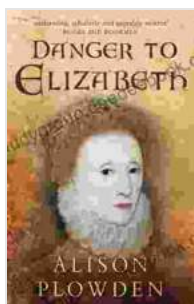


Danger to Elizabeth The Catholics Under Elizabeth

The accession of Elizabeth I to the English throne in 1558 marked a significant turning point in the religious history of the country. After the tumultuous reign of her half-sister Mary I, who had attempted to restore Catholicism to England, Elizabeth sought to establish a more moderate religious settlement. However, her policies towards Catholics remained a source of tension and danger throughout her reign.

The Elizabethan Religious Settlement

Elizabeth's religious settlement was based on the principle of uniformity. The Act of Supremacy (1559) established the queen as the supreme governor of the Church of England, and the Act of Uniformity (1559) imposed a common form of worship on all English subjects. Catholics who refused to conform to the new settlement were subject to fines, imprisonment, and even execution.



Danger to Elizabeth: The Catholics Under Elizabeth I

by Alison Plowden

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1310 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 368 pages
Lending : Enabled



Elizabeth's religious settlement was designed to create a unified national church that would support the monarchy. However, it also alienated a significant number of Catholics, who felt that their religious freedom was being threatened.

The Catholic Response

The Catholic response to Elizabeth's religious settlement was varied. Some Catholics conformed to the new settlement outwardly, while secretly practicing their own religion. Others refused to conform and faced the consequences of persecution.

A small number of Catholics turned to violence in an attempt to overthrow Elizabeth and restore Catholicism to England. The most famous of these was the Babington Plot (1586), which resulted in the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots.

The Government's Response

The government's response to Catholic resistance was swift and severe. Catholics were arrested, fined, imprisoned, and executed. The government also passed a series of laws designed to suppress Catholicism, including the Recusancy Acts (1581 and 1593), which imposed heavy fines on Catholics who refused to attend Protestant services.

The government's harsh treatment of Catholics alienated many people and contributed to the growing sense of persecution among English Catholics.

The Long-Term Impact

The persecution of Catholics under Elizabeth had a long-term impact on English society. It created a deep divide between Catholics and Protestants, which lasted for centuries. It also led to the emigration of many Catholics to other countries, including France, Spain, and Ireland.

