

Mary Queen o Scots Fae aw Angles!

Settin: Scotland Theday Studios

Presenter: Hae ye aften wintit tae lairn aw the secrets aboot yon *Mary Queen o Scots* an didna hae the courage tae ask? We bring ye a series exclusive interviews. Mak yer ain mind up aboot wha tae believe.

Interview 1 features: Her Freens.

Interview 2 features: Her Mither.

Interview 3 features: Men In Her Life an Her Doonfa.

Presenter: We invite *Mary* hersel tae come intae the studio tae set the record straight. We hae juist heard she is willin tae speak tae the Nation. Dinna miss yer chance. Viewers scribev doon questions!

Interview 4 Mary Hersel.

Character Cairds

Instructions

- Tak yer character caird an think on whit it maun be lik tae be that person. Whit wey nicht yer character feel aboot *Mary Queen o Scots*.
- Read some o the historical facts along wi some information aboot the wey they lived in thae days.
- Aince ye ken yer ain character weel, ye can write doon whit ye wad like tae say aboot *Mary*.
- Gin ye need mair tae say than ye can find on thae pages, ye can dae mair research or juist add yer ain details – but try tae mak it as rael as possible.

Your character: *The interviewer*

- Ye hae tae think on questions tae ask the characters sic as:

*Hoo did ye ken **Mary Queen o Scots**?*

Whit can ye tell us aboot her?

Hae ye ony interestin secrets aboot her?

Whit wad she be annoyed aboot?

Your character: *Mary of Guise (Mither o Mary Queen o Scots) up to Mary's Coronation*

Ye were French, but ye were a lang time in Scotland an nae doot learnt tae speak Scots, although ye wad hae kept yer French accent. Ye were mairrit til James V, *Mary's* faither. The day yer wee bairn wis born, the 8th o December 1542, wis cauld an snawy. Ye haed yer dochter at Linlithgow Palace, ane o yer favourite hooses. For *Mary's* christening, ye dressed her up bonnie in a goonie o white taffetta, aw the wey fae Genoa. James deed whan wee *Mary* wis jist sax days auld, an ye haed a sair fecht tae protect her fae the Scots nobles. They thocht if they haed *Mary*, they cud rule Scotland thirsels. Henry VIII o England thocht it wad be a rare idea tae mairry the wee Scots queen tae his son Edward, but ye wantit tae cairry on the Auld Alliance atween Scotland and France, an that meant no gettin ower involved wi England. Ye took wee *Mary* tae Stirling Castle and that's whar *Mary* haed her coronation in September.

Hoo did ye feel about haein a dochter?

Whit were yer hopes for her?

Your character: *Mary of Guise whan Mary waes aulder.*

Henry VIII wisnae happy at ye pittin him aff. He sent a muckle airmy tae attack Scotland. *Mary* wis taen tae Dunkeld for safety. The English won ae toon efter anither. Yer freen an ally, Cardinal Beaton, wis murdered. (Ane o the conspirators that wis eventually punished for that crime wis a young man cried *John Knox*.) There wis mair fierce fechtin in Scotland, an it didnae aw gang the Scots' wey. Queen *Mary* wis shiftit again, this time tae the Lake o Menteith. It wis decidit tae send *Mary* Queen o Scots tae France tae mairry the Dauphin, Francis in 1548, juist five an a hauf year auld. Ye luikit efter Scotland while the queen wis in France and ruled wi mense an wisdom. Ye an yer dochter scrievit lang letters tae ane anither. Ye een managed tae visit *Mary* in France, an it wis a rael braw affair wi parades an entertainments. Ye bade there for a year but than ye haed tae gang back tae Scotland. Ye deed in Edinburgh Castle in 1560.

Hoo did ye feel whan ye werna wi *Mary*?

Hoo did ye feel whan Cardinal Beaton waes killed?

Your character: *Janet Sinclair (Mary's nurse)*

Ye leukit efter *Mary* as a bairn an gaed tae France wi her. She probably spent mair time wi ye than wi her ain mither. Ye mind aw the wee things like *Mary's* first tooth an her first wirds. Whan *Mary* gaed tae France, she didnae speak mair nor a wee bit French. *Mary's* first language wis Scots and it wad hae been yersel wha tocht her it. *Mary* wis awfie guid tae ye an gied ye lots o presents.

