

Jane Seymour



Jane Seymour was the third wife of Henry VIII and the only one to provide him with what he most desired: a male heir, the future king Edward VI.

Jane was born around 1509 and was the daughter of the wealthy Sir John Seymour and Margery Wentworth. She did not receive a great education: in fact, she could only write her own name. She was much better at music and needlework. This does not mean she was not intelligent though.

Jane Seymour was the lady-in-waiting of Catherine of Aragon, and of Anne Boleyn, therefore, she must have been very aware of the chaotic relationships of the king. Whereas his previous wives had a strong personality and were outspoken, Jane, on the other hand, was timid and shy. Henry believed Jane to be naturally compassionate and fell in love with her. She was well liked by everyone and was considered humble and kind-hearted.

After Anne Boleyn was beheaded, Henry VIII and Jane Seymour married eleven days later. However, she was not crowned Queen. In May 1537, Jane was expecting her first and only child. She gave birth to Edward VI on October 12, 1537. Unfortunately, she died 9 days after giving birth to the longed-for heir to England. She was buried in St. George's Chapel at Windsor Castle.

When Jane died, Henry was truly upset and wore black until 1538; he did not marry for two years. Although Henry remarried, he always considered Jane as his 'true wife' and ordered to be buried next to her in St. George's Chapel at his death.