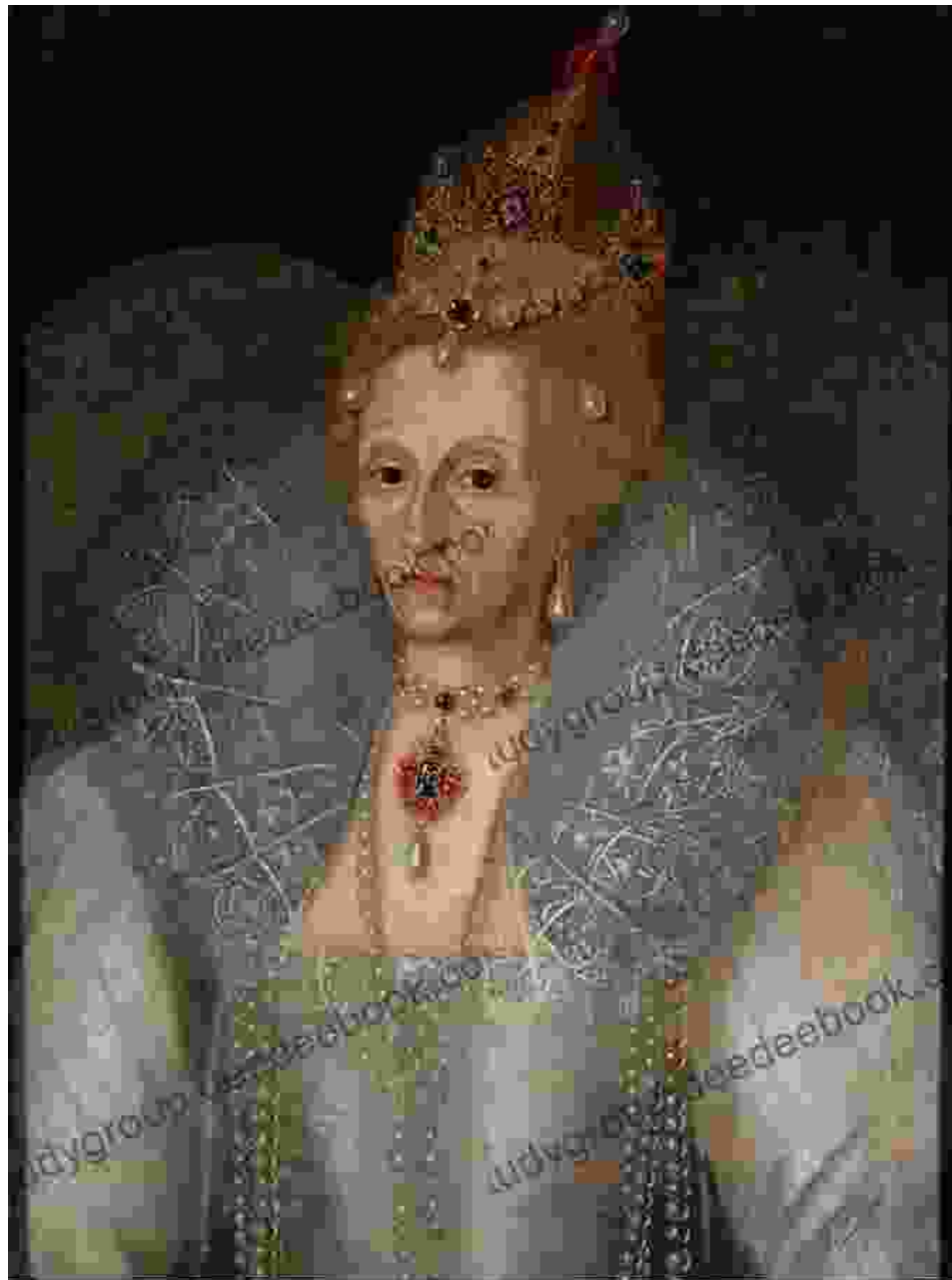
The persecution of Catholics under Elizabeth is a reminder of the dangers of religious intolerance. It is a lesson that should be remembered in today's world, where religious freedom is still under threat in many parts of the globe.

The danger to Elizabeth from the Catholics was a complex and ever-present threat. The government's response to Catholic resistance was often harsh and unforgiving, and it alienated many people. The persecution of Catholics under Elizabeth had a long-term impact on English society, creating a deep divide between Catholics and Protestants that lasted for centuries. It is a reminder of the dangers of religious intolerance and a lesson that should be remembered in today's world.