Whit stories wud ye hae telt *Mary* whan she wis wee?

Wis *Mary* a guid bairn? Wis it haird tae leuk efter her?

Did *Mary* get up tae ony ploys in the castles?

Your character: *Mary Seaton (Mary's maid o honour)*

Ye war sent tae be wi Mary Queen o Scots at the lake o Menteith. Wi the ither Marys ye gaed tae France. Ye wir taen awa fae her an sent tae a convent for a while tae lairn French. Maist o yer life ye wir wi her. Ye liked daein her hair an ye kent that at the end *Mary's* hair wis grey an awfie thin an she haed a wig. Ye steyed wi her whan she wis locked up in castles.

Did ye find it strange in France?

Whit did ye find difficult?

Was it haird tae keep her secret aboot her hair?

Hoo did ye feel aboot the Queen?

Your character: *Mary Beaton*

Ye micht hae been nervous o warkin for the Queen. Ye micht hae enjoyed listenin tae her an helpin her settle in at the Lake o Mentieth. Ye micht hae pleyed gemms or cairds wi her whan ye war wee. Whan the Queen wis taen prisoner ye micht hae been feart.

War ye gled that ye haed the ither Marys tae wark wi?

Dae ye think *Mary* haed a favourite companion?

Whit did *Mary* like daein maist?

Your character: *Mary Fleming*

Ye spent a lot o time with *Mary* Queen o Scots an the ither Marys. Ye micht hae helpit *Mary* wi her hairstyles or her studies. Ye micht he helpit *Mary Queen o Scots* whan she wantit tae ride. Hoo did ye feel whan ye cam hame wi her frae France tae Scotland? Ye bade wi her whan she wis lockit up in castles.

Wis *Mary* difficult tae please?

Dae ye think *Mary* wis happy in Scotland?

Whit kin o claes did ye leuk efter for her?

Your character: *Mary Livingston*

Ye kept *Mary Queen of Scots* company. Ye likit dauncin an enjoyed showin her the daunce ye kent. Ye helpit her get ready for huntin wi falcons an dugs.

Did ye enjoy helpin *Mary* wale her claes?

Wis she difficult tae please?

Did ye get on wi the ither Marys?

Did ye like bidin near the Lake o Menteith or did ye like gaun to France wi *Mary*?

Your character: *Francis (Mary's first husband)*

Ye were the Dauphin o France whan ye first met *Mary*. She wis sax an ye war near five. Ye war a peelly-wally kin o craitur, sma for yer age an blate. Ye haed a bit o a stutter, but ye were a clever eneuch laddie. Ye mairrit *Mary* in 1558 at Notre Dame in Paris. Awbody cam tae see her. *Mary* wore white an wis fair radiant. There wis a scatter. (That means coins were thrown tae the fowk in the street, a bit like ye yaised tae get at waddins in Scotland – the bride's faither yaised tae throw pennies for the bairns when the mairrit couple left the kirk.)

In 1559, whan *Mary* wis 17, ye becam king o France and *Mary* becam queen o France an Scotland but the neist year, ye were deid.

Hoo did ye feel about *Mary* whan ye were sma?

Whit did ye enjoy about the waddin?

Hoo did *Mary* leuk on the waddin day?

Wis she difficult tae talk tae? Whit did she like tae ken about?

Wis she guid tae ye?

Whit wis yer hopes for yer future?

Your character: *Lord James Stuart, Earl o Moray (Mary's hauf-brither)*

Ye gaed ower tae France tae see *Mary* afore she cam hame tae Scotland. Ye wantit tae mak siccar that *Mary* wad think weel o ye an tak yer advice about whit wey tae govern Scotland. This wis the time o the reformation an *Mary* needit tae keep in wi baith the Protestants an the Catholics. This wisnae easy an ye war determined tae mak *Mary* tak tent tae the Protestants. Ye war fu o chairm an wily as a tod.

