

Renault, Mary. Alexander the Great

Bringing the world of Ancient Macedonia to life, Renault imagines Alexander's childhood, military exploits and eventual death. Start with: **Fire from Heaven.**

Russell, Mary Doria. Doc

After the burned body of a mixed-blood boy, Johnnie Sanders, is discovered in 1878 Dodge City, Kansas, part-time policeman Wyatt Earp enlists the help of his professional-gambler friend Doc Holliday.

Edward Rutherfurd. New York

A tale set against a backdrop of New York City's history from its founding through the September 11 attacks traces the experiences of characters who witness such periods as the Revolutionary War, the city's emergence as a financial giant, and the Gilded Age. Try also his novels: **London; Russia; The Forest.**

Saylor, Steven. Roma Sub Rosa Series

Inspired by the political corruption, financial skullduggery, and colorful personalities of the last decades of the Roman Republic, Saylor has created a meticulously crafted series of Historical Mysteries, featuring Gordianus the Finder, that evoke this era of history in all its often chaotic, frequently brutal, but always intriguing glory. Start with: **Roman Blood.**

Shaara, Jeff. American Revolution Novels

Discover the roots of independence from the Boston Tea Party to the signing of the Declaration of Independence, seen primarily through the eyes of John and Abigail Adams, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, and British General Thomas Gage. Start with: **Rise to Rebellion**

Shaara, Michael. The Killer Angels

Combining military strategy with very human characters, Shaara explores the thoughts and emotions of men on both sides of the Civil War, friends and brothers from foot soldiers to generals.



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Cornwell, Bernard. Sharpe Series

Follow the exploits of British soldier Richard Sharpe in the Napoleonic Wars. Start with: **Sharpe's Tiger**.

George, Margaret. [Individual Titles]

Considered the Queen of fictional biography, George has written about people as diverse as Mary Magdalene and Henry VIII. Start with: **Helen of Troy**

Gregory, Phillipa. The Tudor Novels

These historical novels feature the consorts and descendants of King Henry VIII, as well as the king himself, in their romantic and political pursuits in the Tudor court. Start with: **The Other Boleyn Girl**.

Grey, Juliet. Marie Antoinette Series

Imagines life of the doomed eighteenth-century queen, who at a young age learns from her mother, the ambitious Empress of Austria, that she must leave her coddled life in the Austrian court to marry the dauphin of France. Start with: **Becoming Marie Antoinette**.

Harris, Robert. Pompeii

When the aqueduct that brings fresh water to thousands of people around the bay of Naples fails, Roman engineer Marius Primus heads to the slopes of Mount Vesuvius to investigate, only to come face to face with an impending catastrophe.

Iggulden, Conn. Genghis Khan Series

Chronicles the rise to power of Genghis Khan, one of the world's most powerful and fearsome rulers, from his tragic beginnings, to the murder of his father, to his legendary exploits as a feared warrior who conquered much of the known world. Start with: Genghis: **Birth of an Empire**.

Mantel, Hilary. Wolf Hall Trilogy

Mantel portrays an un-romanticized picture of Tudor England. These award-winning and critically-acclaimed novels explore characters, both real and fictional, and political events in polished prose. Start with: **Wolf Hall**.

Maxwell, Robin. English History Novels

Powerful women from Tudor England are Maxwell's stock in trade. Creatively filling major gaps in history with her own interpretations, Maxwell writes in a more romanticized style. Start with: **The Secret Diary of Anne Boleyn**.

McCullough, Colleen. Antony and Cleopatra

Part of McCullough's Masters of Rome series, she imagines one of the most infamous romances in history.

Moran, Michelle. Nefertiti

Raised far from the Egyptian court with her sister, Mutnodjmet, the beautiful and ambitious Nefertiti becomes the wife of the radical new pharaoh, Amunhotep, encouraging his plans to overturn Egypt's state religion and making powerful enemies in the process. Also try: **Madame Tussaud**.

Parris, S.J. Giordano Bruno Thrillers

Condemned for his heretical belief that the Earth orbits the sun, monk, scientist and occult researcher Giordano Bruno runs away from the Holy Roman Inquisition and is unexpectedly recruited by Elizabeth I, who dispatches him to Oxford to investigate a Catholic rebellion and foreign plots to assassinate her. Start with **Heresy**.

Penman, Sharon Kay. Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine Trilogy

A.D. 1135. As church bells tolled for the death of England's King Henry I, his barons faced the unwelcome prospect of being ruled by a woman: Henry's beautiful daughter Maude, Countess of Anjou. But before Maude could claim her throne, her cousin Stephen seized it. In their long and bitter struggle, all of England bled and burned. **Start with: When Christ and His Saints Slept**.

Perry, Anne. World War I Novels

Chronicling the British experience of World War I, Perry begins her series with **No Graves as Yet**. In June of 1914, Cambridge professor Joseph Reavley learns that his father was carrying a vitally important secret document when he died, and that his best student has been murdered.

Plaidy, Jean. [Many Series; listed below]

Plaidy's lively, entertaining stories about British and European royals are her specialty, and they have won her legions of fans worldwide. Norman Trilogy: start with: **The Bastard King**. Plantagenet Saga: start with: **The Plantagenet Prelude**. Tudor Series: start with: **Uneasy Lies the Head**. Stuart Saga: start with: **Murder in the Tower**. Georgian Saga: start with: **The Princess of Celle**. Queen Victoria Novels: start with: **The Captive of Kensington Palace**. Queens of England: start with: **Myself My Enemy**