



Short

Ms. Sportelli, who loves to share her knowledge of English history, has concluded that Henry I was an under-rated king who struggled to keep his throne amid conflicts between Normans and Saxons. She starts the story with *Lady Margaret's Disgrace*, the prequel to the Henry's Spare Queen Trilogy.



Medium

Ms. Sportelli, who loves to share her knowledge of English history, has concluded that Henry I was an under-rated king who struggled to keep his throne amid conflicts between Normans and Saxons. She writes of the era in novels featuring Lady Margaret, King Henry and Queen Matilda.

A life-long Anglophile, Ms. Sportelli loves British manners, folklore, customs, history, and humor; she watches every British film, television, show and documentary she can find.

Ms Sportelli has both children and grandchildren. She has taken seven trips to eight western European countries and loves England and Italy the most.



Victoria is also online:





Long

Ms. Sportelli, who loves to share her knowledge of English history, has concluded that Henry I was an under-rated king who struggled to keep his throne amid conflicts between Normans and Saxons. She tells Henry's story through the eyes of the Lady Margaret, who helps him.

In college Ms. Sportelli fell in love with the Anglo-Saxon and early Medieval languages and cultures. She was particularly impressed with their poetry and their sophisticated society. She majored in English literature with a special interest in the Anglo-Saxon and the early Medieval periods. Ms. Sportelli still uses two former college texts, *Anglo-Saxon Primer* and *History of the English Language*.

Ms. Sportelli has concentrated her research and studies from 1050 to 1110 AD, from just before the Norman Invasion to Henry I securing his throne. During her reading and research, she concluded that Henry I of England was an under-rated king who did much to turn the Norman army of invasion into citizens of law.

As a life-long Anglophile, Ms. Sportelli loves British manners, folklore, customs, history, and humor. She watches every film, television show, and documentary she can find. She traipses about England as often as she can both for research and pleasure. After she completes the Lady Margaret series, she has outlines of three more historical novels, two set in England and one set in Italy. She is too busy concentrating on Lady Margaret's story to choose which novel to write next.

On a cold winter day in South Dakota, Ms. Sportelli curls into her

favorite chair under a wrap her children gifted her and reads. As a child, she was the only person in her town who was allowed to sign out 30 books a month from the local bookmobile. In high school and college she devoured almost every English novel from *Le Mort d'Arthur* by Sir Thomas Mallory through the nineteenth century English writers. Her favorite science fiction writers are Isaac Asimov and Robert Heinlein. She reads every day, whether it be fiction or nonfiction.

After retiring from teaching high school, middle school, and pre-service teachers, Ms. Sportelli started Organize Your Personal Space. Her company folded after the start of the Great Recession of 2007-2013. Few cared about organizing spaces when they worried about keeping their homes and jobs. About that same time, she totaled how many meals she had cooked over the years—over 15,000! Declaring that was her limit, Ms. Sportelli gave up cooking every day, much to her husband's dismay. Now she would rather write than cook unless for a holiday, a special occasion, or when her children or grandchildren visit.

Ms. Sportelli loves to share her immense knowledge of the Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods with her readers, but when asked if she wants to live in England in 1100, she would kindly reply, "No indoor plumbing. No electricity or central heat. No chocolate yet in Europe. No thank you. I love to write about that era, not live it."

When asked about chocolate, Ms Sportelli admits, "If it is in the house, I will eat it. I try to be strong and keep the house chocolate free, but I have been known to drive to a convenience store in the middle of the night for chocolate bars, ice cream, whatever I crave."

