

0. BAD JUDGMENT and ABDICATION - Story Preface

1. ENGAGED, MARRIED and WIDOWED

2. DEATHS of RIZZIO and DARNLEY

3. BAD JUDGMENT and ABDICATION

4. ESCAPE from LOCH LEVEN

5. "SAFELY KEPT and GUARDED"

6. IMPACT of the BABINGTON PLOT

7. MARY DEFENDS HERSELF

8. "FOR the CAUSE of the TRUE RELIGION"

9. EYEWITNESS REPORTS a BEHEADING

10. THE CASE of the BLACK PEARLS

11. MORE BACKGROUND on MARY



Gavin Hamilton (1723-1798) created this painting, "The Abdication of Mary, Queen of Scots." The original is maintained at the Hunterian Art Gallery, University of Glasgow.

Elizabeth I used Darnley's murder to further her own purposes: to discredit Mary who, with Darnley's death, was now heir to the English throne. Even after the inquiry was over, without specific findings of fact and no determination of Mary's guilt, Elizabeth thought her cousin may have been involved in Darnley's death.

To make matters worse for herself, Mary refused to listen to her advisors who urged her not to marry Bothwell. Instead of tending to affairs of state and raising her son - the future James VI of Scotland - Mary put her heart first. She married Bothwell. She planned to make him king. It was a disastrous move.

Mary's advisors and subjects were outraged. They did not want the murderer Bothwell to sit on the throne of Scotland. On July 24, 1567 Mary was forced to abdicate the crown in favor of her son. Like his mother before him, James became the sovereign of Scotland as a very young child.

And ... as a further price to avoid war with the Scottish nobility ... Mary and Bothwell were forced to separate. They never saw each other again.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/BAD-JUDGMENT-and-ABDICATION-Mary-Queen-of-Scots>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/BAD-JUDGMENT-and-ABDICATION-Mary-Queen-of-Scots>

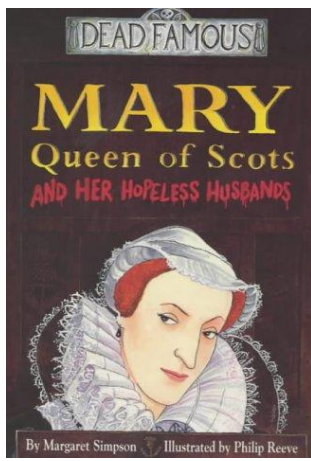
Media Stream



Elizabeth - Portrait

Image online courtesy, Wikimedia Commons.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Elizabeth-Portrait>



Mary, Queen of Scots and her Hopeless Husbands - by M. Simpson

Image online courtesy, [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Mary-Queen-of-Scots-and-her-Hopeless-Husbands-by-M.-Simpson>