

Louis XIV: The Sun King

Louis XIV, known as the Sun King, was one of the most powerful and influential monarchs in European history. His reign of 72 years was a time of great cultural, political, and economic change for France.

Louis XIV was born on September 5, 1638, in Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France. He was the son of King Louis XIII and Anne of Austria. Louis XIII died when Louis XIV was four years old, and his mother became regent. Anne of Austria was a devout Catholic, and she raised her son in the same faith.



Louis XIV (Routledge Historical Biographies)

by Richard Wilkinson

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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Word Wise : Enabled
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Louis XIV began his personal reign in 1661, at the age of 23. He was a strong and ambitious ruler, and he quickly set out to make France the most powerful country in Europe. Louis XIV waged several wars, including the Franco-Dutch War and the War of the Spanish Succession. He also

expanded the French empire, adding territories in North America, Africa, and Asia.

In addition to his military conquests, Louis XIV was also a great patron of the arts. He founded the Royal Academy of Painting and Sculpture, and he commissioned many works of art from famous artists such as Nicolas Poussin and Charles Le Brun. Louis XIV also built the Palace of Versailles, which was one of the largest and most opulent palaces in Europe.

Louis XIV died on September 1, 1715, at the age of 76. He was succeeded by his great-grandson, Louis XV.

Louis XIV's Legacy

Louis XIV's legacy is complex and controversial. He was a brilliant military commander and a great patron of the arts. However, he was also a ruthless tyrant who waged many wars and spent lavishly on his own personal pleasures.

Despite his flaws, Louis XIV is still considered one of the greatest kings in French history. He ruled France for 72 years, and he left a lasting mark on the country. The Palace of Versailles, which he built, is still one of the most popular tourist attractions in France.

Louis XIV in Popular Culture

Louis XIV has been the subject of many works of art, literature, and film. Some of the most famous depictions of Louis XIV include:

* The novel *The Three Musketeers* by Alexandre Dumas * The play *Louis XIV* by Molière * The film *The Sun King* by Peter Hyams

Louis XIV is a fascinating historical figure, and his life and reign continue to inspire and intrigue people today.

Further Reading

* Louis XIV by John B. Wolf * The Sun King: The Life of Louis XIV by Nancy Mitford * Louis XIV and the Court of France by W.H. Lewis

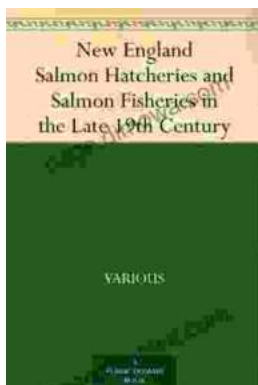


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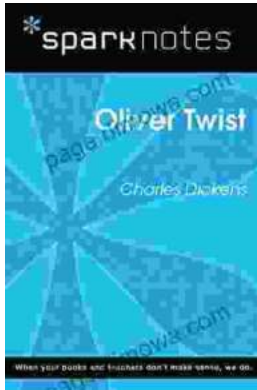
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