



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 10:57 pm

Welcome everyone, and a huge thank you to Sandra Vasoli for her expert talk and for being on this chat. Feel free to ask your questions to Sandra as the live chat session is now officially open!



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 10:58 pm

Sandra, Why did Henry's love letters end up in the Vatican?



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 10:58 pm

Good evening to all, and thanks for signing in. I am trying to get used to the little delay between typing and posting, so have patience!



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 10:59 pm

Lorna, what we believe happened is that they were stolen from Anne, and sent to the Vatican to be read by Clement VII



Sharon Conrad

January 14, 2015 - 11:00 pm

When do you think they were taken from Anne?



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:01 pm

So that he might know Henry's purpose in pursuing a divorce from Katherine of Aragon. He was in live with Anne and these letters show it unequivocally.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:01 pm

Sharon, it's hard to know. What's interesting is that they arrived at the Vatican in a group of 17 letters which means...



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:01 pm

Who stole them and took them to the Vatican?



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:02 pm

Thank you Tim and Claire for arranging this forum with Sandra. The video Sandra did was highly informative. I enjoyed it very much. I believe I would be completely overwhelmed by the whole experience. It really humanizes the historical figures we study. Silly question... Did you cry?



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:03 pm

that they must have been stolen in a group from Anne. The letters span a 2 - 3 year period: from about late 1526 till 1528. They were probably stolen shortly after 1528, I would think. Lorna, again, history doesn't tell us who took them, but it must have been someone who was a supporter of Katherine's, maybe one of Campeggio's men, or a spy.



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:03 pm

As I was putting together the video it became very clear that there aren't pictures online of most of the letters. They are so amazing. Why haven't they been digitized, in your opinion?



Donna McLean

January 14, 2015 - 11:04 pm

Hi Sandra. it must have been an amazing experience. Have copies been made of the original letters that can be studied?



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:04 pm

I think I would have...I cry at commercials. Also, the letters were written in French? Do you speak French or did you get help with that?



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:04 pm

Hi Tim -



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:04 pm

Would the letters have played any part in Henry's divorce/annulment issue. I don't know why, but I get the feeling if it wasn't for Katherine Nephew breathing down the Pope's neck, the Pope would have agreed to the divorce/annulment.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:04 pm

Hi Beth - YES!!! I cried - so insightful! It was OVERWHELMING to sit with them inches from my face! They are SO intimate!



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:05 pm

It is funny, and that is a good question. The Papal Library is very very protective of them. Amazing cause they have so many amazing documents there. While I waited to find out if they would let me see them...



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:05 pm

Hard to think that someone who turned into such a monster in later life, wrote such beautiful words.



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:05 pm

Yes, I was amazed by the intimacy in all truth. Henry is known to dislike letter writing. Cromwell and other secretaries wrote most for him.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:06 pm

Monster is perhaps one of the politest words I used to describe Henry LOL.



Sharon Conrad

January 14, 2015 - 11:06 pm

Anne must have been heartbroken when they were taken. I would have been crying the whole time I was reading them. They would probably ask me to leave before I ruined them.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:06 pm

they gave me a book - it was a German book, and I can't locate it now that I am home, but it had pictures of all the letters in it, and translations in French, Italian, German and English. wish I could get my hands on a copy of that book! Lots of the stuff they hold is not available to digital resourcing.

Hunter S. Jones



January 14, 2015 - 11:07 pm

Doesn't the Vatican have a few letters Anne wrote to Henry?



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:08 pm

Henry was a man of his times, in my opinion. I truly believe excessive pain management issues and brain trauma impacted the later years of his reign. Obviously that is just a theory. The intimacy of the letters shows he was in love with Anne... no doubt there -- a fiction writer's dream I would imagine



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:08 pm

Lorna you are so funny..... your first question... I don't think the Pope was going to help Henry out with this Great Matter no matter what! And then to see these letters, cemented his decision. When I finally was given the book with the letters pasted in it, they moved me to the very front - "Right in Front of the Teachers". They kept a close eye on me!



Hunter S. Jones

January 14, 2015 - 11:09 pm

Add pain + brain trauma + the divine right of kings = Henry VIII



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:10 pm

Sandra, you're the 2nd person we know to have actually had access to the original letters. Did they give you any indication how many times a year they are viewed?



Sarah Bryson

January 14, 2015 - 11:10 pm

No "borrowing" any of Henry's letters then?!