Wad ye hae liked tae be king yersel?

Whit wad be difficult about bein king?

Whit did ye like about *Mary*?

Whit did ye no like about *Mary*?

Your character: *John Knox*

Ye haed taen pairt in the plot to murder Cardinal Beaton an wir sentenced to be a rower in the French galleys. Ye became a leader o the Protestants in Scotland an meenister at St Giles in Edinburrae. Ye dinna like the idea o female rulers. Ye dinnae like *Mary's* mither an ye dinnae like *Mary*. Ye war awfie rude tae her. Ye thocht it wis fair sinfu the wey she cairried on wi her dauncin an her fiddlers an her pairties, an ye telt her sae, but ye couldnae help admirin her a wee bit.

Whit wey did ye no like wummen rulers?

Dae ye think ye deservit the French galleys punishment?

Hoo wad ye hae liked *Mary* tae behave?

Whit wad ye sey tae her?

Your character: *Lord Darnley*

Ye are Henry Stuart Darnley, *Mary's* saicont husband. Ye war richt guid luikin an *Mary* wis taen in by yer bonnie face. In some weys ye war a guid choice for her tae mairry acause ye haed the best claim tae succeed tae the throne o England efter *Mary* hersel an that made *Mary's* claim tae succeed Elizabeth aw the bettir. Elizabeth wisnae pleased an wis feart that *Mary* an yersel micht raise a Catholic airmy an attack Protestant England. Tae stert wi ye war ower busy haein a guid time, drinkin an pairtyin, but later on ye did hae a daft norrie about invadin England, altho *Mary* kent naethin aboot it. It wisnae lang afore *Mary* cam tae the conclusion that ye war a waste o space. Ye war jealous o her secretary, David Rizzio, an haed a gang o yer freends murder him afore her, an her expectin a bairn tae! Ye war ambitious tae be king o Scots yersel an *Mary* wis feart that ye wad kidnap yer baby son, James, an she aye wantit tae keep an eye on ye tae mak siccar that ye wernae plottin somethin agin her. Ye didnae gang tae yer ain bairn's christenin, but *Mary* cam tae veesit ye whan ye were no weel, the same nicht as ye were blawn up in mysterious circumstances in yer hoose at Kirk o Field, on whit was than the ootskirts o Edinburrae. Ye were playin dice wi the Earl o Bothwell that nicht.

Whit for did ye want tae be king?

Did ye like *Mary*?

War ye pleased tae be a faither?

Whit wey did ye no gang tae the christenin?

Your character: *David Rizzio*

Ye war a young Italian valet wha sang bass in *Mary's* choir. *Mary* makkit ye her private secretar an for a while ye war a gey close freend o Darnley as weel. Ye war suspectit o bein a papal spy an some o the protestant Scots lords plottit agin ye. They gart Darnley think *Mary* looed ye an Darnley got his pal Lord Ruthven an ithers tae stab ye tae death at Holyrood Palace afore the queen.

Did ye like the queen?

Whit kind o things did ye scribe for her whan ye were her secretar?

Did ye ivvir tell onybody about *Mary's* private maitters?

Whit war ye thinkin whan that gang o men wi daggers dragged ye oot o the Queen's chaumer an stickit ye on the stair?

