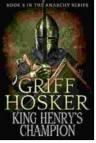
# King Henry Champion: The Anarchy and the Rise of the Plantagenets





by Griff Hosker

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King Henry Champion, also known as Henry of Anjou, was a key figure in the Anarchy, a period of civil war in England from 1135 to 1154. He eventually emerged victorious and became the first Plantagenet king of England, establishing a dynasty that would rule for over 300 years.

Henry was born in 1133 in Le Mans, France, to Geoffrey of Anjou and Matilda, the daughter of King Henry I of England. His father was a powerful feudal lord, and his mother was the rightful heir to the English throne. However, when Henry I died in 1135, his nephew Stephen of Blois seized the throne, sparking the Anarchy.

The Anarchy was a period of chaos and violence in England. Stephen and Matilda both claimed the throne, and their supporters fought a series of

battles across the country. Henry came to England in 1142 to support his mother's claim, and he quickly became a leading figure in the war. He was a skilled military commander, and he won a number of important victories against Stephen's forces.

In 1153, Henry and Stephen signed the Treaty of Wallingford, which recognized Henry as Stephen's heir. Stephen died the following year, and Henry became king of England.

Henry's reign was a period of peace and prosperity for England. He was a strong and effective king, and he restored order to the country after the long years of civil war. He also introduced a number of important reforms, including the establishment of the common law system and the creation of the Magna Carta.

Henry died in 1189, and he was succeeded by his son, Richard the Lionheart. The Plantagenet dynasty would continue to rule England for over 300 years, and it would produce some of the most famous and powerful kings in English history.

#### The Anarchy

The Anarchy was a period of civil war in England from 1135 to 1154. It was sparked by the death of King Henry I, who had no legitimate heirs. His nephew, Stephen of Blois, seized the throne, but his claim was challenged by Matilda, Henry's daughter and the rightful heir.

The Anarchy was a time of great chaos and violence. Stephen and Matilda both had their supporters, and the two sides fought a series of battles

across the country. The war had a devastating impact on England, and it is estimated that one-third of the population died.

In 1153, Henry and Stephen signed the Treaty of Wallingford, which recognized Henry as Stephen's heir. Stephen died the following year, and Henry became king of England.

#### The Rise of the Plantagenets

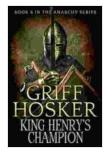
Henry II, also known as Henry Plantagenet, was the first Plantagenet king of England. He was a strong and effective ruler, and he restored order to the country after the long years of civil war.

Henry introduced a number of important reforms, including the establishment of the common law system and the creation of the Magna Carta. He also expanded English territory, and he made England one of the most powerful countries in Europe.

The Plantagenet dynasty would continue to rule England for over 300 years, and it would produce some of the most famous and powerful kings in English history, including Richard the Lionheart, John, and Edward I.

King Henry Champion was a key figure in the Anarchy and the rise of the Plantagenets. He was a skilled military commander, and he played a major role in restoring order to England after the long years of civil war. He also introduced a number of important reforms, and he helped to make England one of the most powerful countries in Europe.

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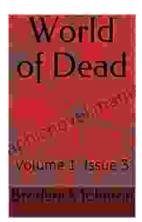


#### King Henry's Champion (The Anarchy Series Book 6)

by Griff Hosker

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