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:10 pm

Re Henry: my opinion of him changed greatly after seeing these letters. I don't know why - can't explain - but at least during that time in his life, and his relationship with Anne, he certainly was very tender. And funny !! You could see his sense of humour come through loud and clear!



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:10 pm

Sandra... lololol. Well, they are priceless. Even to handle them poses a risk.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:10 pm

Kind of true, Hunter!



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:11 pm

It was interesting also because I wore no gloves. Both the British Library and the Vatican Library feel that one is better able to handle priceless documents with sensitivity if you don't have thick gloves on. They just ask that your hands be clean and dry and you handle them as little as possible



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:12 pm

I actually have to agree there Sandra (somewhat reluctantly I hasten to add) I do believe that all through his courtship/marriage with Anne up until Katherine's death, Henry was a Golden ***. Things in Jan 1536, and he became a golden sod instead.

Beth von Staats



January 14, 2015 - 11:13 pm

Yes, that actually makes a lot of sense. I am fumble fingered with gloves on.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:13 pm

A quick funny story, Sarah - when I was ready to leave the room, I forgot that I still had that German book in my arms. I got all the way to the locker room and almost out the door when I discovered I had it (I was very nervous). The security guy almost died when he found out I had made it as far as the door!!



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:14 pm

Oh my... Sandra in a Vatican pokey --- NOT good...lol



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:14 pm

Lorna, your point about Wolsey is very interesting. However, they may have been taken after his death. Just not sure.



Sarah Bryson

January 14, 2015 - 11:14 pm

You almost made it out Sandra!



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:14 pm

Right? Beth , I swear I didn't do it on purpose!



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:15 pm

Did Katherine have any idea what was written in his letters



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:15 pm

For it to have been Wolsey, it would have been too far along in the process of his fall to manage something like that. He could even sneak a letter out of England without being caught.



Hunter S. Jones

January 14, 2015 - 11:16 pm

With so many spies & so much intrigue at Henry's court, it could've been anyone, right?



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:16 pm

What does everyone feel about the premise that Anne was very much in love with Henry? That was the clear impression I got when I saw the letters and what he had said to her - that they had become very familiar, almost cosy. and that she loved him back just as much. ??



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:17 pm

Beth as the saying goes desperate people do desperate things. and I believe Wolsey had his little circle of acquaintances which could have smuggled something out.



Sharon Conrad

January 14, 2015 - 11:17 pm

I have always thought that Anne fell in love with Henry.



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:17 pm

There are many possibilities, though... and my first guess would be someone high in the Roman Catholic authority... such as the Bishops of Rochester or London. Those people had fairly large networks and resources to pull something like that off.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:18 pm

Hunter and everyone, it def could have been anyone - but to me, what makes most sense is that it was a chambermaid - or her ladies' maid, who was hired by someone in power. I believe Anne kept them in a private place, all together, and treasured them. I don't think it was one of her friends...



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:18 pm

I think two-way true love, before things went wrong at the end.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:18 pm

I agree Tim



James Mewborn

January 14, 2015 - 11:18 pm

At some point, I think she did love Henry, though it seems likely it took some time for her to get there.



Donna McLean

January 14, 2015 - 11:19 pm

I think they were both very much in love



Hunter S. Jones

January 14, 2015 - 11:19 pm

Maybe it was Anne's sister...



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:19 pm

In fact, I believe Anne was the love of Henry's life. And her death then haunted him...



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:19 pm

I think she loved him. I really do. After all he was a highly intelligent, multi-talented, attractive for the era man, plus a reigning King... how could she not fall for him? She would have to be a nun.



Hunter S. Jones

January 14, 2015 - 11:20 pm

I believe the same, Sandra.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:20 pm

I do feel that Anne and Henry were well match in personality. Both were stubborn and determined, but they also shared many interests too. The age difference between Henry and Katherine was perhaps more noticeable once Anne arrived at court.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:20 pm

Hmmmm never thought about Mary as a culprit. Don't know about that!



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:20 pm

Hi James, I agree, it may have taken a little while for Anne. But Henry was pretty irresistible at that

point in his life, so...



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:21 pm

I do disagree with the thought her death haunted him. Henry only expressed regret for one execution, and oddly enough given our topic, that was Cromwell. I think he felt betrayed by the failure of a male heir. The biology of it all was beyond them.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:21 pm

Lorna, you are right. And I think they were a formidable match. There is no doubt that Anne was highly intelligent, and was an intellectual match for Henry. That may have gotten her in a bit of trouble in the later years...



