his advances. But she didn't; that much is clear from a series of seventeen letters (unfortunately, they're undated). Henry wrote to his would-be mistress. From references within the letters it is certain that there were others that are no longer extant. Henry hated writing letters, having Wolsey compose most of his correspondence, so the fact that he wrote so many bespeaks of an immense infatuation. But since we don't know the dates, we can't be sure of the sequence of the letters and the events they mention... Most scholars have thought that the letters began in 1524. But they may have started earlier than that [47].

Henry wrote: For of necessity I must ensure me of this answer, having now been above one whole year struck with the dart of love, not being assured either of failure or of finding place in your heart and grounded affection. ... But if it shall please you to ... to give yourself up, heart, body and soul to me, who will be, and have been, your very loyal servant, I promise you that ... I will take you for my only mistress, rejecting from thought and affection all others save yourself, to serve you only (Fig. 51).

Boleyn replied: "Your wife I cannot be, both in respect of mine own unworthiness, and also because you have a queen already. Your mistress I will not be" [47].



Fig. 50. Anne and King Henry.

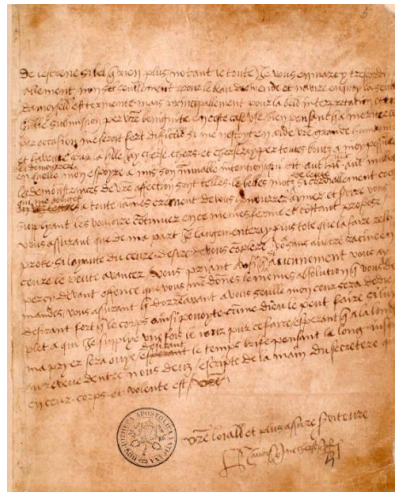


Fig. 51. King Henry's letter to Anne.



Fig. 52. Genevieve Bujold as Anne Boleyn in *Anne of the Thousand Days* (1969).

Henry and the court regularly attended Mass in the royal chapel, sometimes more than once a day. The King often used the time before the consecration to transact business but this manuscript shows him using a book of prayers to send a flirtatious message to Anne Boleyn instead (Fig. 52).

He wrote in French: "If you remember my love in your prayers as strongly as I adore you, I shall hardly be forgotten, for I am yours. Henry R. forever." Presenting himself as lovesick, he wrote his note on a page depicting the man of sorrows".

Anne replied with a couplet in English:
 'By daily proof you shall me find
 To be to you both loving and kind.'

And, with deliberate enticement, she chose to write her message below a miniature of the Annunciation, the angel telling the Virgin Mary that she would have a son [9], see the video [90].



Fig. 53. The Rose Anne Boleyn.

When the Tudor king fell for a young lady-in-waiting, Anne Boleyn, who possessed eyes "black and beautiful," he was long married to a Spanish princess (Fig. 54). But Anne refused to be a royal mistress, and the king rocked the Western



Fig. 54. In this painting depicting Henry's court sometime during 1525-1530, the main players of 'The Great Matter' are portrayed. In this large portrait, Henry VIII is seen intimately wooing Anne Boleyn in court behind his wife, Katherine of Aragon.

world to win his divorce and make Anne queen. Ambassadors could not believe how enslaved the king was by his love for Anne. "This accursed Anne has her foot in the stirrup," complained the Spanish emissary. To comprehend the king's passion, one need only read his 16th century love letters, revealing his torment over how elusive she remained: *"I beg to know expressly your intention touching the love between us...having been more than a year wounded by the dart of love, and not yet sure whether I shall fail or find a place in your affection."* (Their love affair ended when he had her beheaded) [21], see the video [2].

