ALL ABOUT HISTORY

NAPOLEON’S WATERLOO

From prison break to war with Wellington, inside the exiled emperor’s last stand

REJECTED PRINCESSES
The historic heroines you’ll never see in a Disney movie

PIRATES OF THE BARBARY COAST

DEATH RAILWAY GREAT ESCAPE
The WWII soldier who dodged death in Dunkirk, Singapore and Burma

SPARTA SURVIVAL GUIDE, NAZIS CLASH AT CASTLE ITTER, LADY MELBOURNE, SPAIN’S PLOT TO INVADE CHINA, THE MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING
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REACH FOR THE STARS

The daunting interior of a space shuttle’s external tank could be quite terrifying. As a glowing steel vessel, it held the fuel and oxidizer for the two NASA rockets that propelled it. A masterpiece of engineering from 39 years ago, this fuel tank would carry over 1,850,000 litres of propellant needed to get the shuttle off the ground. Before being assembled, the components were approximately 180 kilometres (110 miles) above the Earth. 1985
ROYAL BEATLEMANIA

Police keep back a crowd of young fans outside Buckingham Palace as the Beatles receive the Royal Decorations. But not everyone thought that they deserved the accolades and several peace demonstrators had their decorations in protest. For example, General Frederick Wigg said that 12 medals had been awarded for both World Wars and resigned from the governing Labour Party in disgust.

1965
EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED

Pablo Picasso experiments with a light pen at his home in Vallauris, France, drawing the outlines of figures. Gone are his signature and more. The shimmering figures would have only lasted a few seconds but this shot was captured forever by photographer Gjon Milgrom. Picasso is best known as a sculptor but his creative genius also turned his hands to many other mediums, including sculpture, printmaking and even poetry.
HISTORY IN PICTURES

AT THE DRIVE-IN

While people had enjoyed watching silent open-air movies before, it took an astute entrepreneur, Richard Hollingshead, to realize that Americans would enjoy watching films in the comfort of their cars. Hollingshead opened the first drive-in in 1933, but it didn’t really take off until the advent of in-car speakers in the 1940s. At its peak in 1958, there were 4,064 drive-ins in the US, but there are still 324 operating today. 1955
“There was a laughing Devil in his sneer. That raised emotions both of rage and fear”

The Corsair, Byron

ALL ABOUT

THE BARBARY COAST

Explore North Africa’s notorious den of pirates that terrorised the high seas raiding ships and taking slaves

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Explore a Barbary galiot

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Cross swords with a corsair

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How to raid a ship

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Pirate kings and queens

Written by David Crookes, Jessica Legget, Jack Parsons
**Great numbers**
As a popular ship, the Barbary galoots played many roles. According to sources, as many as 50 galoots and several other large galleys were based in Algiers during the 16th century. From there, they would travel towards the Barbary Coast or the Strait of Gibraltar in search of vessels to prey on.

**Single mast**
The Barbary galoots had a single mast and these were fitted at an angle with a large triangular sail set on a long yard. The benefit of such a lateen rig was to allow the craft to sail at speed close to the wind but they were never used in combat. Nearly all vessels were lateen rigged after 1550 as Ottoman shipbuilders adopted the design and construction methods of the Portuguese.

**Serious firepower**
A large gun was mounted at the centre of the ship's bow and it would have three cannon balls of between 54 and 118 kilograms. These would typically have been blasted at the hull of the enemy craft, causing extreme damage. The pirates would then be in a position to board the ship, its crew and any loot on board.

**Swivel shooters**
The Barbary galoots had a platform at their bows on which swivel-mounted shooters were placed. Ranging from two to ten per ship and firing either 450-gram balls or bags of gunpowder, these guns were for targeting enemy personnel on the deck of an opposing ship, clearing the way for the pirates to board.

**Keeping it clean**
The pirates would ensure their vessel was well maintained by clearing the lower hull of barnacles and weeds and coating the body of the ship with a wax. This allowed it to better cope with the speeds of up to 15 kilometres per hour under sail and up to 20.5 kilometres in an hour rowing.

**Short length**
There are no records of the exact size of a Barbary galoot but Venetian shipbuilding sources suggest they were three metres wide and 27 metres in length, including the spar at the bow. As such, they were one-and-a-half times as long as a British double-decked ship (and roughly the same width). The vertical distance between the wateline and the bottom of the hull - the draft of the ship - was two metres.

**Vital supplies**
Given that the pirates would have been at sea for weeks, it was important that there were sufficient supplies on board, especially given the scorching hot weather of the Mediterranean. About 1,800 gallons of water were taken on board and the vessel would have lasted a crew of around 150 roughly 20 days. The pirates would have bases where they could gain extra refreshments, however.

**Sitting low**
The distance from the wateline to the upper deck of the ship was short, which meant the galoot was able to sit low in the water. This reduced the drag and weight of the craft, allowing it to move more quickly through the sea, but it also meant that Barbary galoots were not suitable for lengthy voyages in open water and the hull was rather cramped.

**Numerous ears**
Galoots were historically small galleys - the type that are propelled mainly by rowing. To that end, they needed to have sets of oars and this particular type of ship had between 16 and 20 pairs (although typically they had 18), all mostly lined up on both sides of the boat.
Where do you think you come from?

41% Europe West
31% Great Britain
12% Scandinavia
9% Iberian Peninsula
9% Italy/Greece

With one simple test, uncover the different places from your past, discover unknown relatives and find new details about your unique story.

Know your story.
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How to RAID A SHIP
BARBARY BATTLE TACTICS TO MAKE YOUR FORTUNE
MEDITERRANEAN, 15TH-19TH CENTURY

Barbary pirates were principally slave-hunters and their area was too
big for them to raid the Ottoman slave trade. This gave rise
to two targets: the coastline of Christian
countries and unsuspecting ships.
But as the 16th century went
on, coastal towns around the
Mediterranean became less populated
as villagers crossed island or highly
fortified their homes to better defend
themselves. This sent some pirates
further afield, raiding Britain, Ireland
and even Iceland. However, most
privateers focused on raiding vessels
at sea, where scarcity of victims was
less of a problem as shipping continued
to be big business.

WHAT YOU’LL NEED...

1. CANNONS
2. CANNON SHIP
3. CANNON SHIP CREW

HEAD TO THE HUNTING GROUNDS

The best place to find a merchant ship is on a trade route
between the Mediterranean’s shipping ports. However, rather
than target a vessel in open water, find a bottleneck where it
can’t easily escape, such as the Strait of Messina. Tack your
galley behind a headland so you can ambush the ship.

KEEP A LOOKOUT

Once you’re in position, you just need to wait for a
potential victim to appear. This could be done by either
appearing as a merchant vessel and drawing sailors to
your spot, or by waiting for a sailing ship to pass by
in a narrow strait.

SORT THE PLUNDER

Once you’ve captured the vessel, sort the loot by valuables
and personal items. Lock the crew in a small room or
store them in a remote area. Collect all the valuable items
and distribute them among your crew.

CELEBRATE YOUR VICTORY

Depending on the value of the loot, you can
either split it among your crew or keep it all for
yourself. It’s important to make sure you’re
secure and safe from any potential threats.

How not to... hunt as a lone wolf

It was only when they worked together that the Barbary crews
could be successful. They would split into smaller groups
and attack vessels from different angles. This would
force the crew to defend themselves from multiple
directions, making it difficult to respond effectively.

Fighting for freedom

Many attacked ships surrendered quickly, but some fought back,
hoping that the pirates would go to waste or injure the crew.

Mixed crew

A Barbary ship would be staffed by a combination of experienced
sailors, local marines, and volunteers from a local village or
town to bolster its numbers.

Fire power

Barbary ships were nothing to sneeze at. The cannons were
designed to intimidate the crew, forcing them to surrender
calmly and quickly. This would make it easier for the
pirates to take control of the vessel.

Seasonal work

During the winter months, the
Mediterranean is prone to storms, so
Barbary crews would enter the
area, looking for opportunities
to attack merchant vessels.

4 FAMOUS... COASTAL ATTACKS

INVASION OF GOZO
JULY 1552

CORSECA
JUNE 601

ICELANDIC RAID
23 JUNE-19 JULY 1027

SACK OF BALTIMORE
23 JUNE 1663

Barbary pirates have been
a persistent threat to
the Mediterranean
for centuries, with
their tactics evolving
over time. From
early days of
hunting slaves
to modern
crimes against
humanity, the
pirates have left
a lasting
impact on the
region.

22

23
US MARINE
THE CORPS THAT DEFINED THE BARBARY WARS
Derna, Tripoli, 27 April 1805

The US went to war with the Barbary States from 1801 to 1805 and then again in 1815 in an effort to curtail corsair attacks. The Battle of Derna was the decisive skirmish of the First Barbary War, led by Lieutenant William Eaton and Henry Shimmin. Tasked with restoring a deposed prince of Tripoli, Hamet Carrerelli, in the belief that he would be more favorable to American ships, they marched from Alexandria, Egypt, to Derna, in modern-day Libya. Though their success was undermined when the US signed a peace treaty that saw Carrerelli removed again in return for hostages, the battle led to the line “To the shores of Tripoli being added to the Marine’s Hymn as well as the adoption of the Marine as inventor by the Corps.”

SETTING UP
On the day of the battle, the US warships Argus, Nautilus, and Warrior all converged ready to launch the attack on Derna, with Nautilus anchoring close to the shore. Eaton had led his troops 905 kilometers through the North African desert to Derna, only to be refused entry by the governor—who cunningly challenged Eaton to attack.

COMMUNICATION
The ships opened up communication with each other to discuss their plans of attack. The night before, Eaton told Hamilton that he wanted to launch an offensive as soon as possible once the field artillery had been landed. Concern provided by the ships would be crucial to the success of the assault as the US Marines were outnumbered.

LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS
Eaton sent a message to the Marines on board Argus requesting that they land their field artillery as soon as possible so that he could begin his march on the city. However, Argus struggled to land its guns on the shore and it was not until one arrived. To avoid wasting time, Eaton decided to continue with the assault regardless.

BEGIN THE ATTACK
Once the field artillery was ready, Eaton ordered the start of the land offensive. In the meantime, the three ships took up their positions along the shore and began to fire heavily on the city. While all of this was happening, enemy fire rained down from the fort for around an hour, making it difficult for the United States to advance.

TAKING CONTROL
Using the ships heavy fire as cover, the American soldiers bravely charged towards the better fort. As the enemy fired in terror, members of Argus, including Lieutenant O’Rouke, ran ahead and removed the native flag. In its place, they raised the Stars and Stripes and took control of the fort’s guns, which were promptly and ready for immediate use thanks to the vacated batteries who had been firing them beforehand.

SECURE THE VICTORY
The US forces managed to successfully capture both the city and the fort. They then sent in hours to deliver ammunition for the soldiers as well as to recover those Marines who were wounded and needed medical attention. Eaton left south with the fort and the USA formally made its way to Derna in order to make sure that everything was organized, and that security had been maintained for the evening.

A WAR HERO
After ensuring that the city was secure, Eaton summoned to one of the ships in order to receive medical attention himself. During the battle, he had been seriously injured when he was hit in the left foot by a musket ball while leading the charge. Nevertheless, Eaton survived and he returned to his home country as a hero alongside O’Rouke and the rest of the troops.

REST AND RECOVERATE
With the United States under the command of the United States after two hours of bloody fighting, it was time for the troops to rest and recover from their victory. While the American forces had stealthily suffered minimal losses, approximately 800 Tripolitans were killed by the end of the skirmish and 1,200 were wounded, with many more locally driven out of the city.
**Hall of Fame**

**PIRATE Kings AND QUEENS**

The notorious corsairs who ruled the Barbary Coast’s seas

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**ORUÇ BARBAROSSA**

**OTTOMAN** (1340-1453)

Along with his younger brother Hayredden, Oruç, one of the founding fathers of the Barbary Coast. They captured the city of Algiers in 1440, executed its ruler, Siderr bani Tunis, and expelled the Spanish. While the brothers received support from the Ottoman sultan, as the new governor of Algiers, Oruç was determined to remain independent of the sultan. The following year, he destroyed a Spanish fleet of 7,000 soldiers but failed to capture the Spanish-held cities in North Africa. He was killed at the hands of the Spanish in 1451 while fighting them at the city of Tlemcen.

**HAYREDDIN BARBAROSSA**

**OTTOMAN** (1489-1546)

Renowned as a military genius, Hayredden became the governor of Algiers following the death of his brother. Unlike Oruç, who sought independence from the Ottomans, Hayredden forged a stronger relationship with the sultanate in return for men and equipment. With this support, he built a powerful fleet to fight against Christian Europe, conducting a series of raids along the Mediterranean coast. Some of Hayredden’s most famous naval victories include the capture of El Pelayo, a Spanish fortress, in 1529 and the conquest of Tunis in 1534, which he achieved while leading the Ottoman fleet of Sultan Murad II.

**DRAGUT**

**OTTOMAN** (1495-1547)

A bitter rival of Hayredden, Dragut joined Hayredden’s Barbary Coast fleet and quickly became his right-hand man and chief lieutenant. He too played a pivotal role in the capture of Tunis in 1534 and was instrumental in the defense of Algiers in 1538. He became the effective governor of Algiers in 1549 and led a successful rebellion against Sultan Suleiman in 1548.

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**SAYYIDA AL-HURRA**

**MOORAN** (1466-1531)

Nobody had more reason to despise the Spanish than the pirate queen of the Barbary Coast, Sayyida al-Hurra. Originally from Granada, Sayyida and her family were forced to flee following the Reconquista in 1492. She married the governor of Tunis, a local chief, and through him assumed a position of power. After his death, Sayyida inherited the position of governor and allied with Oruç Barbarossa to attack the Spanish and Portuguese - together they controlled the Mediterranean Sea. Sayyida remained in the sphere of Morocco, Ahmed al Wazif, but famously refused to move to Fez to marry him, instead insisting he come to her.

**MURAT REIS THE YOUNGER**

**DUTCH** (1567-1614)

Born Jan van der Boer, Murat was a Dutch privateer from Friesland. After he led his ship to the North African coast, settling in Sale, Morocco. While at sea near the Dutch City of Batavia, he began attacking other ships, mainly those belonging to the Spanish. Murat became a hero after he was captured by the Barbary pirates, during which time he converted to Islam. Becoming a Barbary pirate himself, he plundered vessels across the Mediterranean and lived a wealthy life.

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**MULAI AHMED ER RAISUNI**

**MAROCCAN** (1761-1807)

Despite the fact that piracy along the Barbary Coast ended during the 19th century, Mulai Ahmed er Raisuni is often referred to as the last corsair. Embracing banditry, he was both feared and admired in Morocco as he opposed the government and the sultan. He conducted a series of inhumanely, including the abduction Walter Harris, a correspondent for The Times newspaper, and maintained a fleet of boats for piracy activities at sea.
HISTORY ANSWERS

What does 'Barbary' mean?