Claire Ridgway

January 14, 2015 - 11:21 pm

I think Anne was reticent at the beginning, she didn't see the point of getting involved with a married man, but I think Henry wooed her and she fell for him.



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:21 pm

I love the letter when Henry offers to share HALF of Anne's illness. Such a gentleman ..



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:22 pm

Yes, that impressed me too Tim.... lolol.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:22 pm

I wouldn't have thought, it would have been Mary after all she would have gained nothing from it, and she was more or less at that time a social outcast due to the fact of her marriage to someone of lower class.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:23 pm

Agree Claire!!! She fell for him. You can tell because as the letters progress he takes liberties and calls her My Darling, My Own Sweetheart, and as we know he talks about kissing her dukkys and climbing into her clothes with her. I don't think that would have happened had she not returned the sincere passion



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:23 pm

Certainly in the last few years of their marriage I think Anne began to see the monster in Henry beginning to emerge



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:23 pm

Sandra, how did seeing and reading the letters impacted your prose??? As a writer I just have to ask that.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:23 pm

Me too Tim !!



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:25 pm

Good tough question Beth. Well, when you see something that moves you - it is more possible to draw on those feelings and emotions when you try to write. I had already written a bunch of the manuscript including some letters when I went to Rome. I came back and reworked almost the whole thing



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:26 pm

I do feel that part of Henry's later issues, were because he had killed the one person who perhaps understood him better than anyone.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:26 pm

the letter Henry wrote when Anne was sick was the most amazing, moving thing. It was like he was jumping off the page - you could loudly hear and see his panic



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:27 pm

Lorna, you could be right.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:28 pm

Sandra, tell me about, although it is pure outrageous fiction I'm writing, I'm finding all sorts of tasty nibbles to play with.. Claire's excellant Video on christmas gifts, has given me a few mad ideas.. Thanks a lot Claire LOL...



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:28 pm

Yes, I would think it would greatly impact your writing, especially the first person accounting you so brilliantly use. I would think in the 16th century any illness can sweep a loved one away in a heartbeat. It must have been a terrifying time to live in, every day potentially your last.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:29 pm

It was also interesting to see the mistakes and the cross outs that he made - and maybe most eerie, to see the smudges his hand made as it moved across the ink! Henry's DNA upon the page!!!



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:29 pm

I think that seeing something like that would change you whole perspective, on how you view the life and times in a tudor court



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:30 pm

The year she was ill, Henry lost many nobles and clergy of his court. He certainly had valid reason to be in a panic.



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:30 pm

Sandra, Tudor manuscripts are so hard to read (for me, anyway). How did you prepare so that you could make the most of your time with the documents?



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:30 pm

Yes what a crazy time - plus, what would be most disconcerting is that a death could happen, and you wouldn't know about it for hours or days or even weeks. No cell phones!! Just couriers! That would increase the stress.



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:32 pm

Excellent question Tim!!! When I read the video actually thought to myself that I would never be able to read the contemporary sources without help.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:32 pm

Of course, we don't know why he took off for Tyttenhanger in St Albans with Katherine and Mary, and left Anne behind. Just propriety, I guess?? he did write to her immediately once he was in St Albans, but she didn't get the letter till after she had recovered enough to read it.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:33 pm

The sweat must have been an almost nightmare situation for someone, who had a loved one with it.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:34 pm

Tim, what great question!!!! yes they are hard to read - having the translations (don't forget about half of the letters are in French anyway) really really helps. Then you can kind of follow along, using your translation, or transcription to recognize the words. And - I use a big, strong magnifying glass, which is cool cause you can then see all kinds of hand marks etc



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:34 pm

It was probably in the old flight or fight panic mode Sandra. I believe that Henry was fearful of any sickness



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:34 pm

yes Lorna, esp because people could succumb in just hours



Claire Ridgway

January 14, 2015 - 11:36 pm

Yes, it took people so quickly, A scary illness.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:36 pm

That paranoia became all the more evident when Edward was born



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:36 pm

I am now thoroughly OBSESSED with looking at 16th c documents. I just got back from London last month, went to the British Library, and saw some very interesting things - some I will be revealing through the Tudor Society, and I was searching for info about the Lady In the Tower letter.



Claire Ridgway

January 14, 2015 - 11:37 pm

I'm glad that you pointed out the mention of Anne's mother. People assume that Elizabeth Boleyn was very much in the background, yet, in reality, she acted as chaperone.