"Ma maitres et amye, moy et mon coer s'en remettant en vos mains..." My Mistress and Friend, me and my heart place ourselves in your hands..." [57]. Then Sandra Vasoli writes: "...Reading his words, aided by transcriptions; paying close attention to the formality he adopted and the effort he put into the look of the letter (excruciatingly neat, or sloppy? beautifully executed, or casually familiar? Businesslike, or intimate?). Each presentation tells so much about not only how he felt about Anne at that moment, but where the relationship between them stood. We do not have her replies, but Henry is so very expressive – not only in his language, but how his writing appears, that we might as well be reading each of her replies. Truly, Henry – for better or worse – was a man who wore his heart plainly on his sleeve" [57]:

"Votre loyall serviteur et amy" – "Your Loyal Servant and Friend". Within the body of the letter, though, we find this sentiment: *"...Bringing to mind a point of astronomy, which is, That the farther the stars are from us, the farther too is the Sun, and yet his Heat is the more scorching; so it is with our Love, we are at a distance from one another, and yet it keeps it Fervency, at least on my side. I hope the like on your Part..."* So with this statement, we can be assured that although Henry is not completely confident in the depth of Anne's feelings for him, he has, at least, received enough positive feedback from her that he refers to *"our Love"*. Further along in this letter he mentions their *"unchangeable affection"*, and he sends her a gift – his miniature in a bracelet [57]. (Fig. 55).



Fig. 55. *A Man for All Seasons*, 1966.

But when Henry initially started paying attention to her, he did indeed send her gifts and she did indeed return them. With Henry she played the game of courtly love but at no point did she capitulate and become his mistress as he might have expected. His love letters reveal that after a year of pursuing her, Henry was still confused as to where he stood in her affections. In 1527, he outright asked Anne what was between them and it's clear he wasn't thinking of making her his mistress [25].

Anne brought into Henry's life that combination of youthful charm and mature sophistication that Katherine possessed no longer. She was adept at the game of courtly love and her relationship with Henry began as just another chivalric flirtation. Indeed, Anne's behaviour in the early days of their relationship can be explained as the anxiety of one who perceived that the game was getting out of hand. (Derek Wilson, *"A Brief History of Henry VIII"*, 2009) [11].

Sandra Vasoli writes: "In my mind there is no question he once was a man of hope and positivity – yes, capricious; he was, after all an omnipotent ruler – but his very plain and clear expressions of true love show a warmth, a sensitivity, a patience and nurturing that we don't think of when we think of Henry VIII... There are simply too many references by him about their joint plans and dreams – too many intimate familiarities they share – for example: "...the time which I have so long expected rejoices me so much that it seems almost already come. ...the entire accomplishment cannot be till the two Persons meet, which Meeting is more desired by me than any Thing in the World; for what Joy can be greater upon Earth than to have the Company of her who is my dearest Friend?" Knowing likewise that she does the same on her

part, the thinking on which gives great pleasure..." [57].

Part of Anne Boleyn's mystery is that we have so little evidence directly relating to Anne from which we can draw conclusions about what she was like as a person. ...One of the major questions that often comes up regarding her was did she really love Henry VIII? Only one of Anne's responses has survived, the contents of which date it to the late August or early September of 1526. Ironically, this is from almost a year before we have any of Henry's letters which begin in May 1527 from when Anne removed herself from court and went to Hever Castle [16].

There are some interesting parts to the letter that might give us some insight into Anne's mind. You can see how she conveys a sense of innocence towards why the king should want to lavish her with gifts, whilst also acknowledging their mutual affection. We also see that it is entirely down to Henry that Anne was accepted into the court of Queen Catherine, something which they both appreciate will advance their relationship (see the videos [72]).

