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JANE BOLEYN

The True Story of the Infamous Lady Rochford

By

Julia Fox

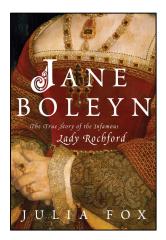
The film *The Other Boleyn Girl*, starring Natalie Portman and Scarlett Johansson, will be out in February 2008. Jane Boleyn will be a character in the film; Julia Fox's **JANE BOLEYN** is the first and only contemporary biography to explore this elusive woman's life in depth.

Praise for Julia Fox and JANE BOLEYN

"This electric account of the life of Jane Boleyn brings us face to face with the glittering but brutal world of Henry VIII's court. The infamous Lady Rochford was accused for centuries of betraying her husband to his death on charges of incest with Anne Boleyn. As so often happens, truth here is more interesting than fiction. Julia Fox's immaculate detective work and vivid storytelling bring to life one woman's struggle to survive at the apex of a society where success brought untold riches and a King's anger cost you your life."

-Leanda de Lisle, author of After Elizabeth

"Jane Boleyn's true history was obscured by lies and propaganda. Now, in an outstanding debut by Julia Fox, the full tragedy of her thwarted life has come to light. A fascinating and moving read, **JANE BOLEYN** exposes the harsh reality of Henry VIII's court, where cleverness and ambition often led to the block." —Amanda Foreman, author of *Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire*



"A riveting story—expertly written, and based on an impressive body of research. Julia Fox's book recreates the inner life of one of the great scapegoats of history, and vividly depicts the fervid, extravagant, interbred world of the Tudor Court."
—Sarah Gristwood, author of *Elizabeth and Leicester*

Through the centuries, Jane Boleyn has been reviled as the "Infamous Lady Rochford," the woman responsible for sending two wives of King Henry VIII—her sister-in-law, Anne Boleyn, and Catherine Howard—to the chopping block before meeting her own demise. Now, historian Julia Fox at last sets the record straight and restores dignity to this much-maligned figure in **JANE BOLEYN: The True Story of the Infamous Lady Rochford** (A Ballantine Books Hardcover; January 2, 2008).

Born to aristocratic parents in the English countryside, young Jane Parker found a suitable match in George Boleyn, brother to the woman who would be at the center of England's greatest political and religious crisis. Once settled in the bustling, spectacular court of Henry VIII as the wife of a nobleman, Jane was privy to the regal festivities of masque balls and jousts, royal births and funerals. As lady-in-waiting to five of Henry's wives throughout her lifetime, Jane witnessed the gossip and drama that swirled around the King's court.

Anne Boleyn's descent from palace to prison thrust Jane into the spotlight. Impatient with Anne's inability to produce an heir, King Henry accused the queen of treason and adultery with a multitude of men, including her own brother, George. Jane was among those imprisoned and interrogated in the scandal and, in two swift strokes of the executioner's axe, she lost her husband, her sister-in-law, her inheritance, and her place at court.

Suddenly the thirty-year-old widow of a traitor had to ensure her survival and protect her own interests by securing land and income. With sheer determination, she regained royal favor by becoming lady-in-waiting to the new queens, Jane Seymour and Anne of Cleves, until an unwitting, fatal misstep in the sexual machinations of Queen Catherine Howard ended the life and reputation Jane worked so hard to rebuild.

Drawing upon her vast knowledge and research, including original documents and salvaged letters, Julia Fox brings us into the inner sanctum of Tudor court life through the eyes and ears of Jane Boleyn. Ultimately, Jane emerges as a courageous spirit, a modern woman forced by circumstances to fend for herself in a privileged but vicious world.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

After graduating from the University of London, JULIA FOX taught history in both public and private schools for a number of years, specializing in the Tudors and in 19th-century Britain and Europe. She currently lives in London with her husband, the historian John Guy. **JANE BOLEYN** is her first book.

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