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:37 pm

some very interesting things - some I will be revealing through the Tudor Society -



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:37 pm

I did read somewhere can't remember where (brain missing folks) that the sweat could kill a person as little as 2 or 3 hours after the first symptoms showed themselves



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:37 pm

I was able to see a couple of books with notations made by a scribe. The book had the most amazing smell... this is how the Vatican Letters book smelled as well. Ancient. It comes from the parchment, and the ink. And just age.



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:37 pm

I do think reading the letters of historical figures sometimes gives us the most accurate guess of who they are as people, and the people we know the most about seem to be those who were prolific letter writers... so this peek of Henry is essential in guessing who he was at least in that snapshot of time



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:37 pm

yes indeed Tim



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:39 pm

Yes Claire, I feel that Anne and her mother were close. I think she was a chaperone, indeed, but I think they must have got on well, too. Otherwise not sure Anne would have wanted her to accompany she and Henry on certain outings.



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:39 pm

Ahh, the wonderful smell of old books. So evocative!



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:39 pm

I thought the point you made in the video through Henry's mention of Elizabeth Boleyn was quite telling.



Claire Ridgway

January 14, 2015 - 11:40 pm

Yes, I agree with you. Anne could have been chaperoned by other women but it was her mother she chose and she was obviously worried about her mother's health in 1536. Not the distant relationship of fiction.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:40 pm

It was SUCH a treacherous time in which to live. Cannot imagine giving birth then. Closed up in a room for weeks... and really no medicine to speak of. Though Henry was reputedly an armchair pharmacist.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:40 pm

I think one of the things that Anne was allegedly suppose to have said when Anne was in the tower was "This will kill my mother" or words to that affect...



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:41 pm

Thanks Beth... I simply try to take facts, even if they are small, and try to deduce what that might mean,

in a human nature kind of way. Oh, and you are right Lorna. About being worried about her mother while she was imprisoned.



Claire Ridgway

January 14, 2015 - 11:42 pm

@Lorna, yes, "O, my mother, [thou wilt die with] sorrow".



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:42 pm

So many 'truths' published in fiction become like the gospel. It's a shame



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:42 pm

Claire you are amazing.



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:43 pm

Well, Elizabeth Boleyn is often left out of the story, and her life story is laden with heartache with the loss of her children, all save one predeceased her. She lost several children at a very young age. My heart always goes out to her as a very tragic person.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:43 pm

There is no denying that some of the herbal medicines used back then actually worked, it's just they weren't really compus mentus about the side affects of which herbal medicine did what to the body



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:44 pm

Indeed her life was tragic, interspersed with joys at the success of her children. Lots of ups and downs poor Elizabeth Boleyn endured.



Claire Ridgway

January 14, 2015 - 11:44 pm

@Sandi



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:44 pm

Claire is the ultimate Anne Boleyn authority for me. Need to check a fact? Date? Detail? Most of the time I can find it in a simple search on ABF.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:44 pm

I mentioned a few weeks back about herbal medicine that may have been used on Anne, when Henry had his fall in Jan 1536.



Claire Ridgway

January 14, 2015 - 11:44 pm

Thank you!



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:44 pm

I know that something like that would have perhaps not helped the situation with Anne, being pregnant



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:45 pm

What else did you see in the Vatican archives - did you have a sneak peak at the other people in there?



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:46 pm

One of the herbal medicine that perhaps may have been used to help distress Anne from hearing of Henry's fall I believe I said was poppy seeds



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:46 pm

OMG!!! Good question Tim...



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:47 pm

Yes, was Diarmaid MacCulloch at the next table? LOLLOL I would imagine that is a "go to" place for him.



Claire Ridgway

January 14, 2015 - 11:47 pm

Perhaps Tim should be up at this time more often, he's on a roll!



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:47 pm

What were other people poking around looking at?



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:49 pm

If I have remembered it rightly Poppy seed ground up etc and possibly someother herbs, mixed with hipocras perhaps would have been given to Anne, one of the side affects of taking poppy seeds, is spontaneous abortion.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:49 pm

So... when I was waiting in the 'lobby' to get my access badge, in comes an older man, very very rumped, didn't smell that great either. Accompanied by a very natty young Italian man in a gorgeous suit who paid him great deference. Later, while I was sitting in the Manuscritti room, I looked up and the rumped man was across the aisle from me. He was studying a large book with extremely ear



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:50 pm

It would take a few days to work I think, and due to the fact that Anne miscarried a few days after henry's fall it's possible that the doctor didn't realise what would happen



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:51 pm

There were 3 ladies in the front row, all Italian, studying large drawings and I think they were the original drawings of the facade of St Peters. Not kidding. I wanted to jump up and shout "I am an IMPOSTER!!!!!"