Sire, It belongs only to the august mind of a great king, to whom Nature has given a heart full of generosity towards the sex, to repay by favors so extraordinary an artless and short conversation with a girl. Inexhaustible as is the treasury of your majesty's bounties, I pray you to consider that it cannot be sufficient to your generosity; for, if you recompense so slight a conversation by gifts so great, what will you be able to do for those who are ready to consecrate their entire obedience to your desires? How great soever may be the bounties I have received, the joy that I feel in being loved by a king whom I adore, and to whom I would with pleasure make a sacrifice of my heart, if fortune had rendered it worthy of being offered to him, will ever be infinitely greater. The warrant of maid of honor to the queen induces me to think that your majesty has some regard for me, since it gives me means of seeing you oftener, and of assuring you by my own lips (which I shall do on the first opportunity) that I am,
Your majesty's very obliged and very obedient servant, without any reserve,

Anne Bulen [16].

At Shrovetide 1526 Henry began the serious pursuit of Anne Boleyn. Anne refused to become the king's mistress, and she effectively dodged his advances and avoided him for over a year. Henry wrote Anne a series of undated love letters, seventeen of which are now in the Vatican. Feminist historian Karen Lindsay suggested Anne suffered as a silent victim of sexual harassment. Henry proposed marriage to her sometime in 1527 (probably around New Year), after some hesitation, she agreed & this was marked by a gift she sent to Henry of a Symbolic Jewel. It was set with a fine diamond & took the form of a ship in which a lonely maiden was storm tossed. A letter of 'interpretation' accompanied it, which no doubt explained that the maiden was Anne herself & that Henry would henceforth be her refuge from the storms of life. (source: D. Starkey) And so ensued a long 7 year betrothal where Anne continued to hold-out for marriage and marriage alone [11].

Thus, the lives of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn have been cloaked in historical

myth, romantic legend, cliches and half-truths. Their turbulent relationship continues to spark fierce debate. Retracing the fragments of this fascinating relationship Suzannah Lipscomb attempts to discover what brought them together, and what ultimately tore them apart (see the video [48]).

One of the most shocking events of the reign of King Henry VIII (Fig. 60) saw his second wife Anne Boleyn (Fig. 57) heading towards Tower Green inside the walls of the Tower of London for her execution. It was with the swing of the executioner's sword that Anne Boleyn's life came to an end, but this brutal act also ended the influence, power and success of her family the Boleyn's at court. But Anne wasn't the only Boleyn girl who had slept with the notorious Tudor Monarch, and she was actually the second Boleyn girl to have taken to the King's bed eventually following the resolution of the King's Great Matter. Mary Boleyn (Fig. 56) today is considered the King's mistress, and it's known that she did have a long affair with the King, but this was a time where it was acceptable for the King to have a number of mistresses whilst being married (see the video [79]).



Fig. 56. Mary Boleyn. Historical Recreation.



Fig. 57. Anne Boleyn. Historical Recreation.



Fig. 58. Hever Castle.



Fig. 59. The Rose Hever Castle.



Fig. 60. King Henry VIII.

The art of courtly love and chivalric romance so popular during the early medieval period saw a revival during the Tudor era. Because the majority of noble marriages were arranged, with the focus being on financial or political gain, courtly love was a gentle, parrying game of flirtation wherein people might express true, heart-felt affections. According to historian Eric Ives, "The courtier, the 'perfect knight', was supposed to sublimate his relations with the ladies of the court by choosing a 'mistress' and serving her faithfully and exclusively. He formed part of her circle, wooed her with poems, songs and gifts, and he might wear her favor and joust in her honor ... in return, the suitor must look for one thing only, 'kindness' – understanding and platonic friendship." Many of the plays and entertainments in Henry the Eighth's court reflected these values and Henry himself, early in his reign,



was very chivalrous and courtly indeed [68].

And "Anne chooses to manipulate men with her sexual appeal, just as those men choose to fall prey to her machinations" [22, p. 1]. (Fig. 61).

"Anne's character has fascinated – and often eluded – historians for centuries. She was certainly ambitious, determined, tenacious, and even ruthless. Her loyalty to, and pride in, her family was strong, and she seems to have been particularly close to her brother George (Fig. 62). She

Fig. 61. Natalie Portman as Anne Boleyn.



was sophisticated, vivacious, and witty but could also be high-strung, sharp tempered and vindictive. Yet her strength, boldness and courage were never in doubt. Unlike most women of her time, she had an independent spirit. [11].

