

0. LINKS ABOUT THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JOAN OF ARC  
- Story Preface

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**17. LINKS ABOUT THE LIFE AND TIMES OF JOAN OF ARC**



Does this fresco depict the real Joan of Arc? It's from the late-fifteenth-century, by an unknown artist, and is located at the Hermitage of Notre Dame de Bermont, France. What does the fresco depict?

"Fresco of two young women: one a peasant girl at prayer, the other dressed in male attire: possible depictions of Joan of Arc rediscovered underneath a later work. Joan of Arc was known to pray often at the site. Between the panels of the cloak of Saint-Thiebaut, appears a simple ex-voto. The eyes are of blue azurite, a process readily utilized in the Middle Ages. The young girl is kneeling, doubtless in a chateau, because the ground is not the beaten earth of the houses of the era but a green and black tile-flooring. She is dressed in grey, with high hose, an attire of a man. Thence to think that it has to do with the departure from Vaucouleurs or arrival at Chinon, there is not but to take a step; to prove it is another thing." Online via Wikimedia Commons.

Check out this [summary of Joan's life](#), written in 1903 by T. Douglas Murray (of London). Although one needs to get past patronizing, turn-of-the-century references to women, like:

*While her woman's nature shoed itself in her burst of tears when dishonoring names were flung at her by some brutal English soldiers, or when she screamed at the sharp and sudden pain of the wound she received...*

the article is still worthwhile.

Some folks have a passion for Joan of Arc which allows the rest of us to view really interesting material. An excellent site on the topic is [The St. Joan of Arc Center](#). It contains the entire, annotated transcripts for Joan's two trials ("The Lapse" and "The Relapse"), plus the Rehabilitation Trial.

If you would like a more scholarly look at Joan's life and impact, visit Professor Bonnie Wheeler's site at SMU. You can join the [International Joan of Arc Society](#) hosted at this site.

By all accounts, Joan was very religious as a child and as a young woman. Follow this link to her village church to see the actual [baptismal font](#) the priest used to baptize her.

During her trial, Joan tells her [accusers](#) that "The Voices" are St. Catherine, St. Margaret and St. Michael.

It took Joan about eleven days to make the journey from Vaucouleurs to the Dauphin's court at Chinon. This link will show you [her route](#) and what she saw along the way.

Enroute to Rouen, Joan was imprisoned in several places. Follow these links to see the deplorable conditions at

Beaulieu-les-Fontaines and Beaurevoir.

Want to read more about it? Check out this [bibliography](#).

The Roman emperor [Justinian](#) ordered St. Catherine's Monastery to be built in 527. It is located in a spectacular setting at the foot of Mount Moses and took nearly 40 years to build. It contains priceless works of art. This is a [link to pictures and stories about the monastery and the saint to whom Joan of Arc prayed](#).

It is interesting to ponder an apparent dichotomy. The Catholic Church condemned Joan to be burned at the stake and then, 500 years later, made her a saint. How does that follow?

This story has taken you to many links about Joan of Arc. You have seen interpretations of what she must have looked like (currently there are no known pictures of her, although [frescoes have been uncovered near her home town](#).) You have seen artist interpretations of her death. Alex Beard also has a [modern interpretation](#):

*Joan of Arc Burned at the Stake.*

With this background, perhaps some of the haze (surrounding Joan's life and death) has been cleared - at least to some extent.

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