Hunter S. Jones

January 14, 2015 - 11:51 pm

If you can find out what herbs they used, I can tell you what the medicinal uses were.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:52 pm

Poppy seeds.... and the whole mystery as to why no live births after just one for Henry's wives. So fascinating. Too bad they can't just exhume a few of his hairs to test and find out what he had going on



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:52 pm

Thank you Hunter that would actually be a great help to me as well as it goes..



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:52 pm

Ten minutes to go ... get your questions in.



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:52 pm

LOLOLOLOLOLOLOLOLO Sandra... great story.



Michelle Nasello

January 14, 2015 - 11:53 pm

@Sandra Vasoli: LOL, too funny



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:53 pm

Why can't we have longer Tim? LOL



Sharon Conrad

January 14, 2015 - 11:53 pm

Sandra, you mentioned the letter from the Lady in the Tower. Have you seen it? I am most curious about this letter. I know many think Anne didn't write it. What were your observations? I saw the letter in the archives the other day. I don't remember seeing it before. I might have missed it. My eyes start to cross after a while of reading those archives.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:53 pm

whoops to finish the story about the ruffled man - turns ou he was reading some of the Old Testament in Coptic Greek! Probably the only person left on earth who could read that !



Hunter S. Jones

January 14, 2015 - 11:53 pm

What did you discovered that surprised you the most?



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:53 pm

Sometimes I feel like a HUGE imposter!!! I can relate, and I have never been to the Vatican.



Hunter S. Jones

January 14, 2015 - 11:54 pm

discover...



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:54 pm

The chatroom is always open, and you're all welcome to come in and discuss Tudor things when you like. I just like our experts to know that their "time" is almost up.



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:55 pm

That old man is reading the true word of *** so Thomas Cranmer would argue.



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:55 pm

I would have thought something along the lines of that the Henry we all know (Fat useless lump) was capable of being so romantic and loving.



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:55 pm

Hi Sharon, I did some really good sleuthing, and I will promise to tell all that I found out (still researching) very soon through the T.S. The original letter is lost, and a copy was almost burnt in the fire of the Cotton Library, but there are references to it which are very interesting



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Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:56 pm

HA! The swear filter cuts out G O D. Hmmm. Might have to try to fix that!



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:56 pm

He was a stud muffin, according to these letters Lorna!



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:56 pm

Oooops, let's try true word of the KING OF KINGS... Tim you have a naughty word plug-in...lolol



Claire Ridgway

January 14, 2015 - 11:56 pm

Sandi we need to schedule that chat!



Sharon Conrad

January 14, 2015 - 11:56 pm

Can't wait to hear about it!



Lorna Wanstall

January 14, 2015 - 11:57 pm

Well that's a hard one for me to get my head round... Henry a Stud Muffin? The closest to muffin he'd get is a muffin the mule...



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:57 pm

Hunter, I think what surprised me the most was the reality of the depth of Henry's feelings - which you can't grasp by reading a translated version of the letters in a published book. It was very apparent in seeing his penstrokes and how he expressed himself on the page.



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:57 pm

Stud muffin. Yep. That's ok. Just not Him upstairs!!!



Sandra Vasoli

January 14, 2015 - 11:58 pm

hahaha



Hunter S. Jones

January 14, 2015 - 11:59 pm

Thank you for chatting with us this evening. Your info is very provocative. Best to you!



Beth von Staats

January 14, 2015 - 11:59 pm

He held his page to the right... loved that... my handwriting moves upward at an angle for same reason... another simple observation that humanized him for me



Michelle Nasello

January 14, 2015 - 11:59 pm

You are so lucky Sandra, I've been to the Vatican, but not where you were. So jealous



Admin Tim

January 14, 2015 - 11:59 pm

Beth, you are Tonight's WINNER of "Je Anne Boleyn" by Sandra.



Hunter S. Jones

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Lorna Wanstall

January 15, 2015 - 12:00 am

I believe Henry's mother taught him to start to write, and he copied his mothers handwriting



Sandra Vasoli

January 15, 2015 - 12:00 am

Thank YOU Hunter, and yes Beth his page slid up almost every time.