Megan Lowry

Barbary pirates divide up their spoils?

Megan Lowry

There were strict rules regarding how the profits from the sale of slaves were divided. Up to 10% was kept by the pirate leader, then fees were paid to various officials, mercenaries, and the captain of the ship. Half of what was left was then paid to the ship's crew. The rest was divided among the pirates. The slaves were sold at auction, and while some were sold to the highest bidder, others were sold to the owner of the ship who financed the pirate voyage.

Did the pirates only trade in white slaves?

James Luca

Barbary slaves captured by Barbary pirates could be black, brown, or white. The type of slave depended on the pirate's preferences and the demand in the market. However, white slaves were often valued higher than black or brown slaves because they were seen as more desirable and versatile. The demand for white slaves was high, especially in European markets, and this contributed to the high value placed on them.

A Slave Market in Sousse, 16th Century

28 See your name in the magazine! Send us your questions about Crime & Punishment now "A1AboutJassy" @AboutJassyMag
NAPOLEON'S LAST STAND

How one reckless gamble ended an emperor's career

Napoleon Bonaparte was a man whose unbridled ambition saw him conquer Europe — but it would also be his downfall. In just over 100 days, the Napoleonic Wars would end as a small band of soldiers and two Frenchmen, prompting all the great powers of Europe to unite together to bring him down once and for all.

Living from 1769 to 1821, Napoleon built an empire that covered vast swaths of the continent and by 1810 it was easier to list the nations he didn't dominate - Portugal, Sicily, San Marino, and the British, Russian, and Ottoman Empires. This was not good for the 'Fleets Corporal' from Corsica, who only secured a commission in the French army in 1793.

Napoleon enjoyed a series of acclaimed victories as a result of the French Revolution, by early 1796, he was the commander of all the French forces manning the Italian frontier. Gifted with extraordinary tactical genius, he won a string of great victories that knocked both Austria and Prussia out of the War of the First Coalition. Similar success in Cairo fighting the Battle of the Pyramids in 1798, during a doomed attempt to conquer Egypt, cemented his reputation as one of Revolutionary France's greatest heroes.

However, while Napoleon was enjoying these personal victories, France as a whole was struggling.
While he was off gallivanting in Egypt, Austria and Russia had enlisted the War of the Second Coalition and had reinvaded Italy. It was clear that France needed a much stronger government than the one that had emerged from the bloody chaos of the Revolution.

Seeking to fill the void, Napoleon, an extremely determined young man who had been dreaming of taking power for some time, set himself up as a de facto dictator in November 1799. Over the next year, he remodeled France and forced all of his opponents to make peace. Through hostilities with Britain would resume in 1803, the next year he was awarded by the same political system he had created with the title of Emperor of the French.

Over the next few years, the French armies secured unprecedented success and the result was that France remained compact. With their social position both respected and protected by the state, the propertied classes had no reason to oppose Napoleon, while the populace as a whole were mollified by a measure of economic prosperity. Additionally, though levels of conscription were still relatively heavy, they were not unreasonable. By 1807, the French Empire was greatly expanded. This included areas annexed to France and ruled directly from Paris, and satellite states that were often ruled by one of the emperor’s many relatives, such as Spain under his brother Joseph.

However, victory tarnished Napoleon’s head and he increasingly began to overreach himself. As his desire for power and glory increased, so did his demands for men and money. Meanwhile, all the powers of Europe were driven into a position in which they had no option but to fight him. The war dragged on interminably with little sign of any sort of lasting peace. The allies and populace alike became increasingly unhappy with their empire—and all the more so when a series of mistakes on the part of Napoleon precipitated a general economic crisis, which had terrible effects on living standards for ordinary people.

Bonaparte had been in Russia in 1812 and then in Germany in 1813, the French were facing invasion by 1814. By this time, Napoleon fought bravely but the odds against him were just too high, while the system of conscription broke down in the face of wholesale refusal to obey the enemy or to implement its policies. By May, it was all over. Napoleon was finally forced to surrender to his enemies on 6 April 1814.

In theory, this should have been the end of the story. Napoleon was exiled to the Mediterranean island of Elba and given a position as its king, and the Bourbon monarchy was restored to France in the person of Louis XVIII. Meanwhile, the powers of Europe met in a great congress at Vienna in which they attempted not to turn the clock back to 1810, but to build a new system of international relations instead. On the one hand, it would ensure that France could not come back on any more acts of aggression, and, on the other, it would make sure that Europe didn’t slide back into the endless dynamic conflicts that had plagued the 18th century.

Watching from afar, the illness Napoleon was not treated especially harshly in the wake of his defeat. With him went roughly 600 soldiers chosen from the Imperial Guard, and he was given complete freedom of movement as he was left almost entirely unpunished on the passing and exanguinate Italian island.

For Napoleon, however, confinement to such a small a sphere was torture. The French government also annexed him a legitimate grievance by failing to pay the pension that had been granted to him. More stories reached him of massive public discontent with the new regime so at the end of February 1815, he decided to return to France and restore himself to glory.

His prince return was somewhat anticlimactic as there was not a single guard to stop him. Though there was normally a British agent—Sir Neil Campbell—assigned to watch over Napoleon, he had left Elba to travel to Florence on 16 February, allegedly to visit his mistress. Ten days later, Napoleon set sail on a small ship called Baccarat along with his imperial guard. These followed the so-called Night of the eagle. According to legend, the erstwhile emperor returned to a heroes welcome in France but the truth may actually have been a little less romantic.

When he landed on the French coast on 3 March, he was initially denied entrance to the town of Antwerp and could supposedly only find two people to volunteer for his cause. However, in a somewhat famous episode where Napoleon dined a small block of the road to fire upon him, the portiers of Grenoble actually decided to join him on 5 March. The city of Lyons—a place that the emperor had always favored when in power—also welcomed his arrival with great excitement just five days later.
"Napoleon claimed to be a champion of the Revolution against reaction and he proposed a new liberal constitution"

Most astoundingly of all, despite having promised Louis XVIII to bring Napoleon back to Paris in an innovative March, Ney, having sworn allegiance to Napoleon along with his 6000 men when they finally met at Arras on 13 May, failed to support him. Napoleon, against his better judgement, it was a decision that was to eventually cost Ney his life.

Having received reports of Napoleon's amazing support, Louis XVIII fled Paris on 20 March. Napoleon arrived just a few hours later, taking residence at the Tuileries Palace. After being greeted by a large crowd of officers, they all celebrated well into the night.

Napoleon's ability to win over the army was to be expected. Some of the soldiers had been driven to fury by the enforced monarchy's treatment of the military. Many officers who had once fought bravely for Napoleon had been placed on half-pay by the Bourbon in favour of aristocrats who had fled abroad in the wake of the Revolution. Some had even fought for France's enemies to boot. However, regaining power over everyone was not going to be so trivial.

Popular responses to Napoleon's generous return were mixed. While some areas that had done well out of Napoleon felt a sense of satisfaction as they had particular reason to resent the Bourbons, or had rightly feared the threat of invasion by 1814, others of his return elsewhere was fraught with a mixture of fear, honor, and armed resistance.

Determined to win over the army, Napoleon's return was greeted with joy and enthusiasm. The former emperor's return was cheered by the French troops who had once fought for him. In a speech to the troops, Napoleon declared his intention to bring peace and stability to France. He promised to restore the French Republic and to put an end to the chaos that had plagued the country in the years since the Revolution.

Napoleon's return was met with jubilation throughout France. The people of Paris welcomed him with open arms, and the rest of the country followed suit. In the days that followed, Napoleon moved to consolidate his power and to prepare for the future. He convened a new French assembly and set about creating a new constitution that would give France a democratic form of government. He also took steps to ensure the stability of the country and to heal the wounds of the past.

The first years of Napoleon's rule were marked by a period of prosperity and stability. He brought peace to France and restored the country's economy. He also took steps to improve the lives of the French people, such as implementing social and educational reforms.

However, Napoleon's rule was not without its challenges. He faced opposition from various groups, including the Church, the nobility, and the military. These challenges led to a series of military campaigns that would ultimately see Napoleon fall from power.

In 1815, Napoleon made the fateful decision to return to France and conquer the Kingdom of the Netherlands, which was then ruled by his brother Joseph. He hoped to establish a new empire in Europe, but his plans were dashed by a series of military defeats, including the Battle of Waterloo. The French army was ultimately defeated, and Napoleon was forced to abdicate.

Napoleon spent the next two years in exile on the island of Elba before making his way back to France. He was briefly restored to power in 1814, but was once again defeated and exiled. In 1815, Napoleon made a final attempt to recapture power, but this was met with a crushing defeat at the Battle of Waterloo. He was captured and sent into exile, this time on the island of Saint Helena, where he died in 1821.

Napoleon's legacy is a complex one. He is remembered as a military genius who brought about great changes in France and Europe. However, his rule was also marked by authoritarianism and oppression. He is remembered as both a hero and a villain, a man of great talent and a man of great flaws.
THE FINAL SHOWDOWN

Discover where it all went wrong for Napoleon at Waterloo

01 First volley
Between 8am and 9.30am on 18 June, the Battle of Waterloo began with a French attack on a Coalition position at Hougoumont, a large farmhouse that served as a tactical outpost. This fighting was heavy at first with few troops from each side engaged but by the early afternoon, it had become a bloody epicentre for much of the fighting with the Coalition forces holding out against numerous French assaults.

02 Grande Batterie
At around midday, Napoleon ordered his Grande Batterie of 80 cannons to open fire upon Wellington's position. The cannons caused many casualties in Wellington's cavalry, opening a potential weak point in the defending lines.

03 French infantry attack
After the Coalition lines had been weakened, Napoleon began his attack proper with numerous infantry corps advancing. The initial fighting went the way of the French with the left wing pressing Wellington's forces back. However, as it became clear that Napoleon was not to be stopped, the Coalition forces fought back, and by nightfall, the battle was virtually even.

04 British heavy cavalry attack
Seeking their infantry was about to buckle, Wellington's First and Second Brigades of heavy cavalry charged and smothered the French infantry. By the time they reached the bottom of the hill, they had completely halted the infantry's advance. In doing so, however, they had left themselves exposed and without backup.

05 Napoleon counters
With the Coalition's heavy cavalry now facing squares of French infantry in the front and with his support, Napoleon ordered a counterattack, defeating the cavalry and chasing them back into their own cavalry division. A massive counter-attack ensued, with grizzly battles and artillery all involved. While Napoleon's cavalry had a large number of the Coalition's heavy cavalry, their charge to reach them was, however, dispatching troops to interdict the French.

06 Stalmate
At the heart of the battle, Coalition and French squares then undertook a series of back-and-forth exchanges. All the while cannon and muskets continued to rain down from all sides; and, aside from one more combined arms assault by the French on the centre-right of Wellington's lines, a general move ensued. Each side saw their numbers steadily chipped away.

07 Prussians arrive
Wellington had been exchanging communications with General Blücher, commander of the Prussian army, since early in the day. The Prussians arrived at roughly 4.30pm and, noting the situation, charged Wellington's right flank. They were supported by Napoleon's right flank, and a tactical advantage began to tilt in the French favor.

08 Imperial Guard attacks Wellington
With the force temporarily holding off the Prussians at Plancenoit and targeted Napoleon's right flank, giving Wellington the upper hand. The Old Guard that had been supporting the French position at Plancenoit beat a hasty retreat.

09 Plancenoit recaptured
The Prussian army retook Plancenoit and targeted Napoleon's right flank, giving Wellington the upper hand. The Old Guard that had been supporting the French position at Plancenoit beat a hasty retreat.

10 French army retreats
With the French left, right, and centre now distinguished, the only cohesive forces left available to Napoleon were two divisions of his Old Guard. Despite trying to rally his remaining troops behind them, the strength of the Coalition's army left the untenable and all of Napoleon could do was order a retreat. His ride was crowned by the Old Guard, many of whom died holding back the Coalition advance.
A man whose ambition and lust for glory had made the entire continent run with blood

In this situation, his only option was to strike a rapid blow against the nearest enemy in the hope that a great victory would be obtained that would strengthen his case for making peace. In truth, this was a slim hope. On 15 June 1815, he invaded Belgium with the idea of capturing the forces there unprepared, as these troops were the most vulnerable to attack.

In the firing line were two separate armies, namely the 50,000-strong Army of the Netherlands - a polycratic collection of troops from Britain, Holland and various minor German states - and Germain von Bliicher's Prussian Army of the Lower Rhine. Neither force was of particularly good quality and individually they were both smaller than Napoleon's 150,000-strong Army of the North. In consequence, the emperor planned to defeat them separately by getting between them and hitting each one before they could unite and overwhelm him by the sheer weight of their combined numbers.

As an operational plan this was very good but it was badly executed. Ultra-tight marching routines failed to move at the appointed time or became jammed in the narrow country lanes leading to the front. Fortunately for the French, the situation was not at its best in the Allied camp either. For ease of subduing the troops, the armies of Wellington and Bliicher were spread over a wide expanse of southern Belgium and the two commanders were not expecting an attack so soon. That night, Wellington was at a ball hosted by the Duchess of Richmond where he and many other key officials enjoyed a free-flowing wine. Harassed by poor staff work, however, the French could not take advantage of their opponents' disarray. Initial success against the Prussians in particular was squandered, and Wellington and Bliicher managed to take safety a few kilometers south of Brussel - close enough to support one another with ease. Napoleon's master plan had failed.

The climax of the campaign came on the morning of Sunday 18 June. Having followed Wellington with the bulk of his forces, Napoleon needed to crush him before the Prussians arrived to help him. But heavy rainfall the day before meant that much of his army had not yet arrived. It was nearly midday before his forces finally got into action and even when they did, they found that Wellington had chosen a very strong position in the form of a long ridge studded with a number of stoutly built forts. Every attempt at attack was soundly defeated. All this, exactly as he had promised. Bliicher's army had been marching to the sound of the guns and at around 4:30pm, large numbers of French soldiers started pouring onto the field on the emperor's right flank. From then on, increasing numbers of French troops had to be thrown to hold off Bliicher. Success against Wellington became even harder to attain. One last attack by the Imperial Guard having been beaten off, the onset of evening saw the French prowess simply become too great. The defensive line that had been established to hold them back was not just breached, but swept away.

This was the end, within a matter of minutes, the whole French army had collapsed. The only troops who put up any sort of resistance were a few battalions of the Imperial Guard that had remained in reserve. Indeed, such was the disorder that it was only with the greatest difficulty that Napoleon escaped capture at the hands of the

WHERE ELSE COULD NAPOLEON HAVE FLED?

