

# **Pope Joan**

# **Alain Boureau**

#### Pope Joan:

Pope Joan Donna Woolfolk Cross, 1997 When her older brother is killed Joan a rebellious ninth century woman assumes his identity enters a monastery and becomes a great Christian scholar eventually attaining the throne of Pope Pope Ioan A Present for a Papist Alexander Cooke, 1740 (the Female Pope) Emmanouel D. Rhoides, 1886 historical study, tr., with a preface by C.H. Collette Emmanouel Rhoïdes, 1886 Pope Joan Charles River Editors, 2017-01-19 Includes pictures Includes medieval and modern accounts of Pope Joan's story Looks at the different theories about Pope Joan's existence Includes online resources and a bibliography for further reading I do not wish women to have power over men but over themselves Mary Shelley The Middle Ages in Europe were some of the most precarious centuries in recorded history bristling with war excitement and chaos The Western Roman Empire had crumbled territories were rapidly expanding and heavy ploughs hourglasses spectacles tidal mills and more pioneering inventions were popping up across the continent It was also a time of extreme prejudice when women were treated as second class citizens Their only purpose in life was to procreate by the dozen They were confined to their kitchens and barns at home They could not vote and most definitely were not allowed to be involved in anything with the word office in its title What was worse only a handful of these women would succeed in hauling themselves out of the trenches as females were not allowed an education Given this context there have always been stories about women who broke the mold somehow and of all the mysterious stories passed down over the centuries and chronicled by history's storytellers one of the most fascinating and hotly contested subjects is Pope Joan a young woman who was so desperate to squeeze herself out of the status quo that she had done the unthinkable For decades she disguised herself as a man living amongst her oppressors as she paved her way to the papal throne She would keep up this pretense for more than 2 years until that one fateful day when it all came unraveling By the early 13th century the tale of a female pope who presided over the Catholic Church a few centuries earlier was making its way across Europe In fact in Chronica Universalis Mettensis Jean de Mailly fleshed out a number of details Query Concerning a certain Pope or rather female Pope who is not set down in the list of popes or Bishops of Rome because she was a woman who disguised herself as a man and became by her character and talents a curial secretary then a Cardinal and finally Pope One day while mounting a horse she gave birth to a child Immediately by Roman justice she was bound by the feet to a horse s tail and dragged and stoned by the people for half a league and where she died there she was buried and at the place is written Petre Pater Patrum Papisse Prodito Partum Oh Peter Father of Fathers Betray the childbearing of the woman Pope At the same time the four day fast called the fast of the female Pope was first established As others took it up and spread it along the legend of Pope Joan became a gripping tale of bravery and treachery replete with drama complete with a mystery lover surprising twists and even a cliffhanger But of course the overhanging question is whether Pope Joan really existed Many including modern historians and the Roman Catholic Church are quick to dismiss Joan's story as myth but others beg

to differ and believe in the actual historical existence of a woman who would inevitably be one of the Church's most groundbreaking popes Pope Joan The Indestructible Legend of the Catholic Church's First and Only Female Pontiff looks at the riveting story of Pope Joan including an examination of all the various theories regarding the legend s veracity Along with pictures depicting important people places and events you will learn about Pope Joan like never before Rosemary Anne Pardoe, Darroll Pardoe, 1988 Pope Joan Emmanouel D. Rhoides, Lawrence Durrell, 1974 In this brilliant adaptation of a novel by the 19th century Greek author Emmanuel Royidis Lawrence Durrell traces the remarkable history of a young woman who travelled across Europe in the ninth century disguised as a monk acquired great learning and ruled over Christendom for two years as Pope John VIII before her sudden and surprising death When Papissa Joanna was first published in Athens in 1886 it created a sensation The book was banned and its author excommunicated It nevertheless brought him immediate fame and the work established itself securely in the history of modern Greek literature Subsequently Durrell one of the most important British writers of the 20th century created a masterpiece in its own right a dazzling concoction presented with the deftest touch **The Myth of Pope Joan** Alain Boureau, 2001-05-01 In the ninth century a brilliant young woman named Joan disguised herself as a man so that she could follow her lover into the then exclusively male world of scholarship She proved so successful that she ascended the Catholic hierarchy in Rome and was eventually elected pope Her pontificate lasted two years until she became pregnant and died after giving birth during a public procession from the Vatican Or so the legend goes a legend that was fabricated sometime in the thirteenth century according to Alain Boureau and which has persisted in one form or another down to the present day In this fascinating saga of belief and rhetoric politics and religion Boureau investigates the historical and ecclesiastical circumstances under which the myth of Pope Joan was constructed and the different uses to which it was put over the centuries He shows for instance how Catholic clerics justified the exclusion of women from the papacy and the priesthood by employing the myth in misogynist moral tales only to find the popess they had created turned against them in anti Catholic propaganda during the Reformation

The She-Pope Peter Stanford,2011-01-25 THE EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF THE ENGLISH WOMAN WHO FOOLED THE VATICAN The legend of Pope Joan the woman who dressed as a man headed the Catholic church in the early ninth century has always been a subject of fascinated speculation but rarely until now the subject of serious research As the future over women in the catholic priesthood continues and the Church which once took her story as gospel now tries to play down the rumours it is time for a reappraisal Here Peter Stanford author of The Devil A Biography reveals what can and cannot be known of this incredible story and of the extraordinary woman behind it In this fascinating account ranging from secret histories to conspiracy theories medieval carvings to tarot cards women priests to cross dressing clerics and from romantic fiction to hard facts he delivers a major study of historical detective work

The Legend of Pope Joan ,1983

Ignite the flame of optimism with is motivational masterpiece, Fuel Your Spirit with **Pope Joan**. In a downloadable PDF format (\*), this ebook is a beacon of encouragement. Download now and let the words propel you towards a brighter, more motivated tomorrow.

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