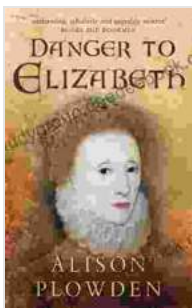
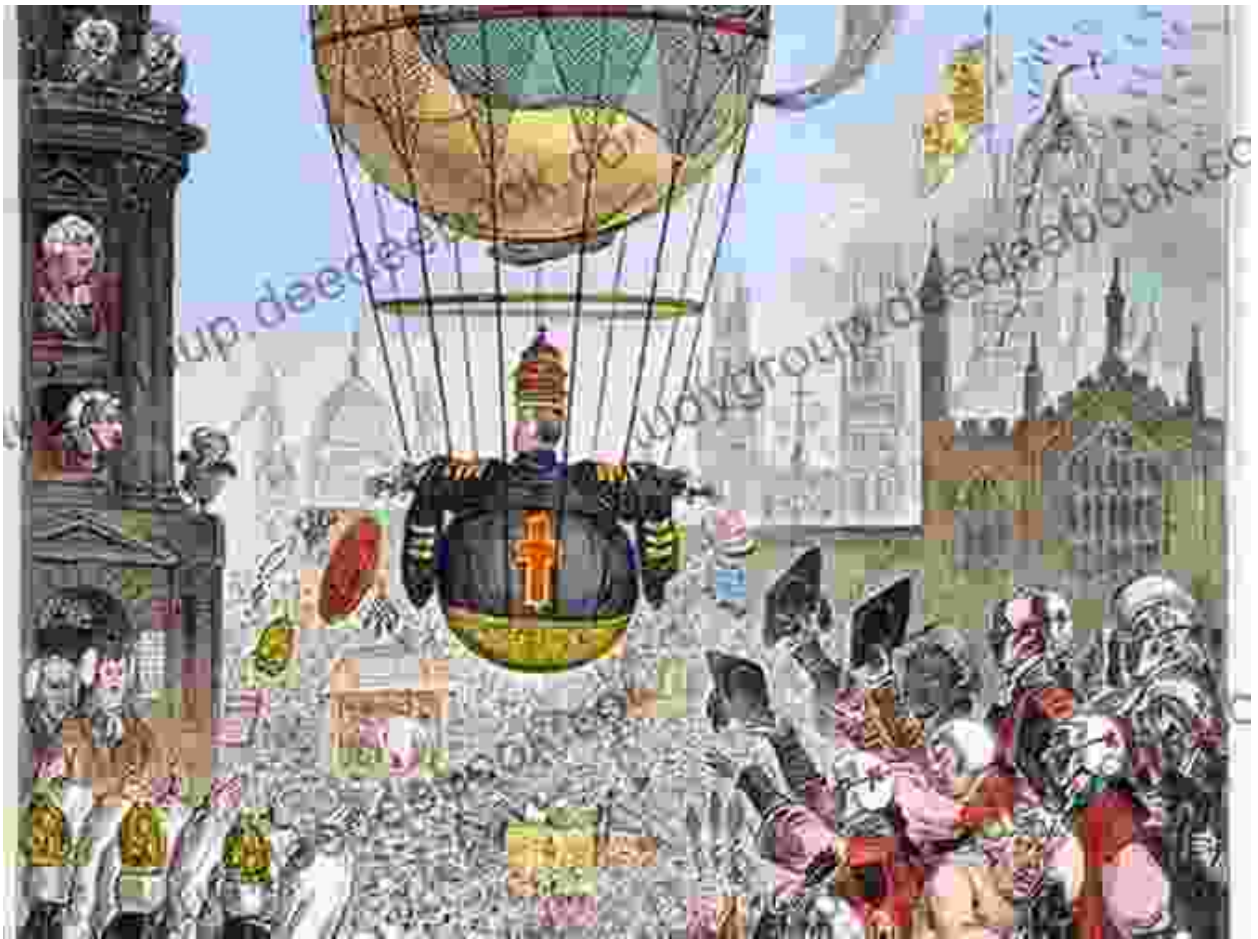
Suggested Reading

- Haigh, Christopher. Elizabeth I and the English Reformation. Cambridge University Press, 1993.
- Marshall, Peter. Reformation England, 1547-1603. Cambridge University Press, 2003.
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Images







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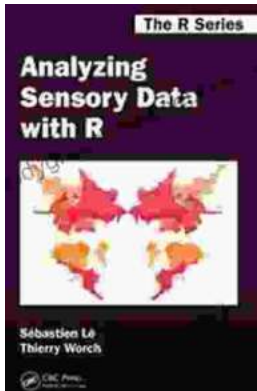
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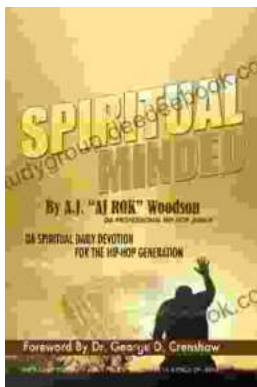
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