Napoleon's Last Stand

If he hadn't surrendered, the ruler could have had his pick of destinations

Live in exile in the United States

Napoleon seriously considered trying to escape to the United States after the Battle of Waterloo. While he was ultimately dissuaded by a British warship at Rochefort, he did have a second waiting for him at the port laden with treasure, books and maps of the US so he could start a new life in the New World. When he was on Saint Helena, Napoleon often speculated about what might happen if he had lived in New Jersey with his brother Joseph, setting on the battle of the Mississippi or even entering service with "a new, more liberal" government. He said, "I would have loved to realize this dream, it would have brought me new glory."

Forge a new empire in South America

When Napoleon's nephew Charle de la B Julian had been exiled from Saint Helena, he would build a new empire in all of Spanish America. He had, he would have had the support of hundreds of Spanish officers who had sided with the patriot cause. The independence of Chile, and its independence of the British crown would have been quickly recognized, while his imperial Marshal, the Count of Persavale, would have occupied the place of Major General Michel Ney, who had a brilliant career in Napoleon's Grande Armee. He would have been briefly considered for the post of independent Jean-Claude Rossignol, while his imperial Marshal, was considered a "new, more liberal" government in South America. He said, "I would have loved to realize this dream, it would have brought me new glory."

Join the revolutions in Europe

While Europe was at war, the French-held French occupied by Napoleon's Saint Helena, and Joseph Lannes was said that if Napoleon success Louis, the French army would march to the heart of Sweden and people long for him. The French army would have a new home and armies than ever. While we could only see this movement as revolutionary and Napoleon was considered a significant enough threat to this time that revolutionaries would have his recap by November 1815.

The Emperor of the Restored

After his defeat in 1815, Napoleon returned to the throne and was succeeded by his son Louis XVIII, but political power was not yet over. Charles X came into power in 1824. Even so, it was not until 1830 that the House of Bourbon was removed from the throne of France. Perhaps this was proof of just how exaggerated the rumors of popular discontent were, the very same tales that had persuaded Napoleon to embark on his pruss break - an adventure that was never for short of crazy.
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THE LOST CITY OF BENIN

The capital of Africa’s Benin Empire astonished Europeans with its beauty, so why is there nothing left?

Great Benin, where the king resides, is larger than Lisbon; all the streets run straight and as far as the eye can see,” wrote Portuguese ship captain Lourenço Petto in 1558. He added, “The houses are large, especially that of the king, which is richly decorated and has fine columns. The city is wealthy and industrious. It is so well governed that theft is unknown and the people live in such security that they have no doors to their houses.”

Located in the depths of the jungle but connected to other African kingdoms and the Atlantic Ocean by the Niger River, Great Benin City was the imperial capital of an empire that, at its peak, stretched from Lagos in the west to beyond the Niger in the east – an area that equates to approximately one-fifth of modern-day Nigeria.

Benin made contact with Europeans in the 1480s when Portuguese traders happened upon it while seemingly trying to find a way around the traditional Saharan trade routes. Dutch merchants arrived 100 years later and, over next 200 years, more traders came from England, France, Germany and Spain. They all returned home with amazing stories to rival Ptolomey’s but today, if you mentioned the Benin Empire to a Westerner – even someone from Portugal, which maintained regular contact with the kingdom for 400 years – they are likely to stare at you blankly. So what happened to the great city of Benin and why did it disappear without a trace?

WITTEN BY TOYIN FALOLA

A Nigerian historian and professor of African Studies, Toyin Falola holds the Jacob and Moneta Cager Mottier Chair in Humanities at the University of Texas at Austin. He is the author of many books on Nigerian history and African society.

Ornamental stool with image of dogon

THE ALL-MIGHTY OBA

Benin’s political, military and religious leader was an autocratic king.

And so began the highest political authority of the Oba, who were the spiritual leader of the people. Following death, the Oba would often develop around 60 golden monkeys – that few others could have among them.

GOD-LIKE STATUS

As well as being the highest political authority, the Oba were the spiritual leader of the people. Following death, the Oba would often develop around 60 golden monkeys – that few others could have among them.

PENDANT MASK

One of the most iconic symbols of the Benin Empire is the Pendant Mask. Carved from red sandstone, it depicts a face with long hair and a large, pointed nose. The mask is often worn as a pendant or as a headpiece. Throughout history, the Benin have been protective of these masks, and they are not allowed to be sold or exported.

ROYAL ALLOY

For the most, the Oba only carried ornamental weapons such as a staff shaped around a snake. Ashes were produced and poured over the face, and they were carried around the kingdom. The Oba was also often accompanied by musicians who played drums and singing.

KING OF THE DANCE

The royal dance was a central part of Benin culture. It was performed by the king and his courtiers, and it was often accompanied by music. The dance was believed to have healing properties.

STANDING APPREHEND

Standing appreheants, robes and helmets. During events, these items were used to show prestige and authority, and they were often items of wealth.

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The Lost City of Benin

The city of Benin was a major city in the 18th and 19th centuries, known for its elaborate architecture and intricate art. The city was destroyed in the 19th century and has been reconstructed in the 21st century. The city was once the capital of the Benin Empire, which was ruled by the Oba. The city was built on an artificial island, surrounded by a moat, and had a complex system of irrigation canals. The city was famous for its intricate carvings, which were made using a technique called okiriko. The city was also known for its impressive architecture, including the Oba's palace, which was built on a hilltop. The city was destroyed in 1897 during the French invasion of Benin, and has been reconstructed in the 21st century as a tourist attraction. The city is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Cruise to Bonibobo

Bonibobo City lay deep inside the jungle but it was not as far off as other places. The River Niger connected it to Timbuktu, the capital of the west African Empire. The river also flowed south to the Atlantic Ocean, which is how Europeans sailed to the city.

The lost fossil city

One of the first cities to have a settlement of early humans, huge metal objects found by pirates in one of the empire's greatest secrets were placed all around the city, though specially near the royal residence, to demonstrate power.

Royal palace

The palace of the Oba was made up of many parts of the whole city, with the Oba's palace still standing. The palace was called the Benin City of Benin. It included the royal residence of the Oba, various reception courts, quarters for the courtiers, and the royal kitchen. The royal palace was square-shaped with a red-tiled roof and roof. From the 18th century, it was decorated inside with Roman statues.

Visit the Benin broadway

According to Pausanias, the best thing you can see in Benin is a magnificent square called the 'Benin Broadway'. It is a great broad square, but it is not paved and seems to be a ruin or a sight to see. 'Benin Broadway is an Amusement. The stone on the ground and there are bands at the front.' Each of the city's main gate is a broad square with a fountain in the middle.
The Lost City of Benin

**Bloodthirsty daimons**

When ships made contact with Benin in the 16th century and they quickly started trading. The wealth between Benin and Benin was so central that Oba Elegba was said to have sent embassies to Portugal, an exchange that resulted in European influence on Benin’s art and culture. Elegba was reputed to have been a thrice in Portugal and his brother to have been his main rival. His brother was a powerful man who controlled the ivory trade in Benin and also the slave trade. He was known for his cruelty, and he was feared by the people of Benin. During this period, there wasn’t really a slave trade in Benin. Benin had a large army of well-trained and disciplined soldiers, and the king saw this as a major advantage. He used his army to conquer Benin and establish his kingdom. Benin became a powerful nation, and its wealth and power were based on its control of the slave trade.

**Iconic art**

One of the major events in the history of Benin is the conquest of Europe by the Benin Empire. The Benin Empire was a powerful nation, and its wealth and power were based on its control of the slave trade. The Benin Empire was also known for its art, which included sculptures, paintings, and carvings. These sculptures and paintings were often used to depict the power and authority of the Benin rulers. The Benin Empire was also known for its military conquests, which were often depicted in sculptures and paintings. The Benin Empire was a powerful nation, and its wealth and power were based on its control of the slave trade. The Benin Empire was also known for its art, which included sculptures, paintings, and carvings. These sculptures and paintings were often used to depict the power and authority of the Benin rulers. The Benin Empire was also known for its military conquests, which were often depicted in sculptures and paintings. The Benin Empire was a powerful nation, and its wealth and power were based on its control of the slave trade. The Benin Empire was also known for its art, which included sculptures, paintings, and carvings. These sculptures and paintings were often used to depict the power and authority of the Benin rulers. The Benin Empire was also known for its military conquests, which were often depicted in sculptures and paintings.

**Carnival caravans**

Benin had a large army of well-trained and disciplined soldiers, and the king saw this as a major advantage. He used his army to conquer Benin and establish his kingdom. Benin became a powerful nation, and its wealth and power were based on its control of the slave trade.

**The Benin Empire expanded through a mix of trade and conquest**

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**Benevolent Oba Ovoronkomai and Queen Aghabani**

The Benevolent Oba Ovoronkomai and Queen Aghabani were known for their benevolence in a time of conflict. The Benevolent Oba Ovoronkomai and Queen Aghabani were known for their benevolence in a time of conflict. They were known for their benevolence in a time of conflict. The Benevolent Oba Ovoronkomai and Queen Aghabani were known for their benevolence in a time of conflict. They were known for their benevolence in a time of conflict.
Kings and queens

The Royal Wedding Bloodbath

of Princess Victoria Eugenie & King Alfonso XIII

Written by June Wootton

Among the dead were nobility, military and wellwishers who had come to take part in the biggest royal wedding Madrid had seen in decades.

It was the recipe for a perfect royal wedding. The groom was a young king who had fallen head over heels for his new wife. The bride was a pretty princess who had once been a red-haired farmgirl. Their romance caught the imagination of people around Europe and tens of thousands of wellwishers flocked to the streets of Madrid on 11 May 1906 to see Alfonso XIII of Spain and his new queen, Princess Victoria Eugenie of Battenberg, ride in triumph from their glittering marriage ceremony to the illustrious wedding reception that was to take place at the Royal Palace of Madrid.

The crowds cheered and yelled for the best position while some threw flowers and confetti to celebrate, but among the petals was a deadly wedding gift. As the king and queen of Spain approached the heart of the city, a bouquet containing a bomb was launched at their carriage.

The man who threw it, Mateo Moral, had aimed directly for the royal party but the bomb was deflected off a high window of the building where the wedding was held. It landed next to the wedding carriage and close to the crowds that had gathered to see the bride and groom as they made their way along the Calle Mayor, one of the most famous streets in Madrid, and exploded instantly. The horror of the moment was heightened by the new queen’s face, which she turned to the crowd with tears streaming down her cheeks. Her husband was pointing out to her that she needed to view the crowds. The action was witnessed by everyone and the explosion was captured forever by a spectator, Eugenio Moncada, whose famous photo of the bomb was published in newspapers around the world in the following days. It showed the horridness of the terror attack with only 100 people injured. Among the dead were nobility, military and wellwishers who had come to take part in the biggest royal wedding Madrid had seen in decades.

While the city began to count the cost of the bomb, King Alfonso XIII and Queen Victoria Eugenie were expected to carry on with their royal duties. They appeared to the public at the Royal Palace and then walked into their wedding reception, attended by royalty from around Europe, with the queen still in her bridal gown, now covered in blood.
Kings and queens

It was a terrifying introduction for the queen but her husband was already used to attempts on his life, despite having only just turned 20. Just a year before, Moritz may have tried to kill him in Paris by throwing a bomb at his car as he left the opera. In 1903, a gunman had taken aim at him as he entered home from church. Alfonso remained calm during these two attacks as he did during the wedding bomb but this king had known plenty of catastrophes in his two decades. After all, his whole life had been an unusual run of tragedy and drama.

Alfonso had been king of Spain from the moment of his birth on 27 May 1891. His father, Alfonso XIII, had died in November 1885 aged just 27 following a short illness that had seen the Bourbon monarchy restored after a period of exile. Alfonso XIII attempted to introduce political stability following decades of turmoil and became popular for his common touch and willingness to engage with his people.

Following the birth of Alfonso XIII’s son just six months after his death, his widow, Queen Maria Cristina, ruled as regent with the aim of solidifying the throne for the new king. When he was just 16, Alfonso XIII took the reins of power and seemed to retain his positions from the off. His father had introduced a system for rotating government between the conservative and liberal parties and Alfonso embraced this wholeheartedly, although it would ultimately lead to instability. The young king also showed a keen interest in the military but his headstrong personality won him enemies from an early age.

However, that determination to do things his own way had been a big factor in ensuring his royal wedding happened in the first place. His bride had been nowhere near the top of anyone’s list as a potential queen of Spain but her own naivety and Alfonso’s ambition had produced a royal wedding that no other in the space of little more than a year.

Victoria Eugenia Juliana Eva, born at Balmoral on 24 October 1887, was the youngest granddaughter of Queen Victoria. Allegedly among her godmothers was the booklet Empress Eugenie of France, after whom she was named. It was hardly a good omen. The empress was living in England after being sent into exile with her husband, Napoleon III, who had died soon after arriving at his new home.

Eva, as the young princess was always called, also had to put up with the sneers of Europe’s upper classes over her lineage. While her mother, Princess Beatrice, was the youngest child of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, her father had a much noisier family tree. Prince Henry of Battenberg was the son of Prince Alexander of Hesse and by Rhine and a niece cousin, Julie Hanke, whose marriage had been remarkably unusual. That lack of blue blood was raised as an objection almost as soon as Alfonso first set his sights on Eva in 1905. Not even the stony arguments of his very royal mother, who was concerned Eva might carry the potentially deadly condition haemophilia, to prevent among Queen Victoria’s descendants, could persuade him to change his mind.

Eva, meanwhile, was swept off her feet. She had grown up behind palace walls with little experience of real life. Her father had died when she was ten while one of the conditions of her parents’ marriage had allegedly been that the whole family live with Queen Victoria on a permanent basis. Eva’s childhood was spent as the companion of the old queen. By the time Victoria died, Eva was 14 and her shadowed existence continued into the new reign of her uncle, Edward VII. Day and unrelentingly the attentions of a young king who promised a life of adventure away from the walls of Britain’s castles proved irresistible. The papers might have been full of the political problems facing Spain but this royal bride’s naive enthusiasm for excitement blinded her to any potential dangers that the marriage might bring.

Alfonso wooed her with love letters and their engagement was seemingly sealed after a charmed stay in Balmoral in 1905. Eva then apparently travelled to San Sebastian to meet her future husband’s family. In the space of a few months her future had changed from one of editing her grandmother’s diaries to a world of new experiences with the promise of a crown at the end of it all.

Royal Wedding Bloodbath

Alfonso and Eva were determined to marry but their romance would soon sour.

Published even after their wedding, this French paper shocked the world when it revealed that the royal couple’s marriage had allegedly been that the whole family live with Queen Victoria on a permanent basis. Eva’s childhood was spent as the companion of the old queen.

6. Together at last

Alfonso allegedly met his bride at the French embassy at the end of May 1906 and accompanied her to Madrid where they were met with huge crowds. He showed her praise to her with jewels and appeared hand in hand with her on the balcony of the Royal Palace to a rapturous reception.

5. All change for Eva

An engagement proposition got under way. Eva was instructed in the Catholic faith. She married on 3 March 1906 and the engagement was announced the same day.

