## ESCAPE from LOCH LEVEN



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If Mary, Queen of Scots, could have foreseen all the trouble her marriage to Bothwell would cause, one can only hope she'd have made a different choice. Without the support of Scottish nobles, Mary turned to her cousin, Elizabeth, for help. Surely, she must have thought, Elizabeth would assist a fellow queen and cousin.

Without waiting for the advice of her ministers, who would have told her NOT to seek help <u>from Elizabeth</u>, Mary left for England. She was twenty-six years old.

When she arrived <u>in England</u>, Mary asked to see her cousin, the queen. For another nineteen years <u>Mary</u> asked for an audience with <u>Elizabeth</u>. She never got one. Instead, she was confined, in one English castle or another, never free to leave. Effectively imprisoned without charges, and without a trial, Mary ceased to live the life of a ruler.

As time passed, Mary increasingly tried to return to Scotland. There was always a reason why her English captors would not let her leave. The main, unstated reason was clear. Elizabeth and her advisors continued to view Mary - the heir - as a threat to the security of Elizabeth's throne.

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

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See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

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Media Stream



Mary, Queen of Scots - Portrait Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons. PD

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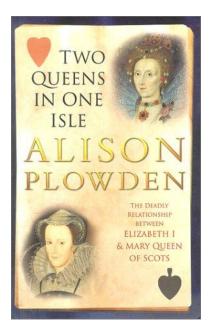
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**Elizabeth** 

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## Two Queens in One Isle - by Alison Plowden

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