Beth von Staats

January 15, 2015 - 12:00 am

When you pointed that out, I knew exactly how that happened... he tilts the page... many writers do that...



Claire Ridgway

January 15, 2015 - 12:00 am

Thank you so much, Sandi, for chatting with us this evening and sharing your knowledge.



Michelle Nasello

January 15, 2015 - 12:00 am

@Beth von Staats: congratulations



Beth von Staats

January 15, 2015 - 12:00 am

Thank you Tim... please do pick again, as I have the delightful book already



Sharon Conrad

January 15, 2015 - 12:00 am

I'm left handed and turn the page to the right. Oh my was he left handed, maybe?



Admin Tim

January 15, 2015 - 12:00 am

Thanks so much for your time with us Sandra, and thanks once again for your wonderful expert talk. Feel free to continue chatting, but Sandra, you are excused if you want to! Thank you so much!



Lorna Wanstall

January 15, 2015 - 12:00 am

Well Done Beth, enjoy happy reading..



Sharon Conrad

January 15, 2015 - 12:01 am

Congrats Beth. Thank you Sandra. What a wonderful chat.



Sandra Vasoli

January 15, 2015 - 12:01 am

It was my absolute pleasure - always is to chat with friends who love the same subject. Thanks Claire and Tim and everyone!



Beth von Staats

January 15, 2015 - 12:01 am

Thank you so much Sandy!!!!!!! Also, Claire and Tim, thank you for arranging for this delightful forum.



Admin Tim

January 15, 2015 - 12:01 am

I'll be putting a transcript of this live chat onto the website tomorrow (it's very late here now and I need to sleep!)



Claire Ridgway

January 15, 2015 - 12:01 am

Congratulations Beth!



Admin Tim

January 15, 2015 - 12:02 am

I'll be putting a transcript of this live chat onto the website tomorrow (it's very late here now and I need to sleep!)



Lorna Wanstall

January 15, 2015 - 12:02 am

I second that Tim Many Many thanks Sandra for coming into our happy home and sharing your thought with us.



Hunter S. Jones

January 15, 2015 - 12:02 am

Thanks for setting this up for us Claire & Tim. Congrats to Beth on the win!



Admin Tim

January 15, 2015 - 12:02 am

Beth, are you sure?



Sandra Vasoli

January 15, 2015 - 12:02 am

Yes indeed, loved it, and nighty night to you late birds across the pond!!



Sarah Bryson

January 15, 2015 - 12:03 am

Thank you Sandra xx



Beth von Staats

January 15, 2015 - 12:03 am

Yes, I have the book. It is absolutely delightful I would love someone else to be introduced to Sandy's writing. It is stellar.



Claire Ridgway

January 15, 2015 - 12:03 am

Night!



Lorna Wanstall

January 15, 2015 - 12:03 am

youwill be very welcome to pop in agian..



Sandra Vasoli

January 15, 2015 - 12:03 am

u r 2 cute but thank you



Sandra Vasoli

January 15, 2015 - 12:04 am

night all!



Admin Tim

January 15, 2015 - 12:04 am

In that case, the next name out of the hat is Michelle. Thanks Beth (we'll keep it in mind for the future!). Congratulations Michelle!



Beth von Staats

January 15, 2015 - 12:04 am

He writing is enchanting... a great read, seriously



Admin Tim

January 15, 2015 - 12:04 am

Goodnight Sandra. Thank you!



Michelle Nasello

January 15, 2015 - 12:04 am

Good night all, another excellent session. Thanks to Sandra, Claire & Tim.



Beth von Staats

January 15, 2015 - 12:05 am

Enjoy Michelle!!!!



Michelle Nasello

January 15, 2015 - 12:05 am

Oh wicked, thanks, can't wait to read this book.



Beth von Staats

January 15, 2015 - 12:05 am

sticky keys..... egads... goodnight all



Claire Ridgway

January 15, 2015 - 12:05 am

Congratulations Michelle and good night everyone!



Sarah Bryson

January 15, 2015 - 12:05 am

Thanks to Tim and Claire for hosting this awesome chat with Sandra xx



Lorna Wanstall

January 15, 2015 - 12:05 am

Take care and keep safe everyone Xxxx



Donna McLean

January 15, 2015 - 12:06 am

Thanks Claire, Tim and Sandra.