The Spanish ambassador and British Foreign Secretary signed a treaty outlining the terms of the marriage, which included Eva giving up her rights to the British throne.

4. Barriers to love

Alfonso’s mother, Queen Maria Cristina, had wanted Alfonso to marry someone from her own Hohenzollern family and considered Eva’s background rather lowly as her father’s mother had had no royal titles. Concerns were also raised about Eva’s prospects, potentially casting a shadow over the young couple’s prospects.

Papal nuncio Baxfioe set down with many in Catholic Spain alike.

3. A whirlwind romance

Maria Cristina finally relented and in January 1906, Eva and her groom, Alfonso, went to Britain to meet the Queen. The King and Queen enjoyed a special treat, as they were taken to a special event for the newlyweds’ high profile.

2. Longing Love Letters

Alfonso ruled for five years with a call on Eva’s mother, Princess Beatrice. The Bourbon period passed and it is safe to put it in touch with the new queen and also with a princess and a royal romance began to simmer despite her own mother’s warnings.

1. A formal beginning

Alfonso XIII and Eva were considered the most beautiful couple and Eva’s choice made for many the always watchful eyes of the press. The couple then took their bride to San Sebastian to meet their mother.

This royal bride’s naive enthusiasm for excitement blinded her to any potential dangers that the marriage might bring.

A marriage proposal got under way. Eva was instructed in the Catholic faith.

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The Spanish ambassador and British Foreign Secretary signed a treaty outlining the terms of the marriage, which included Eva giving up her rights to the British throne.
Kings and queens

The bloodied bridal gown
A queen’s dream dress that became a reminder of tragedy

A romantic bride
Orange blossoms, signifying purity and marriage, festooned on the dress and in the bride’s hair. The new queen gave up a trip to Mary of Teck, the future wife of Britain’s George V, who was a guest at the wedding.

Royal symbolism
The dress’ bodice bore a monogram of the House of Bourbon embroidered by Queen Eulalia 236, covered the wedding gown. It was hemmed in the fine diamond lace given to the bride by her parents.

Made in Spain
Eusa’s gown cost 4,000 at the time (30,000 today’s money) and was delivered and worn in Spain. It was made of handwoven wool from sables.

The corset that saved a monarch? The elaboration in the bodice of the dress along with the heavy fabric of the gown was credited with saving Eusa being injured by the glass that shattered around her when the bomb exploded.

Fit for a queen
A Spanish diamond helped the queen re-embellish her dress on the morning of her wedding. They carried the 5-centavo coin, which hung from her shoulder.

Scared by disaster
Eusa arrived at her wedding reception with her dress and the Austrian laces that were seen by her mother’s dress that was killed in the explosion.

The couple headed out into the sunshine for their triumphal processional home.

King Alfonso and Queen Eusa rode in a coach drawn by eight cream-coloured horses, one of 19 royal carriages in the parade that was designed to put on a show for the crowds who had come to observe them. They were just minutes into their route, with coach bells still ringing and cannons still firing, when Merino threw the bomb.

Among those killed were six soldiers, two officers and the head of the king’s secret. The executions of Carles and his 14-year-old daughter also died in the attack as did one of the guards and several of the horses. Merino was reportedly hijacked by a journalist, José Navas, and disappeared. However, he was spotted at Tornos de Arnedo, where he thought he was hoping to catch a train back to Barcelona on 3 June 1906. He seemed to give himself up without a fight but he shot one of his guards soon afterwards and ended up dead from a gunshot wound himself. The official report said that he had committed suicide. Alfonso and Eusa began their marriage by putting on a PR show. The day after the wedding, the couple drove through Madrid in an open-top car to show that royal life would carry on as normal. The new queen, perhaps unsurprisingly, seemed drained and reticent, leading to instant criticism. Eusa’s honeymoon was over before it had begun.

Ultimately, there was to be a happy ending for Alfonso and Eusa. Two of their sons inherited haemophilia, despite protections before the marriage. Eusa was held completely responsible for their health problems and Alfonso’s erratic attitude contributed to the political turmoil that saw Spain return to exile in 1910. A monument still stands in Madrid to all those killed in the bomb attack launched against Alfonso and Eusa in May 1906. The lives lost and the damage done turned this royal wedding into a tragedy in an instant.

Real-life Red Weddings
Plots, poisonings and massacres—when the joining of royal houses went wrong

Roman Emperor Caracalla and a princess of Parthia
According to tradition, Emperor Caracalla proposed to a princess of Parthia named Queen Caria, who had been a daughter of King Artavasdes of Parthia. The story goes that when the emperor’s week-long wedding preparations had run out of steam, his queen was sent to the wedding. During the ceremony, the bride was reportedly convinced to leave the wedding, and she ran away. Caria was later remarried and lived to become empress of Rome.

Saint Olga of Kiev and Prince Mal of the Bretons
Saint Olga was a princess in 9th-century Kiev. She married Prince Mal of the Bretons, but the marriage did not work out. Olga was said to be unhappy with her life in Kiev, where she was known to be depressed. She then organized a massacre of her husband’s attendants as a way of getting back at him. This led to her eventual return to Kiev, where she was buried in a church.

Mary, Queen of Scots, and James, Earl of Bothwell
This relationship went down in history as one of the most tumultuous of all royal weddings. Mary and James were married in 1566, but their marriage was filled with controversy. Mary’s decision to marry James, who was already married, led to her being crowned queen at a young age. This led to a series of rebellions and wars that eventually led to Mary’s execution.

King Henry III of Navarre and Margaret of Valois
This royal wedding was less tumultuous. Mary and Henry III were married in 1558, but their marriage was filled with love and passion. Mary was a devout Catholic and Henry III was a Protestant, but they managed to find common ground. This led to a successful marriage and the birth of several children.

Prince Amadeo of Savoy and Maria Vittoria dal Pozzo
This royal wedding was on 12 May 1901. It was a minor royal wedding for the Savoy sisters, but the wedding was filled with love and passion. This led to a successful marriage and the birth of several children.
GALILEO VERSUS THE CHURCH

From experiments to inquisition, discover the Renaissance scientist's iconic clash with the pope and how he proved that the Earth goes around the Sun.

Galileo Galilei was never destined for a life as an astronomer and physicist. Ironically, he attended school at the local monastery and after this his life was well on its way for a future as a doctor. His father, Vincenzo, had hoped his son and arranged for him to study medicine at the University of Pisa in 1581. In spite of this, Galileo never cared for biology, developing a far greater interest in philosophy and mathematics. Against the protests of his father, he promptly switched subjects and never looked back.

Studying hard for four years, Galileo left university without a degree and turned his hand to private tutoring. During this time he wrote his short treatise, Cosmography, which he used to teach his students about the mysterious celestial bodies. Cosmography adhered to the widely accepted, traditional geocentric philosophy of Aristotle and Ptolemy, which placed the Earth at the centre of the universe.

He soon moved on from his tutoring career and returned to the University of Pisa in 1589, where he spent the next three years as the professor of mathematics. It is likely that this is when he succeeded in disproving Aristotle’s theory that objects of different mass fall at different speeds, though whether Galileo actually tested this by dropping both of the Leaning Tower of Pisa is disputed as the only record we have of it is a biography written by the pupil Vincenzo Viviani in 1702. Unfortunately, his unconventional beliefs made Galileo unpopular so his contract at the university was not renewed. He moved once again in 1592 and traveled north to Padua where he assumed a new, rather paid position as a professor of mathematics at the city's university. Here, Galileo really began to hone his research. He conducted a number of experiments, many of which were in the field of mechanics.

Starting in 1602, he made some of the first scientific observations regarding pendulums. He also uncovered the principle of lechmianism, where a pendulum would take the same time to complete a swing regardless of how big the swinging arc. Ultimately, this led to the invention of the accurate mechanical clock in 1656—a device humanity came to rely on.

After a few years of dedicating his time to his experiments, everything changed. In 1609, Galileo heard rumors that a device that could make distant objects appear closer had been invented in the Netherlands. The telescope. Once he learned that it had been simply made with just a tube and a lens on both ends, he immediately set out to re-create it for himself. His initial version ranged in magnifying power, at eight times, but by 1610, he had developed a telescope that could be magnified 20 times—far more powerful than the original, rudimentary invention.

Armed with his telescope, the possibilities open to Galileo were endless. Just between 1609 and 1610 alone, he discovered mountains on the Moon, the four satellites of Jupiter and numerous stars in the Milky Way. He observed the different phases of Venus and, remarkably, believed that he had found two stars that accompanied Saturn. Although he did not realize it, Galileo had actually observed Saturn’s iconic ring, which would first be confirmed in 1656.
HELIOPHILES

Astrophysicist Dr Gemma Lavender from All About Space magazine explains the science behind Galileo’s discoveries.

WHAT WAS GEOCENTRISM?

This was a belief, as early as the 4th century BC, that the Earth was at the centre of the Solar System, with the Sun, Moon and planets orbited around our planet. Thales also extended further outside our solar neighborhood, with ancient cultures also thinking that the stars orbited the Earth on circular orbits, elliptical orbits.

In the geocentric model, the Earth was pictured as a sphere at the centre of the cosmos that didn’t move – and doesn’t even rotate on its axis. The system was devised by Greek astronomer and mathematician Claudius Ptolemy, who, alongside Greek philosopher Aristotle, was seen as an authority on matters that were encompassed by astronomy and the natural sciences.

WHERE DID THIS THEORY ORIGINATE FROM?

The ideas came about from observations of the motions of the Sun during the day and the stars and planets at night. If you watch those celestial bodies moving in a way across Earth’s sky, it appears as if they’re revolving. We also know our planet to be spinning on its axis and making its way around the Sun in orbit. Standing on its surface, though – and from our Earth-ground perspective – it feels like it’s stationary. That’s how ancient Greek, Roman and Medieval philosophers, led by Aristotle and Plato, saw our place in the universe. At the time of their studies of the geocentric model, Aristotle and Plato had also worked out that the Earth is a sphere.

DOES HELIOCENTRISM WORK?

Heliocentrism is the model that we know today and explains how Earth and other planets in our Solar System orbit the Sun. The theory was initially proposed by Polish astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus, who also believed that the universe was filled with countless celestial objects. He had been made aware of the titanic problems brought about by the geocentric model, it was unable to make accurate predictions during studies of the cosmos. Copernicus proposed, just like the geocentric model, that orbiting bodies moved around the Sun in circular orbits. Of course, today we know these orbits to be elliptical.

WHY WAS THIS IDEA SO CONTROVERSIAL AT THE TIME?

By moving the Sun to the centre of the model, displacing the Earth, we – God’s creation – were no longer at the centre of the universe. Copernicus knew that this would greatly upset the Church and so he didn’t publish his theory until near the end of his life. Later, in 1543, Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei observed the phases of Venus and the moons of Jupiter using a telescope. He used his findings to promote Copernican heliocentric model. Galileo’s discoveries were met with opposition from the Catholic Church and as a result, many educated people still believed that the Earth was at the centre of the universe. Books, teachings and the definition of the heliocentric theory were banned.

The new issue of All About Space is out now, priced £4.99. For more information, visit allaboutspace.co.uk.

MOONS OF JUPITER

The orbit of Io (above) allowed scientists to observe the Solar System much closer than they were previously able to. As Galileo observed moons orbiting Jupiter, it disproved the idea that all orbiting bodies revolved around Earth.

CENTRE OF ATTENTION

People assumed that the Earth was at the centre of the universe because this is how the Catholic Church interpreted the Biblical Scriptures. Supporters of Copernicus tried to prove this theory was incorrect.

“GALILEO REFUSED TO BE BACK DOWN”

With all the evidence, the Church refused to reconcile with the Copernican model. Some astronomers within the Church, such as the Jesuits, advocated the Tychoic system, developed by astronomer Tycho Brahe, who strongly supported Galileo’s research but also maintained the status quo. According to Brahe, the Sun and Moon revolved around the Earth, but the other planets orbited the Sun – a mix of the two theories. Infamously frustrated that his evidence was being ignored, Galileo refused to back down. He campaigned vigorously in favour of Copernican theories and clashed with theologians, who despised him for his geocentric views. Even though he proceeded into exile, his compulsive behaviour had led the Jesuits to turn their back on him. Now the Catholic Church decided that they had let Galileo run wild long enough – it was time to put its foot down.

What followed was one of the most momentous events in history regarding the tectonic relationship between religion and science: the “Galileo Affair”. In 1616, the Roman Catholic Inquisition investigated Galileo’s work, for which he was being accused of heresy. A group of theologians were asked to assess the theory of heliocentrism that Galileo had so defiantly defended and whether it had any merit.

Of course, the theologians’ primary task was the defence of the Catholic Church and the Bible, and less than a week after the judgement was passed. They announced that heliocentrism contradicted the Holy Scriptures and thus Copernicanism amounted to heresy. No sooner had the verdict been delivered than Galileo was ordered to stop his support for the theory and all works associated with it, including, of course, was barred pending suitable convictions. Instead of getting acceptance, Galileo had been left with disaster.
THE CATHOLIC CHURCH GRIPPED ONTO TRADITION MUCH TIGHTER

This was not a clear cut case of science versus religion, of who was right and who was wrong. The popular sentiments of Galileo's conclusions were lashing to the Catholic Church. The Protestant Reformation had dominated Europe throughout the 16th century, making Western Christianity its base. In order to maintain its authority during a time of great instability, the Catholic Church griped onto tradition much tighter than ever had done before.

The last thing the papacy needed was Galileo advocating for Copernicinism, which not only threatened the traditional interpretation of the Holy Scriptures, but also the authority of the Church itself. This was a dangerous and sensitive time to go up against Catholics, as Galileo had discovered. However, despite the ban, he was still allowed to discuss Copernicinism, albeit on the condition that he treated them in a purely hypothetical sense.

Quickly waiting for the whole debate to subside, Galileo continued his work. Despite the controversy, he had not been wavered from his support for heliocentrism but by this point he knew that he was in the 50s and suffering from recurring periods of illness, which made his research slow down significantly.

Then in 1623, seven years after his condemnation, it appeared that Galileo's luck was firmly about to change. His long-time friend and supporter Cardinal Barberini—who had zealously defended him during the Inquisition—was elected to the head of the Catholic Church as Pope Urban VIII. Galileo was ecstatic. Although he was still banned from openly advocating heliocentrism, he believed that with his friend as the head of the Catholic Church, the opportunity to have his research accepted was now within his grasp.

With renewed vigor, Galileo started to work on a new book which compared the Copernican and Ptolemaic systems. He received permission from the pope to do so during a visit to Rome in 1624, under the condition that Copernicanism would be treated purely as a theoretical hypothesis. After receiving approval from the pope in 1631, Galileo finally published his Dialogue on the Two Chief World Systems two years later in 1632.