It was more than just sex appeal and wit that attracted Henry to Anne. Several writers

testify to her love of fashion and her expensive tastes. which she shared with the King. Like him, she had a flair for the decorative

arts and a lively interest in architecture and display. Her accomplishments were many. she was well-educated, intelligent and articulate, was fluent in French and knew some Latin. [11].

"Anne's charm lay not so much in her physical appearance as in her vivacious personality, her gracefulness, her quick wit and other accomplishments. She was petite in stature, and had an appealing fragility about her... she shone at singing, making music, dancing and conversation... Not surprisingly, the young men of the court swarmed around her." (Eric Ives. *The Life and Death of Anne Boleyn*) [11].

Like Henry, Anne was passionately fond of music and very talented in that sphere... She was an accomplished dancer... Anne and her brother and their young friends were all keen poets. Anne herself 'possessed a great talent for poetry'..." (Alison Weir *"Henry VIII: The king and his court"*) [11], Fig. 65.

Anne was said to have been an impressive musician and composer, accomplished at several instruments including the lute (Fig. 64; 65), harp, virginals and blockflute. She was also renowned for her singing voice. She was also a talented embroiderer (Fig. 63) and with her ladies embroidered bedding, wall hangings, carpets and nightgowns. A bed valance thought to have been worked by Queen Anne survives. Rumour has it Anne composed poetry and wrote masques; she and Henry VIII shared an interest in Renaissance architecture and design motifs [11].



Fig. 63. Anne as an embroiderer.



Fig. 64. Anne plays the lute. Anne Boleyn wax figure.



Fig. 65. Henry VIII and Anne.

At last, some words about the song "*Greensleeves*".

MY LADY GREENSLEEVES

Alas, my love, you do me wrong,
To cast me off discourteously.
For I have loved you well and long,
Delighting in your company.

Chorus:

Greensleeves was all my joy
Greensleeves was my delight,
Greensleeves was my heart of gold,
And who but my lady greensleeves.

Your vows you've broken, like my heart,
Oh, why did you so enrapture me?
Now I remain in a world apart
But my heart remains in captivity.

Chorus

I have been ready at your hand,
To grant whatever you would crave,
I have both wagered life and land,
Your love and good-will for to have.

Chorus

If you intend thus to disdain,
It does the more enrapture me,
And even so, I still remain
A lover in captivity.

Chorus

My men were clothed all in green,
And they did ever wait on thee;
All this was gallant to be seen,
And yet thou wouldst not love me.

Chorus

Thou couldst desire no earthly thing,
but still thou hadst it readily.
Thy music still to play and sing;
And yet thou wouldst not love me.

Chorus

Well, I will pray to God on high,
that thou my constancy mayst see,
And that yet once before I die,
Thou wilt vouchsafe to love me.

Chorus

Ah, Greensleeves, now farewell, adieu,
To God I pray to prosper thee,
For I am still thy lover true,
Come once again and love me... [56; 28].



Fig. 66. *Greensleeves* dated c. 1605.



Fig. 67. *Anne of the Thousand Days* (1969).



Fig. 68. *Anne and Henry VIII*.

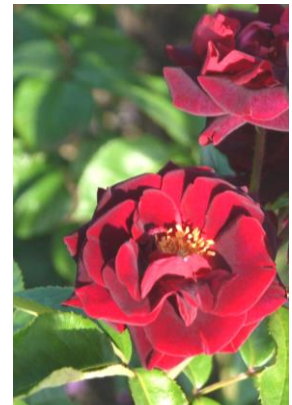


Fig. 69. *The Rose Hever Castle*.



Fig. 70. *The Other Boleyn Girl* (2008).

