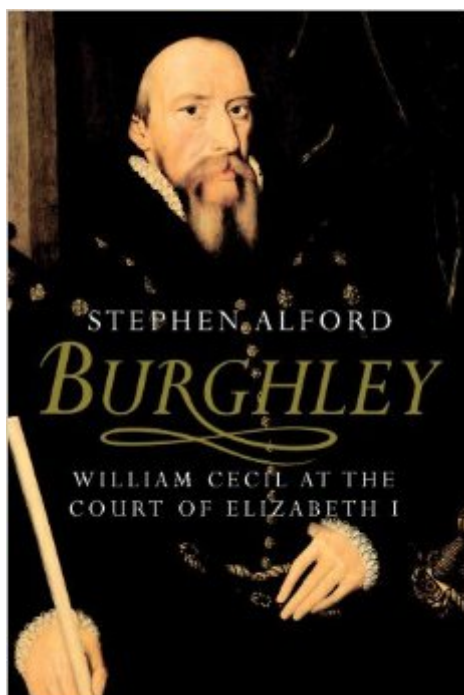


The book was found

Burghley: William Cecil At The Court Of Elizabeth I



Synopsis

William Cecil, Lord Burghley (1520–1598), was the closest adviser to England's Queen Elizabeth I and—as this revealing and provocative biography shows—he was the driving force behind the Queen's reign for four decades. Cecil's impact on the development of the English state was deep and personal. A committed Protestant, he guided domestic and foreign affairs with the confidence of his religious conviction. Believing himself the divinely instigated protector of his monarch, he felt able to disobey her direct commands. He was uncompromising, obsessive, and supremely self-assured—a cunning politician as well as a consummate servant. This comprehensive biography gives proper weight to Cecil's formative years, his subtle navigation of the reigns of Edward VI and Mary I, his lifelong enmity with Mary Queen of Scots, and his obsession with family dynasty. It also provides a fresh account of Elizabeth I and her reign, uncovering limitations and concerns about invasions, succession, and conspiracy. Intimate, authoritative, and enormously readable, this book redefines our understanding of the Elizabethan period.

Book Information

Paperback: 432 pages

Publisher: Yale University Press; Reprint edition (May 31, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0300170882

ISBN-13: 978-0300170887

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 1.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,587,161 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #169 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Presidents & Heads of State > U.K. Prime Ministers #3457 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Europe > Great Britain #3782 in Books > History > Europe > Great Britain > England

Customer Reviews

I just finished reading Prof. Stephen Alford's tome, "Burghley: William Cecil at the Court of Elizabeth I," and I recommend it for serious 'Elizabethophiles' -- with one significant quibble. On p. 167, Alford argues that Cecil "singlehandedly" ran the secret service and intelligence gathering in the age of Elizabeth I. This is patently untrue, as Sir Francis Walsingham was Elizabeth's spymaster. However, in 2014, Alford corrected this egregious error by producing a splendid little book called "The

Watchers: a Secret History of the Reign of Elizabeth I," in which he corrects the record and gives Walsingham due credit. Alford's "Burghley" brims with quotable material, because he uses *primary* sources. So on p. 283, we have Elizabeth's response to Parliament's request that she execute Mary, Queen of Scots. Elizabeth says "[We] princes I tell you are set on stages, in the sight and view of all the world....It behoveth us therefore to be careful that our proceedings be just and honourable." This sense that Renaissance people had of 'the world as a stage' did not originate with Shakespeare -- but he reflected the philosophy of his age with poetic vigour. Cecil was an avid reader, and one of the tutors he kept in his household was Lawrence Nowell. Nowell taught the (thoroughly nasty) Earl of Oxford, but in his spare time, he pored over and attempted to translate "the only surviving original manuscript of 'Beowulf' " (See p. 147). What a scintillating, shimmering household this must have been, with Burghley, his brilliant wife Mildred (nee Cooke), the young Earl of Essex (Robert Devereux), the brothers Bacon (Nicholas and Francis) and a host of Protestant intellectuals. So...

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Burghley: William Cecil at the Court of Elizabeth I Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to Vote Cecil Beaton at Home: An Interior Life Cecil B. DeMille: The Art of the Hollywood Epic Dissent and the Supreme Court: Its Role in the Court's History and the Nation's Constitutional Dialogue A Court of Mist and Fury (A Court of Thorns and Roses) The Glittering Court: The Glittering Court, Book 1 The Chicago Seven Political Protest Trial: A Headline Court Case (Headline Court Cases) The United States v. Nixon: The Watergate Scandal and Limits to US Presidential Power (Landmark Supreme Court Cases) (Landmark Supreme Court Cases (Abdo)) William Shakespeare's Tragedy of the Sith's Revenge: Star Wars Part the Third (William Shakespeare's Star Wars) William Shakespeare's The Clone Army Attacketh: Star Wars Part the Second (William Shakespeare's Star Wars) Stella Adler on America's Master Playwrights: Eugene O'Neill, Thornton Wilder, Clifford Odets, William Saroyan, Tennessee Williams, William Inge, Arthur Miller, Edward Albee Elizabeth Taylor: My Love Affair with Jewelry My Elizabeth Tudors: The History of England From Henry VIII to Elizabeth I: History of England, Book 2 Elizabeth of York: A Tudor Queen and Her World The Paper Doll's House of Miss Sarah Elizabeth Birdsall Otis, aged Twelve Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas Beware, Princess Elizabeth Good Queen Bess: The Story of Elizabeth I of England

[Dmca](#)