Dialogue consisted of a series of conversations between three characters, Salviati, Sagredo, and Simplicio. Salviati, a Copernican scientist, argues in favor of Copernican theory while Sagredo acts as an impartial scholar. Simplicio supports geocentrism and is represented by Galileo as an old, inexperienced model of Copernicanism. The argument unfolds in discussion.

After years of struggle, Galileo's ambition had finally been achieved. The defence of Copernicanism was praised to black and white for the world to see. He had devoured the stifling that heliocentrism must be portrayed as an idea – and he had even managed to do it all with the Church's approval. Galileo basked in his success, unaware that his downfall was right around the corner.

Galileo had taken the Catholic Church all those years ago but now the battlefield was completely different. Copernicanism had not actually been banned until the Inquisition in 1666 and the issue had not been about Galileo himself rather the threat heliocentrism posed to the power of the papacy. New Galileo had crossed the line by publicly promoting a theory that had been officially condemned by the Church.

To make matters worse, he had offended his powerful one-time ally, the pope – the one man who could have really helped him. When Pope Urban gave Galileo permission to write his Dialogue, he asked that the astronomer include his pro-

geocentric arguments in favor of Ptolemy. Galileo’s creation of Simplicio represents this decision, along with those who supported the Ptolemaic system, the Fleet 200 years after the Inquisition, cardinals were still being haunted by the Galileo’s death. Newton has reimagined Galileo’s work as a student of Cambridge University, supplementing the teachings of Newton, who had long sought to explain the world’s first reflecting telescope. We see Galileo’s work as a student of Cambridge University, supplementing the teachings of Newton, who had long sought to explain the world’s first reflecting telescope.
THE PISA EXPERIMENT

Try Galileo’s ground-breaking gravity test for yourself!

01 WATER BALLOONS
Fill two water balloons but make sure that they differ in mass – the point of the experiment is to test the time of descent in relation to weight.

02 FIND HIGH GROUND
Galileo climbed the Leaning Tower of Pisa because he needed height for his experiment. The second floor of a modern building should work but make sure that you are standing underneath the window!

03 HEADS UP
While you ready yourself to drop the water balloons from the window, someone else needs to be on the ground - out of the splash zone and ready to observe the results.

04 COMPARE YOUR RESULTS
Record the results to see if they hit the ground at the same time, just like in Galileo’s experiment. Try repeating the experiment with some heavier and lighter water balloons so you can check the outcomes.

By now, Galileo was almost 70 years old, frail and suffering from poor health. It took him an exhausting two months to reach Rome, so his trial did not begin until in February 1633. When he arrived, he was confined and interrogated by the Inquisition. Galileo was tried and convicted of heresy for his scientific theories. He was sentenced to life imprisonment and his books were condemned by the Church.

In contrast, the Dialogue was widely read and loved by the young generation. It was a major contribution to the development of science and philosophy. It was a major factor in the establishment of the scientific method as a tool for the advancement of knowledge. It also helped to establish the role of the scientific method as a tool for the advancement of knowledge.
Don't Call Me Princess

The creator of the internet sensation Rejected Princesses shares ten unsung heroines and hellions that Disney would never touch.

Written by Jason Poole

Gracia Mendes Nasi

The Oskar Schindler of the Inquisition 1500-69

Targeted by the brutal Spanish, Portuguese and Italian Inquisitors, non-Catholics living in southern Europe were subject to torture by mob, cannibalising, and ultimately expulsion from their home countries. However, the Jews of this period had a guardian angel looking over them: wealthy, shipping magnate (and smuggler) Gracia Mendes Nasi. Born Beatriz de Luna, she had, like many others, to keep her Judaism a secret. But as she got more involved with the running of her merchant husband’s business, she grew embarrassed to do exactly what she wanted - Inquisitions be damned. When the Inquisition began, she established a massive network of safe houses, spies, and messengers to shuttle refugees from as far away as Lisbon to Jew-friendly Constantinople. She eventually moved to Constantinople herself and began living openly as a Jew, using her Jewish name of Gracia. She even tried establishing a fledgling Jewish state in what is modern-day Thessaloniki, Greece. She helped so many hundreds of people and did so much good; that several people thought she might be the Jewess Messiah. Much of the Sephardic Jewish population of Today owes its continued existence to her exhaustive work.

Nzinga Mbande

The mother of Angola 1583-1663

Here’s how the legend goes. The Portuguese had invaded the African nation of Mbangala (present-day Angola) and taken its king prisoner. The king’s sister, Nzinga, approached them for negotiations, but when she arrived, they didn’t offer her a chair. Unperturbed, she ordered a servant to get on all fours and sit on that back, like a stool. After the meeting, she sat on the servant’s back in full view of everyone, declaring that “the queen of Mbangala does not sit on the same chair twice.” She then moved south, conquered a tribe of cannibals and waged war on the Portuguese for 25 years. While some details of her story are definitively sketchy - she almost certainly didn’t sit on anyone’s back – it’s a testament to her formidable reputation that those are the rumours that got spread about her. After decades of waging economic and military war against them, the Portuguese eventually negotiated a peace treaty. There are statues of her all over Angola to this day.

“Of all your good mother would do – she deposed him and took the reins herself”

Masako Hojo

The nun who became shogun 1834-9229

From early on, Masako Hojo made sure to let everyone know she was not a woman to be trifled with. When her shogun husband died, she ruled the army and destroyed the other women’s houses in a move referred to as entrance-uchi – literally translated as “fille de the after wife”. She was so respected and feared that when her husband died, rumours spread that her deceased spirit had somehow haunted him to death - though in truth, she appears to have lived much longer than the end of her day. After her husband died, she entered a monastery. But when her son proved himself an incompetent tyrant who couldn’t rule the country or properly fend off assassins, she did what any good mother would do – she deposed him and took the reins herself, becoming the first and only woman to rule Japan.
Amanirenas

The one-eyed queen who fought Rome tooth and nail c.600–c.10 BCE

In the early 1000s, archaeologists in Sudan uncovered a temple belonging to the ancient kingdom of Kush. In the surviving of everyone, resting inside the temple, hundreds of miles from the borders of the Roman Empire, by a well-preserved head of Emperor Augustus, separated from the rest of the temple. The story of this decapitated head dates back to the time of Carthage where, in the wake of her death, certain Roman ships set sail for the temples of Egypt. Countering their ship was a famous one-eyed Nubian queen, Amanirenas. Seeing her neighbour ship, she set off immediately, the two major Nubian cities, took captives and defied many of Augustus's stomach. Amanirenas's counterattack was swift and brutal, destroying the Kushite capital city, but Amanirenas fought on, using some terrifying tactics of other Kushite rulers known to have long captives to Rome, or bringing war elephants to battle. Perhaps Amanirenas did the same. In the end, Rome agreed to lasting peace, without making them pay tribute. Never again did Rome venture south of Egypt.

Noor Inayat Khan

The Indian princess who became a British spy 1904–44

Noor Inayat Khan was an honest-to-goodness Indian princess, a Muslim children's book author and a Sufi Muslim mystic—what she meant was she was a strict pacifist and committed to peace. When the Nazis took over Paris, she gave up everything and joined the war effort as an opera performer. Assigned to be a radio operator in occupied Paris, she was initially unsuccessful because the average lifespan for her job was six weeks and her and her twin brother survived for as long as they possibly could. Making things worse, the entire Persian operation was snatched on her second day in Paris—losing her job. But she refused offers of extraction and continued to work at the job. Changing routes, appearances and everything about herself, she lived five months before being betrayed and arrested. She went down fighting, punching and screaming, despite being a weak passenger. She led under torture, despite being a Sufi mystic, forbidden to lie. She narrowly escaped across enemy lines, despite being a racist. She gave the Nazis absolutely nothing. She died before being found by her concentration camp was liberated. Reportedly her last word, shouted at her execution was "Liberta"! She was 30 years old.

Khwahib bint al-Azwar

Warrior poet of early Islam 7th century

The older in black had supported everyone. The forces of early Islam were on a mission to rescue their comrade Dair from the Christian Byzantines, when a mysterious silver chalice black and green flashed forth, meaning the Byzantines like grass. When the commander finally tracked down the savior, drenched in blood like a crimson rose petal, their identity was uncoupled: Khawlah bint al-Azwar, older of the captured Dair. She went on to help free her sister and then settled back down a bit, helping out as a nurse. That's until she, too, was captured by the Byzantines, along with a group of middle-aged women. While her fellow captives were resigned to their fate, she called them, suggesting they jump off the boats holding up their tarts and fight their way out. As they didn't, they let loose with disco songs such as "We have decided that today we will rectify your brains with these tarts and shatter your life-spans, thus removing a spot of disgrace from your ancestors' faces!" Her escape so impressed the Byzantine commander that he offered to marry her on the spot and be her master. Her reputation was quickly spread. She was not only a fighter but also a poet. She wrote a series of poems that were published under the title of "The Poems of Khawlah bint al-Azwar." These poems are rich in language and the themes of love, beauty, and the horrors of war. Her work is considered a masterpiece in the history of women's literature.
Khulan

The undated wrestler princess c.1250-1305

Genghis Khan’s great-great-granddaughter had one rule: if you wanted to marry her, you had to prove your wrestling prowess. If you lost, you owed her 100 horses. She ended up with 10,000 horses and no husband. An expert equestrian, archer and archer, Khulan was forced for pulling off the Mongol forces and quickly picking off enemies, just to intimidate them. She left quite the impression on historical figures like Marco Polo and Bandel Byblos. She even shows up in the Netflix series Marco Polo, although her character there is an utter coincidence of her historical parallels. The on-screen woman is immediately thrust into a Romeo and Juliet relationship that never existed. But as this is, it’s hardly the first time her story has been warped – she’s also the inspiration for the story and later opera, Turandot. In that European retelling of her life, she becomes a woman who challenges her suitors with riddles instead of wrestling, killing them if they lose. The opera is about her finally giving in to love. While the West may continue mangling her legacy, the Mongolians of today still find ways to subtly revere her. Notably, traditional Mongolian wrestler outfits are open-chested to show that the protagonist is a woman, in deference to the undated Khulan.

Julie d’Aubigny

The sword-slinger who burnt down a convent to seduce a nun! 1670-1707

Julie d’Aubigny – known better in her time as La Maupin – was the closest thing humanity’s ever come to producing a real-life Baguette. This bisexual opera singer flirted and fought her way across Europe, dressing in men’s clothes and seducing men and women with abandon. When one of her female lovers was spirited off to a nunnery by her overprotective father, Maupin entered the convent herself...and set it on fire to aid their escape. Three months later, she dropped her lover back off with her father and ran off into the night. She went on to get into so many duels she had to twice be performed by Louis XIV who moved that the anti-dueling laws governed men but said nothing of women. Her real story is difficult to untangle from fiction – her bisexuality was often related to a morality tale with her burning from her wardens ways late in life, rejoining her husband and dying aged around 32.

Ada Blackjack

The sole survivor of an ill-fated expedition to the Arctic 1898-1903

It was a daring, dastardly plan. A bunch of overconfident explorers were going to claim Wrangel Island – a desolate wasteland. 300 miles north of Siberia – for Britain, although the country didn’t want it. To that end, they hired an army of Soviet helpers as they could, which was just one in the end. Ada Blackjack, she’s grown up in cities and didn’t have any of the survival or trapping skills they needed, but she went anyway as she needed money for her sick son. The expedition went horribly, with the team stranded there for two years instead of the one they’d planned for. Ada was left to care for one member who was dying of scurvy. She taught herself to shoot, trap and survive, and kept him alive for longer than anyone could have expected. When the rescue ship finally came, she was the only survivor – but her trials didn’t end there. The ship’s captain began spreading rumours that she was a prostitute and had let the men die while eating their food. Despite her habit of the spotlight, she traveled from Ada Blackjack to an interview, destroying the captain’s story, and then disappeared back north, living an anonymous life in her 80s.

Anita Garibaldi

The mum who fought in three revolutionary wars 1821-49

It’s a rare thing to find a woman who fights in a revolutionary war, and it’s rarer still to find one who fights in two. Rarest of all, one who fights in three. Yet Anita Garibaldi did just that – while pregnant. A freewheeling woman married to an alcoholic soldier, she had few prospects until Italian revolutionary Giuseppe Garibaldi came to town. The bad boy of 1800’s Latin America, Garibaldi aimed to rid Brazil of Portuguese rule and get help in waging a similar war for Italy’s independence. The two immediately caught each other’s eyes and before long, Anita had left her husband and joined Garibaldi’s crew. Not content to merely be a historical plus-size, she manned cannons, fought soldiers, protected the horses, stole arms and marched through rain and snow, often while carrying their children. She fought in wars to free Uruguay and Italy but eventually succumbed to malaria during her fight. She went out in a blaze of glory: pregnant with her fifth child, slashing at soldiers on horseback, riding on with such fervour that one enemy later remarked, “Is that a woman or is it the devil?”
TO HELL AND BACK AGAIN

During World War II, Corporal Roy Pagani dodged almost certain death in Dunkirk, Singapore, and on the horrific Burma Railway

"However long it took, he would find his way back to her"

Written by Philip Davis

World War II

My father was a remarkable man. Having escaped alone from Dunkirk and again from Singapore, he was the only European to escape successfully from the upcoming Burma Railway. Most people think that no one did, but my dad managed it. Over 10,000 Allied prisoners of war died building the railway – 30 men for every mile of track laid. My dad was determined not to be one of them. I am so proud of him.

Not surprisingly, Cheb Campbell becomes very emotional when he recalls his father, Corporal Roy Pagani, and his exploits as a British soldier during World War II. The war cast a long shadow and left a lasting legacy for him and his family.

"What sustained my Dad and enabled him to endure so much was the promise he made to my mum. He vowed that whatever happened, and no matter what befell him, or however long it took, he would find his way back to her. Little did he realize then that he would have to endure hair-raising escapes, guerrilla fighting, incarceration, agonizing torture and an appalling death march to make good his promise - a promise that was to save his life when he designed it in 1941.

Dad was incredibly tough and self-confident. He was forced to learn this from a very early age. Abandoned by his father in the south of France at the age of seven, he was scourged by a nun and he spent his childhood in a boy's convent near Tours. They taught him to be resourceful and self-reliant - all the things that would stand him in good stead later on in life. He always said that these were the most wonderful days of his life.

"After returning to England as a teenager, he joined the East Survey Regiment. Just a week before the outbreak of war, he married my mum, Thelma, who everyone called 'Pet.'" In May 1940, Pagani was part of the fighting retreat of the British Expeditionary Force to Dunkirk. In January 1941, his convoy landed under heavy aerial attack. After being knocked unconscious, he awoke to find himself in a dungeon, surrounded by Japanese officials.

"As the days and nights turned into weeks and months, he was subjected to all manner of torture and scientific experiments. He was forced to endure the most brutal of interrogations and was threatened with death. He was kept in lockdown for months on end, and was subjected to the most inhumane conditions possible."