The most often-repeated claim about the song *Greensleeves* is that King Henry VIII wrote it to woo noblewoman Lady Anne Rochford, better known to posterity as Anne Boleyn. We've heard people say it, we've read it on many websites, and it printed in school text books. I've even seen a website where its author attempts to link parts of the song with the story of Henry and Anne, but the song has a non-specific story with no names, dates or places, with nothing to link it to either Henry or Anne, nor to anyone else. Henry VIII died in 1547. *Greensleeves* first appeared in 1580 [67; 28].

The TV series about Henry VIII, his wives and dalliances, *The Tudors* [94; 95], was an object lesson in mangling and re-writing history for popular entertainment. A Henry who increasingly puts on weight doesn't fit the demands of the svelte-obsessed media, nor do people with ginger hair, apparently, so Henry remains young, slim and dark-haired throughout. The stream of regular inaccuracies and historical gaffes are hilariously detailed. (See the video [96; 98]).

One such is the scene where Henry sits with a lute, composing *Greensleeves*, which we then hear being sung in the background. There are several reasons why the song couldn't possibly have been written until after Henry's death, as we've seen and will see more in part two, but facts like that didn't bother the writer of the series, Michael Hirst. As he said, "Showtime [a subsidiary of CBS] commissioned me to write an entertainment, a soap opera, and not history. And we want people to watch it", which assumes that the general watching public want to have their fantasies confirmed in drama rather than be told stories based on actual evidence [67], (Listening to the modern version of this fabulous song [97]).

This song sounds in the movie "The Other Boleyn Girl" [84], is based on the fiction novel by Philippa Gregory, which plays very fast and loose with the facts (much of the novel comes from the author's imagination) as does the film (see the videos with *Greensleeves* [85; 87]).

Greensleeves is well over four centuries old and is, even now, still going strong. This is a song first published in 1580, its tune used for a wide variety of other 16th and 17th century broadside ballads [68], see the video by *The King's Singers* [80].



Fig. 71. Ball at Hever Castle.



Fig. 72. Hever Castle.



Fig. 73. The Rose garden at Hever Castle.
The Hever Castle Roses.

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Петько Л. Романтичне кохання і трагедія у троянді «Замок Хівер»: Анна Болейн і Генріх VIII.

Стаття присвячена троянді «Замок Хівер», представленої англійським селекціонером Коліном Хортером у 2011 році, названої на честь замка Хівер у графстві Кент (Англія), батьківщини Анни Болейн, королеви Англії з 1533 по 1536 роки, яка була другою дружиною короля Генріха VIII, і матір'ю майбутньої королеви Англії Єлизавети, , а також і троянді «Анна Болейн» (1999) селекціонера Девіда Остіна. В статті описано історію двох сестер Болейн – Анни і Марії, дитинство яких пройшло в замку Хівер біля Лондона і життя яких було пов'язане з королем Англії Генріхом VIII. Наводяться листи Генріха VIII до Анни під час семирічного періоду його залицання до майбутньої королеви.

Анна Болейн – інтригуюча історична особистість, яка стала героїнею романів, історичних біографій, фільмів, телесеріалів, картин. Описано кінострічки, присвячені трагічному коханню Анни і Генріха VIII, та актриси, які втілили образ Анни в кіномистецтві. Розглянуто оscarоносний фільм «Тисяча днів королеви Анни» (1969), зйомки якого проходили в замку Хівер. Для кращого розуміння і сприйняття викладеного матеріалу текст статті доповнюється ілюстраціями.

Згадано історію створення народної англійської пісні «Зелені рукави», авторство якої помилково приписує королю Генриху VIII, в якій він виявив своє кохання до Анни.

Ключові слова: Замок Хівер (Лондон), Анна Болейн, Марія Болейн, Генріх VIII, народна англійська пісня «Зелені рукави», троянда «Замок Хівер», Колін Хортер, троянда «Анна Болейн», Девід Остін.