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## **The Causes of the Wars of the Roses**

There were a number of factors that contributed to the outbreak of the Wars of the Roses. One factor was the weakness of the monarchy. The Lancastrian kings, Henry VI and Edward IV, were both weak and indecisive rulers. This weakness allowed the rival factions to grow in strength and ambition.

Another factor that contributed to the wars was the ambition of the rival factions. The House of York was descended from Edward III through his fourth son, Edmund of Langley, 1st Duke of York. The House of Lancaster was descended from Edward III through his third son, John of Gaunt, 1st Duke of Lancaster. Both factions believed that they had a legitimate claim to the throne.

The growing power of the English Parliament also played a role in the outbreak of the wars. The Parliament had been gaining power throughout the 14th and 15th centuries, and it was now able to challenge the authority of the monarchy. This led to a breakdown in the traditional balance of power between the king and Parliament, and it created a situation in which the rival factions could use Parliament to their advantage.

## **The Course of the Wars of the Roses**

The Wars of the Roses began in 1455 with the First Battle of St. Albans. The battle was a victory for the Yorkists, and it led to the deposition of Henry VI and the accession of Edward IV to the throne. The Lancastrians, however, were not defeated, and they continued to fight for the throne. The

wars continued for over 30 years, and they were marked by a number of bloody battles.

The most famous battle of the Wars of the Roses was the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485. The battle was a victory for the Lancastrians, and it led to the death of Richard III and the accession of Henry VII to the throne. Henry VII was the first Tudor king of England, and he founded a dynasty that would rule England for over a century.

### **The Impact of the Wars of the Roses**

The Wars of the Roses had a profound impact on English history. The wars resulted in the deaths of two kings, Edward IV and Richard III, and the deposition of another, Henry VI. The wars also led to the rise of the Tudor dynasty, which would rule England for over a century.

The Wars of the Roses also had a significant impact on English society. The wars caused widespread devastation, and they led to a decline in the population. The wars also led to a breakdown in the traditional social order, and they created a new class of wealthy and powerful landowners.

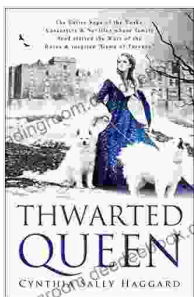
### **The Family Feud**

The Wars of the Roses was not just a political conflict. It was also a family feud. The two rival factions, the Yorks and the Lancasters, were both descended from Edward III. The Yorks were descended from Edward III's fourth son, Edmund of Langley, 1st Duke of York. The Lancasters were descended from Edward III's third son, John of Gaunt, 1st Duke of Lancaster.

The family feud between the Yorks and the Lancasters began in the 14th century. The feud was caused by a number of factors, including the rivalry between the two factions for the throne and the growing power of the House of Lancaster. The feud continued for over a century, and it culminated in the Wars of the Roses.

The Wars of the Roses were a bloody and destructive conflict. The wars resulted in the deaths of two kings, Edward IV and Richard III, and the deposition of another, Henry VI. The wars also led to the rise of the Tudor dynasty, which would rule England for over a century.

The Wars of the Roses was a complex and bloody conflict. The wars were caused by a number of factors, including the weakness of the monarchy, the ambition of the rival factions, and the growing power of the English Parliament. The wars had a profound impact on English history, and they helped to shape the country's political and social landscape.

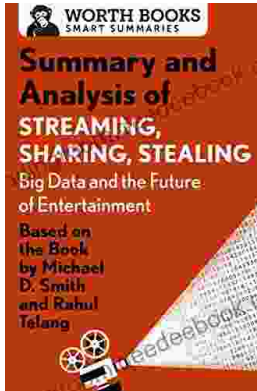


## **THWARTED QUEEN: The Entire Saga, about the Yorks, Lancasters, and Nevilles, whose family feud inspired "Game of Thrones" by Cynthia Sally Haggard**

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

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