"At the dooms, he found a sump full of fish manure, raised four others to join him, and set sail as the city was consumed by fire and explosions. After island hopping, their trail went by a massive tropical cyclone. Hiding on the beach they were rescued by the full force of the storm. They were lucky to survive and they reached Sumatra and what they believed was safety - but their hopes were short-lived. The Japanese were close behind and after attempting to hijack an old steamer, Pagani was seized by the Japanese and drafted into a labour battalion."

"It was a grim awakening to what lay ahead. Death was an everyday occurrence and Cheb recalls how 'he never got over having to sit with the dying, and then having to wash the dead body, plug the orifices, and then carry the corpse into a railroad car between two poles to the burial site.'"

Pagani was taken by ship to Thanbyuzayat, the base camp for the infamous Burma railway.

"However long it took, he would find his way back to her"
He was determined to escape. Short and stocky, he calculated that he could disguise himself as a local and practise walking barefoot for miles to harden his feet. The camp was crowded, so the Japanese believed that the prospects of any European escaping across an Asian country covered in dense jungle were minimal. Chob explains, “One day in mid-November 1942, I simply said to my mates, ‘Well, so long then, I’m off’, before melting into the trees.” Fearing sickness that day, he was able to join the daily working party late at night, and, crutched, without an escort, he disappeared into the jungle.

After several close shaves—including walking straight into a Japanese patrol—Pagani made his way north with the help of various local families. This assistance proved invaluable in bypassing many outposts, which were swarming with Japanese troops. Snaking up into a small village, he noticed that the population was notably different from other Burmese he had come across. They were Eurasians, an indigenous hill tribe that had long enjoyed local service to the British in Burma. He decided to seek their help—a fervent decision that would save his life.

Knocking on the door, he was astonished to be introduced to a young girl who spoke impeccable English. Invited in, and piled with tea and biscuits, she was introduced to her father, an engineer. His name was in touch with Keren, a guerrilla in the hills. They were led by a mysterious British officer who had remained far behind the Japanese lines to lead a resistance army in Keren. This was Harry Hugh Seagrave, the man who was destined to become the TE Lawrence of Burma.

Hiding under a rough pile of manure, Pagani was taken in a cart up into the hills to join Seagraves. Chob remembers her father describing their extraordinary meeting. “Tall, thin and dressed like a Keren, the major raised his hand, jumped down and said to my dad: ‘Hello, old chap’, as if welcoming him to a country mansion.” Pagani became Seagraves’ right-hand man and was tasked with whispering the guerrilla Keren force into shape. Together they fought a land-and-run campaign against the Japanese but the escalating massacre to Seagraves forced them to separate, at which point Pagani reverted to his original plan to escape north across Burma to reach the Allies in India.

He almost made it but was caught trying to cross the mighty Irrawaddy River and was almost hacked to pieces by a howling Burmese mob before being handed over to the Japanese soldiers. Painfully, Chob explains how, “I remembered my promise to my mother that he would return to her and so he forced himself to bear the pain.”

Worse lay ahead. He was taken to Rangoon and handed over to the Japanese military police—the dreaded kempetai. For months he was beaten, tortured, and abused, but he never broke. One day, without warning, he was thrown into the back of a lorry to what he believed was his execution before being dumped at Rangoon City Jail. Here he slowly recovered, helping his fellow prisoners of war by stealing food from the Japanese.

As the war neared its end, yet another ordeal lay ahead. In April 1945, over 400 of the finest prisoners, including Pagani, were forced to march east on a grueling death march. Staggering, they were shot by the warlords, believing them to be Japanese. Allied planes mistakenly strafed the column but in the nick of time they were rescued by advancing British troops. At last, Chob’s father was a free man.

Reunited with his wife and young family, Chob explains how her father coped. “He simply put it all behind him and moved on with his life, eventually setting up a tax firm in Guwahati. Although he left deep physical and psychological scars, until the last few years of his life, he never spoke about the war. There were obvious effects though—he could not abide being barefoot or the sound of a dripping tap. Having been subjected to the hideous Japanese water torture, other than towards mum, it found it difficult to show affection to us. We would pull away if we hugged him for too long.”

“HE … PRACTISED WALKING BAREFOOT FOR MILES TO HARDEN HIS FEET”

“HELLFIRE PASS”

This section of railway was particularly notorious. Aside from the fact the prisoners had to walk through the track using only rudimentary tools, their heads incredibly burned at the backs of the Japanese captives. Forced to work up to 12 hours a day, the sight of sick and dying workers under twilight was said to resemble something in hell. As well as prisoners of war, many Tamil labourers came to assist the Japanese on the long-term promise of good pay. Indeed, they often went unrewarded.

“THE DEADLY BURMA RAILWAY”

A torturous project that killed thousands of POWs

“THE WAY AHEAD”

Although only around 12% of the 51,000 men dubbed “Death Railway” actually survived, Burma had a lasting legacy on the region. Japanese needed to ferry supplies between vulnerable Bangkok and Singapore (once known as Rangoon) but the approximately 1,250-kilometer route was filled with enemy ships and the mountainous region between Burma and Thailand was thought to be dangerous and a liability, so deep 100-metre and zig-zag tunnels were built in the way. The project began at Thanbyzay, connecting to an existing line.

“MEET IN THE MIDDLE”

Construction started at both ends, with the intention of joining up at a midpoint along the planned route. The two sections would then be joined just north of the town of Myitkyina. This was a huge challenge for the Japanese and the Burmese, combining the modern day borders between Thailand and Myanmar. Today, there is a memorial to the thousands of Australian and other Allied citizens who died building the railway, and this original section can still be seen.

“END OF THE LINE”

Just 22 minutes from Thailand’s capital, Bangkok, the railway ended on the banks of the Mekong River near the town of Mekong. Today, a small colonial inn is the only remnant that marks the town of the once remote border town. From Bangkok, you can take a train through the tracks of the original railway for 120 kilometres, which will get you almost to Mekong Pass.

“LONE SURVIVORS”

There were no obituaries. Lost, long since forgotten, Roy Pagani was a man of unremarkable courage who deserves to stand in the front rank of Britain’s war heroes. His stoicism and self-belief in the face of unbelievable suffering bear testament to the triumph of the human spirit in the face of impossible odds. But to his daughter, Chob Campbell, he was simply “my dad.”

Phil Davie is the author of Lost Warriors: Seagrave and Pagani of Burma, published by Atlantic Publishing.
SPARTA

Dos & don’ts

- Grow your hair long
- Cut down on clothes
- Join in with activities
- Laugh along with the locals
- Expect to see your spouse
- Expect to be well fed
- Admit you’re foreign
- Surrender in battle

- Spartan men grow their hair long and style it before battle. It’s a cheap and eye-catching way of adding flair to your firearm (best)
- To look like a warrior, throw off your clothes and don the traditional helmet and shield. People will interpret it as a sign of bravery and respect.
- Spartan society places a great deal of emphasis on working together for the good of all - everyone is expected to do their bit.
- Don’t miss the festivals or cultural events.
- Though you land with your spouse, you’ll be able to marry from the age of 20.
- Food is rationed to keep the workforce in shape. Whatever you do, don’t put on any weight or you’ll become a target of public ridicule.
- While foreigners can live in Sparta, they can’t hold official positions. They don’t have any rights and are subject to expulsion at any time.
- A Spartan who surrenders commits the most grievous sin imaginable. Even fathers tell their sons to return from war a soldier or die trying.

WHERE TO STAY

Unfortunately, Spartans don’t put a lot of emphasis on luxury beds and modern amenities. So why not join the locals and stay in a Spartan barracks? These quarters are the home of Spartan boys from the age of seven until their 30th birthday. They can’t even leave it when they get married - they are expected to settle out at night to visit their wives! You don’t get much privacy in the communal barracks but there’s plenty to do during your stay. With a highly structured physical training programme compulsory for every man, you’ll never be at a loss for how to spend your time.

Time Traveller’s Handbook

WHO TO BEFRIEND

Leonidas

Leonidas I was the Spartan king, the son of Aneas and Dardana. Although the king’s firstborn son was exempt from the ages, his third son, Leonidas, didn’t fit the mold - he excelled. The notoriously strict against forced training into a herseman warrior and a leader with a talent for diplomacy as well as war, Leonidas I led the combined Greek armies against Persia’s attempted invasion in 480 BCE and became a hero to his people when he died surrounded by the enemy at the Battle of Thermopylae. His bravery and a homely, straightforward character you can expect him to lay down his life for his land.

Extra tips: Don’t mention sitting strategy if you want to stay on Leonidas’ good side. His older brothers, Cleomenes and Dorius, were born to different mothers and fought bitterly over who should succeed to the throne. When Cleomenes was proclaimed king, the furious Dorius left Sparta for good.

WHO TO AVOID

Nabis

Nabis assumed power in 207 BCE for executing his two fellow claimants to the Spartan throne. Though Nabis likes to think of himself as a king, he doesn’t look on himself in such a manner. On the one hand he feasts a lot of slaves and gives them to Spartan citizens, but on the other he required the rich and claimed their estates for the nation.

If you find yourself in a visit to the region of Locri, you should think about making it a pilgrimage site - Nabis will visit Sparta this important territory by entering a dispute with the locals, which will end in war.

Helpful skills

Religious ritual

The Spartans honour the god Zeus with a nine-day festival and profession of military operations. The festival begins with an athletic display and culminates with the sacrifice of a ram.

Metal work

While you won’t enjoy the same rights as other Spartans if you become a potter, smith, or carpenter, your work will be respected and you will be invited to Sparta’s military meals.

Military training

Spartans are tough and muscular. Runners and naked Spartans are taught to live off the land and become masters of hand-to-hand and armed combat.
What if...

Spain conquered China?

In the late 16th century, Spain had made significant inroads in Asia - but a new generation of conquistadors thought Philip II should take on the Ming dynasty.

Interview with Samuel Hawley

A former associate professor at Texas University in South China, Samuel Hawley is the author of The Eight War Dragons: China and America's Conquest of the Philippines. His book is an account of the war.

How did Spain come to consider invading China in the 16th century? After their conquest of the New World, they had established themselves in the Philippines. So in the 1580s, they were seriously looking to conquer China. You had these two forces - one from Japan, and the other from Europe - and they were both off the shores of China, looking to possibly conquer it.

Why did they want to conquer China? They saw it as easy pickings. The Ming dynasty was fragile and China was vast in wealth, but the Spanish felt that the Ming were not that strong. They looked big on paper but militarily they were really clumsy. If there was an external threat, it took them a long time to get their armies together and actually respond. So the Spanish saw this as something they could do, just like the Japanese felt they could conquer China. Two different entities saw China as weak and ripe for the picking.

What was the plan for the invasion? A surprisingly small force (a few hundred to a few thousand men). They were looking to head up to the Northern Laos in the Philippines, build some ships up there, and sail across the sea to the southeastern coast of China. They would land, establish a foothold there, and then start working their way inland to see how far they could get. It was only something when you read about some of their early plans. They just wanted a few hundred men - that's all they needed. It sounds crazy but that's what Bernald Cortes did in the Americas. The Spanish had nothing if not hubris.

Was it quite meticulously planned out? Yes, they went through much more than one plan - and these were serious plans. One of the interesting things was that they weren't even going to make their own cannons; they were going to buy them from the Chinese because they could get them so much cheaper. So they were going to use Chinese cannons to conquer the Chinese, which was ironic. As the 1570s gave way to the 1580s, they saw the difficulties becoming greater so they needed to act fast - or at least that's what they kept saying to King Philip II in Madrid.

Were they looking to conquer the whole of China, or just some coastal regions? They were looking to carve out a coastal province and see where it went from there. China is so vast that one province on the coast of China would be practically as big as all of Mexico, so there would have been so much land for them.

The English defeat of the Invincible Armada they have stopped Spain from invading China.

Geography of the Philippines. The Philippines are a group of more than 7,000 islands in Southeast Asia. The largest of these is Luzon, which is home to the capital city, Manila. The Spanish first arrived in the Philippines in the 16th century and established a colonial government. They ruled the islands for over 300 years, during which time they built forts and missions and introduced Christianity to the local population. Today, the Philippines is an independent republic with a population of over 100 million people.
These guys were gutsy, they had tremendous hungpah!

How would it be different?

Real timeline

- King Philip II invades
  Though initially supportive of the conquistadores' plan, Philip II eventually determined the destruction of the Spanish Armada by England in 1588 and never was to return the plan to invade China.

- Japan invades Korea
  Roughly 50,000 Japanese troops land in Korea; fight with the ultimate goal of invading China. Despite initial successes, combined Korean forces repel the surprise attack, 1592.

- Cantonese expedition
  Seeing Carthage as a search for large companies in southwest Asia, the Spanish search for trade and resources to halt the long-dead Spanish invaders, 1596.

- Japanese revenge offensive
  After peace negotiations break down, Japan attacks again only to be met by the surprise attack, 1597.

- Spanish defeat
  The aftermath of the Japanese victory is the Spanish defeat of the Japanese after the end of the war, 1599.

- Manchurian campaign
  The various attacks of the Manchu people in northern China eventually under the leadership of Kang Xi, and later his son Kang Hsi, establish domination over Manchuria, 1686.

- Cantonese financial crisis
  An economic downturn is partially caused by King Philip II of Spain revoking the American silver exports to China. It leads to the development of a smaller market, 1666.

- Fall of the Ming dynasty
  After a rebel army invades, England, the last Ming rule, the Qing (Manchu) Emperor invades, 1664.

Alternate timeline

- A foothold in India
  Taking from the Portuguese empire, the first Spanish settlement was established in Manila, 1565.

- Battle of Manila
  Spanish forces conquer the Manila settlement of Manila, 1565.

- The China Project
  Spanish officials representing the crown, the military, and religious brotherhoods meet in Mexico City, planning and trying to invade China.

- Philip approves
  Assure that Chinese resources could replenish his new need after the defeat of the Armada, Philip II commits to the plan of the conquest, 1588.

- War on two fronts
  When news reaches the conquistadors that Japan has invaded Korea, the Spanish attack from the south and are repelled from the Central America, 1592.

- Fall of Rajput
  Unable to come to the support of the Cashmer, Spanish attackers, China falls provisionally in place as the conquistadors briefly march through southern China.

- China is carried up
  After years of fighting, the Spanish monarchs control of southern China is seized and the Ming is now controlled by the Spanish, 1660.

- China is now
  The Ming dynasty is finally overthrown by foreign conquerors, Ming China comes to an end, and a new dynasty rises in favor of the Ming, 1665.

- New China
  Following the defeat of King Philip II, the Spanish Chinese go on to become the dominant power in China.

- Thirty years' War
  Rajputs defeated by Chinese invasion, Philip II's war to build a bigger and better mercenary army that help China in Spain's favor during the European power struggle.

What if...

Spain conquered China?

- Philip II of Spain believed in his destiny to rule.

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- China conquered by the Spanish
  Japan conquered and the Ming empire comes to an end, 1588.