Your character: *The Earl o Bothwell*

It wis at James's christenin that fowk began tae notice ye. Darnley wisnae there an ye greetit the guests in a swanky new suit o claes that *Mary* bocht ye. Ye met wi Morton an Maitland at Whittingham Castle an plottit tae kill Darnley. A when o ithir lords kent aboot it tae. Ae Sunday in Februar, the queen wis veesitin Darnley, wha wisnae weel, at Kirk o Field. Durin her veesit, ye played dice in Darnley's bedchaumer wi Argyll an Huntly, whiles *Mary* wis bletherin tae her husband. Meanwhile, as ye kent, a gang o men were packin the cellars an the doonstairs chaumer wi gunpooder. *Mary* wis back at Holyrood by 11.30pm. A wee while efter 2am, there wis a flash an a muckle bang. The hoose wis blawn tae bits but the bodie o Darnley wis foond in the gairden athoot a merk on it. There wis a lot o rumours an mony theories aboot the assassination. Ye war een tried for it at the Tolbooth in Edinburgh, but the judges were Argyll an Huntly sae ye kent ye wad get aff. Than ye wheeched *Mary* awa an mairrit her. Naebodie wis happy aboot it. Ye war gey coorse. Fowk were fair offendit at yer language at the waddin feast. Ye makkit enemies for yersel at hame an in England. Than the lords rose agin ye an *Mary*. The twa airmies met at Carberry hill an *Mary* surrendered. Ye rade aff an left *Mary* ahint. Efter mony adventures, ye made a confession an deed at Dragsholm Castle in Denmark. Yer mummified corpse wis foond there in 1858 an it is said that ye stull haunt the castle.

Did ye ivvir think aboot *Mary* efter ye rade awa?

Whit did ye think on Darnley?

Whit wey did ye find it necessary tae yaise coorse wirds?

Your character: *The Executioner*



Whan *Mary* cam oot o Fotheringay Castle an walked tae the platform wi the block on it, she fair tuik yer breath awa. She wis tall, an a bit fat gettin, but she wis ivverie inch a queen. In ae haund she haed an ivory crucifix an a prayer buik in the ithir. She luikit ye in the een an smiled at ye. She knelt doon wi dignity an ye chappit her heid aff. Than ye picked up her heid by the hair tae shaw it tae awbody, as wis the custom, an the heid fell oot o the wig. Than her wee dug ran oot fae unner her skirt, yelpin an howlin.

Whaur wis Fotheringay?

Dae ye speak the same way as aw the ither characters?

Hoo did ye feel whan her heid fell on the flair?

Dae ye like yer job?

Did ye feel sorry for *Mary*?

Your character: *Mary Queen o Scots*

Read aw the character cairds tae get a picter o whit they thocht about ye.

Find oot about *Mary* for yersel.

The leet wi dates shud help ye wi yer research.

Dae ye think fowk really understaun ye?

Hoo dae ye feel ye were treatit?

Wha did ye trust?

Is there onythin about yer life ye wid chynge if ye haed it ower again?

Whit pairt o yer life are ye maist prood o?

Why dae ye think fowk fin yer story sae interestin?

Tak tent o dates!

Time line

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1542 | 8 th December | <i>Mary's birthday.</i> |
| 1552 | 14 th December | <i>Her faither, James V, deed.</i> |
| 1543 | 9 th September | <i>Mary crooned at Stirling.</i> |

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| 1548 | July | <i>Mary left for France.</i> |
| 1558 | 24 th April | <i>Mary merrit Francis.</i> |
| 1559 | 10 th July | <i>Mary wis queen o France.</i> |
| 1560 | 5 th December | <i>Francis deed.</i> |
| 1561 | 19 th August | <i>Mary gets back tae Leith.</i> |
| 1565 | 29 th July | <i>Mary merrit Darnley.</i> |
| 1566 | 9 th Mairch | <i>Rizzio murdered.</i> |
| 1566 | 19 th June | <i>Prince James born.</i> |
| 1567 | 10 th Februar | <i>Kirk o Field blawn up an Darnley fund deid.</i> |
| 1567 | 15 th May | <i>Mary merrit Bothwell.</i> |
| 1567 | 15 th June | <i>Mary and Bothwell confrontit by the rebel lords at Carberry hill. Bothwell did a runner.</i> |
| 1567 | 17 th June | <i>Mary pit in prison in Loch Leven Castle.</i> |
| 1567 | 29 th July | <i>Baby James crooned king.</i> |
| 1587 | 8 th Februar | <i>Mary Queen o Scots got her heid chappit aff.</i> |

Ye micht like tae perform the interviews afore yer cless or for the hail scuil.

Further wark:

Ye cud let the different characters meet ilk ither at a pairty an try tae see if they wud hae onythin in common in thir thochts aboot Mary. A when o thaim micht want tae tell the ither chairacters whit they thoct aboot the wey they treatit Mary.