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BURIAL PRACTICES
From mummies to sky burials, the way we dispose of our dead has varied through the ages.

COFFINS 5000 BCE
Coffins have long adapted to changing times. Wooden coffins were in mass production in the US during the American Civil War between 1861 and 1865, for instance, while an innovator from Ohio sought to design grape skeletons in 1870 by creating a mechanism that would pump them full of lead should they decide to fill the lid, steel coffins appeared in the late 1800s and canvas coffins were popular from the 1930s. But in the 19th and 19th centuries, premature burial scared the life out of people to such a degree that bodies were attached to an overground box that could be tagged as signal they were alive.

SARCOPHAGI 2560 BCE
Sarcophagi are the elaborately decorated boxes that were first used by the Ancient Egyptians to house their corpses. Designed primarily to be positioned above ground, they were painted with images of gods and goddesses and tattooed towards the individuals who were interred. As such, they had scenes that showed the afterlife that the person desired, clues regarding his or her status on Earth and artwork reflective of the times. Mummified bodies would be placed within them, along with valuable items. That popularity also saw them used in Rome and Greece.

MUMMIFICATION 2800 BCE
To keep mummies alive, the Ancient Egyptians embalmed their dead. Special priests would remove internal body parts that would decay quickly, like the stomach, liver, lungs and intestines stored in canopic jars. However, due to its religious significance, the heart would be kept in the body. The body would also be treated with a type of salt to dry it out before being wrapped in linen. The whole process would take about 70 days. If the deceased was wealthy, their mummy might be placed in a sarcophagus and anemombed, while others would be buried in the sand.

CREMATIONS 1000 BCE
The practice of burning corpses on an open fire was popularised in the West by the Ancient Greeks. While they also carried out ground burials and all cremated ashes were interred, often in an urn — cremation was closely associated with military glory and patriotism. It is perhaps not surprising then that the Romans also appropriated this practice at least until the introduction of Christianity. The belief in the resurrection of the body saw ground burial become the norm in the West until the 19th century except in emergency war prone countries.

CAVE BURIALS 10,000 BCE
When the skeletons of two adults and children were discovered from the Silhild Cave near Mount Carmel, Israel, in 1932, archaeologists were very excited. Not only were they later found to be about 90,000 years old, but the fact that they were in the case that evidence humans were burying their dead at that early stage. Alongside the humans were ritual goods and the lower jaw of a wild boar was found on one of the skeletons. This could have been tattooed with lines to remind him of his fighting skill.

SKY BURIALS 6000 BCE
Sky burial involves cutting up human remains and feeding them to vultures. Practiced in Tibet and Mongolia, it is a pragmatic solution for people who live in the icy mountains where ground burial isn’t an option. The custom is also an extreme extension of Buddhist self-sacrifice and is mentioned in the 16th-century funerary text Jads Thul. It’s likely that sky burials were started as a way of releasing the body after death, with archaeological evidence suggesting it has been practiced in Tibet for millennia. 2000s burial in Tibet shows practical sky burial but that rationale is entirely different as they believe that dead bodies are spiritually important.

“A pragmatic solution for people who live in the icy mountains”

CATACOMBS 330 BCE
A variation on ground burials, catacombs are subterranean chambers with a network of tunnels and passages for tombs. They originated in the Middle East 6000 years ago and spread to Rome with Jewish migration, and early Christians gathered in Rome’s catacombs to share funeral meals and mark anniversaries. The Paris Catacombs are the most famous as they were opened as a public attraction in the 15th century. Former quarries, they were converted from 1786 to educate visitors from the city’s overflowing cemeteries.

Through History

Mummification
The practice of mummification in the ancient world.

Cremation
A depiction of a cremation ceremony.

Sarcophagi
An illustration of sarcophagi from ancient times.

Cave Burials
A representation of cave burials.

Sky Burial
An image of a sky burial, showing the practice.

Catacombs
An image of the Paris Catacombs, an example of subterranean burial chambers.

Sir Graham Elliot Smith
As the first person to use radium for medical purposes.
BATTLE OF CASTLE ITTER

AUSTRIA, 5 MAY 1945

Written by Peter Price

At dawn, in the picturesque Austrian Alps, the fortress of Schloss Itter had been requisitioned into a satellite facility of the notorious Trawniki concentration camp, since 1941. In May 1945, the castle held a number of French VIPs under the watchful eye of their SS guards. Once it became clear that the war was lost, the guards abandoned their posts, leaving the prisoners in control of the castle – but at the mercy of roaming bands of SS helmeted on executing any enemies of the Third Reich.

Not wanting to meet this grisly fate, the castle’s handyman, Zvonimir Cavdovc was sent to find the advancing Allied forces and return with reinforcements. But the four soldiers he ran into were Germans, led by the pragmatic Major Josef "Gang" Sepp. Gang, sensing the war was lost, Gang decided to throw his lot in with the French trapped in the castle. These were not men who blindly followed the party line, and the fact that they were not targeted by anti-Nazi partisans operating in the area could show as much.

After securing the help of the Germans, the US army was located and a strong relief force was quickly put together. However, they were turned back by a heavy artillery barrage. Meanwhile, a few kilometers away, word of the situation had reached tank commander Captains Jack Lee. Not knowing that the other relief force had been turned back, he quickly gathered an impromptu force, including Gung-ho men, and rode in to the castle's rescue.

On approach to Schloss Itter, Lee had only around 20 Germans, seven Americans and one Sherman tank under his command. After a brief skirmish they reached the fortress and it wasn’t long before SS units on the mountain opened fire. Latching up the night with machine guns and small arms fire, they continued the barrage until the early morning. After giving the boom of artillery signaled the beginning of the attack. An artillery shrapnel fell into the Sherman, guarding the gate, causing the tank to erupt in a ball of flame. At this moment, the SS started racing towards the castle. Lee immediately ordered his men to pour rounds after rounds into the attacking force, keeping them at bay and preventing them entering the castle grounds. As supplies began to run low, the Allies reached themselves for the final push. Just then, the sound of cannon fire echoed around the castle. The American relief force had finally arrived and broken through, easily driving off the remaining SS forces.

As Gang was killed during the battle, we cannot know what kind of pardon or punishment he would have received. His men, while they fought bravely alongside the Allies, were immediately sent to a prisoner of war camp and they then faded into obscurity. A day of fighting for the Allies had set the stage for an undying war of fighting for the Nazi regime.

Lee received the Distinguished Service Cross in honor of actions. His brash and unorthodox manner offended the French politicians but his leadership saw his tiny unit holdout and beat a much larger and better equipped force. Only a few men lost their lives - Major Gang and a couple of Wehrmacht defenders. The SS losses are not known but must have been in the dozens. The remainder of the unit disintegrated into the mountains after the attack, their strength crushed and will broken.
Elizabeth Lamb
Viscountess Melbourne

Labelled ‘the cleverest of women’ by Byron, this Georgian socialite rose to the pinnacle of high society while flouting all of its rules.

Elizabeth Lamb, the mother of William Lamb, Queen Victoria’s first prime minister, was known as the very essence of patrician Victorian respectability, her beauty a contrast. A lady who refused to conform to the day’s standards of a ‘good’ woman of the time; she did what she had to do to get ahead in enlightened Georgian high society.

During her lifetime, Lady Melbourne was compared to the scheming Margaret de Merteuil, the chief in Pierre Choderlos de Laclos’ novel Les Liaisons Dangereuses, who used seduction as a social weapon. It was said by the circle of female Georgian friends that she could never look at a marriage without trying to wreck it.

Together with society celebrity Georgina Cavendish, Duchess of Devonshire, and artist Anne Hart, she was portrayed as one of the three who were from Marylebone in the portrait; the woman who around a cauldron mixing spells to cast on their society friends. Disagreeing society, the Earl Mary Coke noted: ‘They have chosen the scene where they compose their Cauldron, but instead of ‘Singer of Birth’—strangled baby—this Cauldron is composed of roses and coronets and I suppose it is condone more irresistible than all the magic of the witches.’

But Elizabeth’s spells were far more dangerous than those Shakespearean sorceresses. She seemed to live by an iron rule that she never met in the duchess of Devonshire to follow: ‘By a lady had to be loyal to her husband until she provided him with an heir. After that, women were free to follow their own interests, just as their husbands did. Georgiana, under her influence, embarked on a disastrous love affair with the young Charles Grey, later Earl Grey, and the even society gave birth to his daughter while in exile on the Continent.

Elizabeth would lack the urge to have affairs of her own as a result of her own experiences. Her husband, Sir Jeremy Lamb, began an affair with celebrated courtesan and actress Sophia Baddley when Elizabeth was pregnant with their first son.
It was a marriage of convenience - a deal that little Lagaffe clinic in Edward Bemard's studio. Britain's Prince Charles James Fox for whom entertainers their friends with their sitting at Lady Melbourne's calm at Melbourne House which she had built off Piccadilly with over £60000 of her husband's fortune.

In May 1772, Lady Melbourne and the bon ton turned out to see the first night of Sheridan's play "The School for Scandal" which saluted his friends in the audience. They were joined by ladies at Twickenham bought by many to represent Elizabeth's friend Georgina - being betrayed by her husband for a spendthrift. Lady Stair well captured Lady Melbourne's acid tongue. "Friel There's no possibility of being envy without a little ill nature, the malice of a good thing is the fault that makes it stick." In the play, Lady Sneerwell replies the attempts by Joseph Surface to seduce her but in real life, Elizabeth was soon pregnant by her long-term lover George Wyndham, Earl of Egmont, owner of Petersham house in West Sussex, and patron of artists including BM Turner. Elizabeth had borne him but they died shortly after their birth. In the summer of 1778, Lady Melbourne became pregnant again by Lord Egmont. Elizabeth was part of the female army of followers attracted to a visit military encampment capable of accommodating 2000 soldiers and gentlemen on the North Downs of Kent at the tiny hamlet of Cranbrook. The soldiers saw their wives to repeal a threatened French invasion but it quickly became notorious for the officers' immoral sexual manoeuvres. While it was at the camp that long, hot summer, Lady Melbourne and the Earl of Egmont, allegedly participated in similar night-time meetings. William Lamb was born on 15 March 1779 at Melbourne House, so the future prime minister may have been conceived in a marquee in the camp at Cranbrook. William grew up as the second son with no prospect of a private fortune until Lord Melbourne's heir, the Pensioner Lamb, died childless in 1765. That changed William's prospects and he proposed to Lady Caroline Pembridge, the beautiful and selfish daughter of Georgiana's sister Hermione. Countess of Beaufort. However, their marriage was quickly shaken when Caroline had a very public affair with a well-known rake, Godfrey Webster, who brought a conciliating advising in a letter from her mother-in-law. "When any one hears the opinions of the world, sooner or later they will feel the consequences of it."

Elizabeth Lamb, who would later become prime minister, was born in 1743 - the same month in which the prince gave Lady Melbourne's deteriorated husband a final post as gentleman of the bedchamber and the permission to the English Viceroy that the couple wanted. The title, obtained through the prince, put the Melbourne on a par with their society acquaintances, and marriage consolidated the link between the Lamb and the Cavendish family. On 3 June 1765 when Elizabeth's second son, William, married his childhood sweetheart Lady Caroline Pembridge, the Duchess of Devonshire's niece, Lady Melbourne was born. Elizabeth Milbanke in 1754 in the north Yorkshire borough of Helmsley, near Richmond, and her family was a respectable pillar of Yorkshire society. They lived in their home back to the court of Mary Queen of Scots. She had married as-called "two money" when she wed Sir Peniston Lamb in 1759 at the age of 17. A year before, Sir Peniston had inherited an estate of £1 million including £50000 in each two sturdy houses at Melbourne in Derbyshire. Boscot Hall in Hampshire, and a townhouse in London's Piccadilly. The Lamb fortune had been amassed by his father in a suspiciously short time as a lawyer to rich landlords - including the Saltmiers, who claimed he had embezzled much from their land. Sir Peniston Lamb wanted some of the responsibility that Elizabeth Milbanke brought to their marriage while Elizabeth's father, Sir Ralph Milbanke, the fifth baronet and a Member of Parliament, wanted a rich husband for his daughter.

"The future prime minister may have been conceived in a marquee in the camp at Cranbrook"

Elizabeth Lamb promised to share her mother's war-time exploit for our column.

The Lamb fortune was inherited by his father in a suspiciously short time as a lawyer to rich landlords - including the Saltmiers, who claimed he had embezzled much from their land. Sir Peniston Lamb wanted some of the responsibility that Elizabeth Milbanke brought to their marriage while Elizabeth's father, Sir Ralph Milbanke, the fifth baronet and a Member of Parliament, wanted a rich husband for his daughter.

It was said by some that Lady Melbourne climbed the social ladder on her back. She certainly traded sexual favours among a small circle of male friends for privilege and power but Elizabeth did show more maturity and better judgment than most of them in her superiors.

In an age when women were barred from any official role in politics, Elizabeth was instrumental in making the Victorian lady a respected figure in society and, as a result, became known as a society hostess, a woman of influence and a society hostess. She was known for her charm, wit and intelligence, and was often called the "queen of the social season." Her influence and influence was such that she was often described as "the power behind the throne." In January 1901, the year she was 85, she was made a Dame of the British Empire, a title she held until her death in 1903.

Elizabeth Lamb's contributions to the history of Australia were significant. A strong supporter of education, she was a benefactor of many schools and charities. She was a patron of the arts, and her influence helped to promote the development of the Melbourne Art Gallery and the National Gallery of Victoria. She was also a generous benefactor to the Melbourne Hospital and the Royal Children's Hospital, and her influence had a lasting impact on Australian society.
Bluffer's Guide

The Assassination of Martin Luther King

USA, 4 APRIL 1968

Did you know?

President Lyndon B Johnson proclaimed Sunday 7 April 1968 as a national day of mourning for the civil rights leader's death.

Timeline

8 MARCH 1968
The deaths of Robert Walker and Elmer Cole prompt boil-sewerage workers to demand better pay and working conditions.

12 MARCH 1968
Martin Luther King Jr arranges to speak in Memphis, a city with severe racial violence.

SUNDAY 4 APRIL 1968
Martin Luther King Jr makes his final public speech in Memphis.

14 APRIL 1968
Martin Luther King Jr is shot on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

27 APRIL 1968
Martin Luther King Jr's funeral is held in Atlanta, Georgia.

What was it?

Martin Luther King Jr arrived in Memphis, Tennessee, to support the sanitation workers who were striking in the city over poor working conditions. His flight had been delayed following a bomb scare at the airport but he eventually arrived in Memphis and checked into the Lorraine Motel. The King Family were staying on the fifth floor. At approximately 6pm King was preparing to lead a march. As he stepped out of the door, a bullet was fired from a window of the Lorraine Motel and he was killed. According to police reports, King was shot in the head by狙击手 James Earl Ray.

What were the consequences?

James Earl Ray, an escaped convict and white supremacist, was seen leaving the crime scene and his fingerprints were found on the gun. After a two month manhunt, he was captured at a Nashville hotel, having travelled to the UK with a fake Canadian passport. Ray pleaded guilty in March 1969 and was sentenced to 99 years in prison. But three days later, he claimed that he was a victim of a conspiracy to try and to withdraw his plea. The conviction was declared, as were his status of other requests for a trial during the next 20 years.

In the days immediately following King's assassination, outrage spread across the United States and riots broke out in over 200 cities, costing damage worth an estimated $65 million. In the coming years, civil rights activists increasingly embraced the militancy of the Black Power movement - already in ascendency in King's final days - over nonviolent protest.

Who was involved?

Martin Luther King Jr
1929-68
As leader of the Civil Rights Movement, he advocated nonviolence to tackle inequality and received the Nobel Peace Prize.

James Earl Ray
1928-98
Escaped convict and white supremacist James Earl Ray pleaded guilty to murder, to avoid a jury trial but he later recanted his confession.

Ralph Abernathy
1926-90
A fellow leader of the Civil Rights Movement and a close friend of King, Abernathy succeeded him as president of the SCLC.
On the Menu
MOUSSAKA

Did you know?
Moussaka chef NikoP
Tsikentzes’ surname
is synonymous with
‘cookbook’ in Greek.

Moussaka is perhaps best described as a meat
and vegetable dish made with alternating
layers of sliced aubergines and minced
beef or lamb. Today, it is considered to be
Greek national dish and the 8th part of its
master chef Nikos Tsikentzes, who radically
remade the recipe in the 1980s. He added a
delicious sauce out of the mistaken belief that all
European cooking – in this case, French cuisine –
ultimately had its roots in Ancient Greece.
However, while Tsikentzes’ recipe sought to
embrace an Eastern influence that he thought was
introduced during the Ottoman rule in Greece, the
earliest recorded recipe for moussaka has actually
been found in a 13th-century Arabic text known as
A Baghdad Cookbook.
The following recipe takes inspiration from the
Baghdad Cookbook version but as the original text is
quite vague, we had to improvise. Before starting,
it is important to remember that a great moussaka
is a labour of love! It is time consuming but the end
result is definitely worth it.

Ingredients

For the vegetable layers

• 2 aubergines, cut lengthways
• 8 medium tomatoes, peeled and diced
• 3 bell peppers, chopped
• 2 cloves of garlic
• 1 tsp chopped oregano
• 1 tsp chopped parsley
• 1 tsp chopped rosemary
• Salt and pepper

For the meat filling

• 300g minced beef or lamb
• 300g onions, finely chopped
• 2 cloves of garlic
• 2 tsp chopped oregano
• 1 tsp chopped parsley
• 1 tsp chopped rosemary
• Salt and pepper

For the yoghurt cream

• 700g natural yoghurt
• 6 eggs
• 150g grated cheese (cheese or cheddar)
• Salt and pepper

For the topping

• 150g fresh mint
• 150g fresh parsley

METHOD

1. Place the aubergines at the bottom of a deep dish, sprinkle them with salt and cover with cold water. Allow to sit and leave for 1 hour. Then, remove them and give them a rinse. Drain them and pat them dry with kitchen towels.
2. Preheat the oven to 200°C. Sprinkle your tomato slices with salt and olive oil. Place them in the oven for 1 hour, remove and allow them to cool.
3. Meanwhile, add oil to a saucepan and fry the aubergine slices and bell peppers. Place them on kitchen towels to absorb any excess oil.
4. Add the mince, onion, garlic and spices to the saucepan and sauté over a moderate heat for about 15-20 minutes until brown. In the recipe from A Baghdad Cookbook, cinnamon, coriander, cumin, caraway, cumin and ginger are all suggested, so feel free to use those if you wish.
5. Pour in the wine, stirring for two to three minutes while the alcohol evaporates. Next, add the tomato, bay leaf, parsley, salt and pepper with 400 millilitres of water. After about 30 minutes, the sauce should have thickened up.
6. Remove the bay leaf and add the basil, stirring into the sauce. Take off the heat and preheat the oven to 190°C. Place the aubergines at the bottom of a dish and sprinkle salt over them.
7. Create a layer on top with half of the tomato slices and peppers, and then top this with a layer of the meat mixture. Repeat this so that you have two layers of each.
8. Pour the yoghurt, eggs, salt and pepper into a bowl and whisk until a smooth cream is formed. Add the cheese and mix so that it is dispersed evenly. Then, top your moussaka with a generous layer of the mixture.
9. Grate a little bit of blackberry on the top if you wish, or sprat tomato slices. Bake your moussaka for about 45-50 minutes until it is covered on the surface and then leave it to stand for 20 minutes before serving.
**DAUGHTERS OF THE WINTER QUEEN**

The tale of five women and their determination to survive in a chaotic world

**Author** Nancy Goldstone  
**Publisher** Weidenfeld & Nicolson  
**Price** £20  
**Released** Out now

The story of the Winter Queen, Elizabeth Stuart, is sadly one that remains largely hidden in popular history, yet alone the stories of her formidable daughters, Elizabeth, Louisa, Henrietta and Sophie. Nancy Goldstone is here to correct this.

For centuries, Goldstone threads the clock back to the tragic downfall and execution of Elizabeth’s grandmother, Mary, Queen of Scots. It is brief but excellently written, fleshing out what is to come for her offspring. We are then introduced to Elizabeth as a young, bright, intelligent princess, whose quiet life in Scotland changed forever when her father becomes King James I of England.

The transition is not the easiest, evident with the Gunpowder Plot complications and hope to replace James with another princess. A quest to find her a suitable Protestant husband leads to Elizabeth’s betrothal to Frederick, Elector Palatine, an ambitious man far below her rank. Their marriage comes with the promise that King James will support Frederick in his quest to become king of Bohemia. But political intrigue, coupled with her father’s failure to uphold his end of the bargain, results in Frederick and Elizabeth marrying for a single winter (even those shared sobriquets, the Winter King and Queen). The pair took refuge in the Netherlands. Just over a decade later, Elizabeth is widowed but she remains determined to survive nonetheless, seeking advantageous marriages for her children.

One of the most striking aspects of this book from the outset is just how easily it is to read — quite often well-researched words like this can be bogged down by academic language that fails to resonate with the everyday reader. However, *Daughters of the Winter Queen* flows effortlessly from one chapter to the next, making it difficult to put down. Goldstone’s innovative style of writing is also a winner, especially in the heartbreaking moments of the deaths of Elizabeth’s brothers Robert and Charles.

In addition to this, the book is remarkably balanced considering that Goldstone had five intelligent women to discuss, with each one given her own chapter for each section. It was enjoyable to learn about the artistic natures of Elizabeth’s daughters as well as the respective paths they took. Of course, out of the four it is Sophia’s life that is particularly interesting. Famed as a patron of the arts, she became the heiress of Queen Anne of Great Britain — a claim she passed on to her son, George, founder of the Hanoverian dynasty.

There is, however, one issue that is difficult to ignore. As Goldstone recounts Mary’s capture in 1567, she refers to the exit of Bothwell as Mary’s second husband — but for those who are aware of Mary’s history, they will know that he was in fact her third husband. Although Goldstone’s bibliography relates to her research, a mistake like this does pose the question as to whether there are other errors in the text and perhaps something to be aware of.

*Daughters of the Winter Queen* is a wonderfully compelling read that will interest anyone who is into royal history.

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**CAVE CANEM**

From love to slaughter, animals meant something to everyone in Ancient Rome

**Author** Iain Ferris  
**Publisher** Amberley Publishing  
**Price** £20  
**Released** Out now

You might think that a book specifically on animals in Ancient Rome might be a niche title, but at some point you’ve probably wondered how the Romans named their dogs or what pets they might have had. Iain Ferris has all the answers in this new book, *Cave Canem: Animalia in Roman Society*. And just in case you’re wondering what that Latin phrase means, it’s “Beware of the dog”.

From domestic to wild animals, Ferris explores the role of animals throughout the Roman Empire as pets, religious symbols and in entertainment — after all, dolphins were used in the Colosseum. What’s especially good is that you don’t need a great deal of knowledge about Antiquity to get along with the information, as long as you’ve got the book down, following Ferris’ enthusiastic writing should be easy.

You know what it’s like in good hands when the author pulls from masked scarabs and archaeological evidence like sculptures, coins and mosaics, and there’s a long bibliography for further reading. There are also 75 plates in the middle of the book providing some images but he could perhaps have gone with fewer of these and more description as is only accompanied by the author’s title and current location. Nevertheless, as one of the first comprehensive books on this subject matter, it’s certainly a must-have for any fans of Ancient Rome who are looking for some lighter reading about a civilization that’s perhaps best known for its darker side.

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**TESLA**

How the overlooked inventor transformed our world

**Author** Richard Munson  
**Publisher** WW Norton & Company  
**Price** £20  
**Released** 22 May

There are many strange reasons why history seems to skate past a peculiar genius and rush instead into the arms of less brilliant but more charismatic pioneers. Sadly, the wonderful exhibit Tesla is on the list of creators that time has failed to fully recognize. But Richard Munson has decided to dedicate himself to rectifying this wrong in a superbly researched, entertaining and often surprising study of a man who gave the world so much yet took so little.

The life of Tesla, a Serb-American who spoke eight languages and could recite poetry and entire books from memory, is both brilliant and fantastic. Once an employee of Thomas Edison, he soon proved that his talents and vision for the future far exceeded those of the more famous Americans. From his idea of utilizing alternating high-frequency currents to generate more reliable electricity than the existing systems produced by Edison, to his understanding of the potential of radio, which predated the famed Guglielmo Marconi by a decade or the fall, not shaped by Tesla was both a genius and a showman. Howser while he claimed to do all of his inventions in his mind, his brilliance was both appreciated and overlooked. Munson believes that this is partly due to “cognitive dissonance causing us to forget his ideas, and also in some ways a result of Tesla’s eccentricity.”

While Tesla’s inventive innovations have inspired a number of inventors and innovators, from science fiction writers to some of the greatest architects and engineers who have ever lived, it is only now that we are starting to understand the impact of his work on our world and how we live today.
ENGLAND’S FORGOTTEN PAST
Exploring the overlooked episodes of English history
Author Richard Tames Publisher Thames & Hudson Price £9.99
It’s no secret that England is a county steeped in dramatic history. From bloody struggles for royal supremacy to the Industrial Revolution, the land of the Angles has witnessed more than enough to fill countless history books. Yet somehow, a lot of its most interesting moments seem to have been completely forgotten. Says forward Richard Tames.

Divided into sections and adorned with images, Tames’ work is the very definition of an intriguing coffee-table read—but putting this book down for a moment proved rather difficult. A plethora of reasons to continue reading even after the final page, strange anecdotes are an irresistible combination. Beginning with such early themes as the first and from among the British Isles, penned by the Greek Pythian of Muses in the 4th century BCE, who described phallicism as “poisonous people,” Tames takes the reader on a rampage across the nation, examining the truth behind some supposed facts while revealing a host of previously unknown figures and events.

Take, for example, Daniel Membrot, England’s unorthodox boxing champion from 1742 to 1749, architect of connecting a causeway in a combination and the first country’s sporting separatist. Then there’s Molina Boyo, the founder of every nation, and the third citizen of America, based on Jean-Camille. These are also the ten occasions since 2004 in which England found itself the subject of an invasion, from Henry of Angles unifying the 1000s to the twirled efforts of 1492 French attacks in 1777. They failed to take dictation but instead wasted little time in sampling England’s addictive offerings.

It remains not whether you are an historical amateur or academic; this enlightening deplores of timeless truths it challenges misconceptions and reinforces a love of England’s gripping journey to date.

LETTERS FROM BAGHDAD
Fascinating insight into Iraq’s so-called “female Laureate of Arabia”
Certificate PG Directors Sabine Kranyehul and Zewa Oebel
Cast Tilda Swinton, Rose Leslie, Rachel Stirling, Paul McGann, Helen Ryan.
Christopher Villers, Lucy Robinson Released out now
For so long, Gertrude Bell’s fascinating story has been criminally overlooked. As a highly influential British, traveller, political officer and archaeologist, she fell in love with the Middle East, and the two of them met up at the story and keep the observer guessing as to their intentions and significance, but also reflect upon how indigenous Australians view the concept of time itself. Touches like that, the deeply empathetic portrait of Sam and the archetypes projected across the screen make Sweet Country a philosophically rich tale of life in the southern outback, and one that moves as much as it informs.

It’s Sweet Country, director Warwick Thornton’s Oscar-winning adaptation of the prestigious Cormac McCarthy’s novel ‘The Road’ and Stolen Generation: The Lost Years – changes the long-standing tendency of reducing Aboriginal viewpoints to the fringe of Australian cinema in an important piece of contemporary cinema and one that resonates with today’s escalating racial tensions.

Loosely based on a true story of an Aboriginal man known as Wilberforce Jack in the 1980s, Sweet Country follows Sam Kelly, a middle-aged farmer, and his wife Lisa, who is killed in a car accident. Sam is left to raise their daughter alone.

Hitting already covered the Second Paris War in your heralded novel, what is your take on the demands of its narrative? It’s one of the most profound moments in European history and a turning point in the Second World War, which opened the door for the Allies to invade Germany and end the war in Europe with minimum loss of life.

How can viewers connect with the characters? My novel was designed to be a broad overview of the period’s history, before exploring the decisions made during the war and their lasting legacy in depth.
HISTORY VS HOLLYWOOD
Fact versus fiction on the silver screen

A UNITED KINGDOM


The epic love story of an African king and an ordinary English woman that sent shockwaves around the world — but how true is it?

01 In the film, the British character Sebastian Coe and Ruth Smith enjoy a white friend of the couple. However, in real life, Ruth was not married to the couple. She was also married to another man.

02 Ruth's behaviour was criticized by her father for marrying a black man, as portrayed in the film. But the novel ends that she was also found guilty of the same.

03 The film is based on the events of the British government's policies towards India and Britain's marriage. It is based on the true events of the British government's policies towards India and Britain's marriage.

04 The film is based on the events of the British government's policies towards India and Britain's marriage. It is based on the true events of the British government's policies towards India and Britain's marriage.

05 Whitehall's decision to lift the ban on the film was eventually allowed to return to the screen. It was eventually allowed to return to the screen.
Discover the dark charisma of Matthew Hopkins, the man who led England's war on witches

A-Z of the Ancient World
From Alexander to Zoroaster, explore the forgotten icons of Antiquity

Ada Lovelace: The First Programmer
How Lord Byron's daughter pioneered the Computer Age

Windrush Generation
Marking 70 years since the landmark landing of Caribbean in Britain

PLUS: Photography through time, The Battle of the Ice: Russia vs. Teutonic Knights, The Greatest Showman, Fulgencio Batista, What if the Weimar Republic survived?

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