

# Born To Command Love And Respect Is Elizabeth, Britain's New Queen

**Kindly, Tactful  
Gracious And  
Fun-Loving**

Britain's new queen might well be described by this phrase: "the woman every fond mother wishes her favorite son would marry."

From her birth as the untitled daughter of the 14th Earl of Strathmore, through a happy and simple girlhood unmarked by any great surfeit of money, Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon grew up with every mother-in-law's ideal.

She had the bluest of blue blood was pleasantly pretty (but not too pretty), had good health, good temper, tact, intelligence, frugality, respectability beyond whisper of reproach, and fine sense of responsibility and duty.

These are important elements that make a queen. It is not surprising that, when the Duke of York's love for the earl's daughter was declared, Queen Mary took her immediately to her heart.

The tutelage and counsel and the quasi-parental love of the Queen Mother have had and always will continue to have an inspiring effect on the present queen.

**Serious—and Fun-Loving**

So much has been written about the virtues of the new queen that it is possible to build her into a stiff-and-starched unreality. This would be gratuitous.

The "duty first" side of Queen Elizabeth stands plain, open on the record, for all to see, and will, those who know her feel confident, be increasingly revealed as the new royal couple assume the burden of monarchy.

But the lighter side of the "braw Scotch lassie" who has become Britain's queen is no less revealing, because it shows that on the throne beside George VI there sits a human being as well as a queen.

For example, throughout her youth, Queen Elizabeth signed her name in letters to intimates as "Lizzie." That is not usually the act of one who is position-proud. She continued the practice until long after her marriage had made her Duchess of York.

Attending a musical comedy once while duchess, she heard a popular song called "Lizzie," which amused her so much that she insisted the Duke accompany her to a latter performance to hear it.

But in the meantime the Lord Chamberlain had heard about the "Lizzie" song, and had it cut out of the show.

**Played Role of Maid**

The saving sense of humor must be native, for, as a little girl it is recorded that the new queen liked her little joke. Glamis Castel, where she was born, is one of the historic Scottish seats, probably the place Shakespear had in mind when he wrote his tragedy of Macbeth, "Thane of Glamis and of Cawdor."

Many visitors come to see it, including many Americans. A servant is usually "told off" to show and dropped a rhinoceros with a single shot, though



Queen Elizabeth

visitors the public portions of the castle. One day Elizabeth, then a teen-age girl, dressed herself in a maid's uniform, and received such guests.

Many, pleased with her apparent knowledge of the castle and its traditions, offered her gratuities. So there may be today, living, certain travelers who can remember having tried to top the future queen of England.

During the empire tour "down under" to Australia shortly after her marriage to the Duke of York, the new queen again proved that she was no "feminine stuffed shirt."

**Killed her Rhinoceros**

She waded into rivers to fish for rainbow trout,

**Marked Trait Is  
Fine Sense  
Of Duty**

she had learned to handle a rifle only in preparation for the trip.

Thus it may be seen that, despite her decorum on official occasions, the new queen is a distinct personality in her own right.

In fact, this is so true in contrast to the unspectacular man who is now king, that British newspapers a few years ago fell into the habit of printing little items like this: "The Duchess of York, accompanied by her husband, will leave London on Tuesday next for Scotland...."

It required some pointed official suggestions to remind the editors that, after all, it was the Duke who was a king's son, and directly in line to reign.

**Bridesmaid, Then Bride**

To observe how time and chance affect even royalty, it is only necessary to note that, 14 years ago, in 1922, a comparatively unknown Scottish lass was chosen as representative of her distinguished family to be a bridesmaid when the Princess Mary, sister of the present king, was married to Viscount Lascelles.

It was then on Princess Mary, daughter of a king and a queen, that attention centered, and few paid much heed to the slender pretty young girl who was only an attendant.

One of those, however, who paid very close attention was Albert, brother of the bride. He had long known Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, and seeing her in the bridesmaid's dress may well have started a train of thought in his mind.

Today, the bridesmaid is herself queen, and her daughter Elizabeth is next in line for the throne, while the bride on that day, the Princess Royal, Countess of Harewood, is fifth in the line of succession, her husband and children following.

**Of Ancient Lineage**

Because the present queen was born a "commoner," it must not be felt that her lineage is undistinguished. On the contrary, it means only that as youngest daughter of the Earl of Strathmore she was untitled.

Her blood traces back to Lilliam the Conqueror, Alfred the Great and Charlemagne. And Robert II, first Stuart king of Scotland, is in indirect common ancestor of both Queen Elizabeth and King George VI.

Glamis Castle, most impressive of the seats of the 14th Earl of Strathmore, is probably the oldest inhabited house in the British Isles. But it is only one of the properties of the Earl, and in 1900 the family was staying at St. Paul's Waldenbury, Hertfordshire, a comparatively small red-brick Queen Anne house.

There, on Aug. 4, 1900, a daughter, one day to be queen of England, was born to the Earl and Countess of Strathmore.

But nobody knew it then. She was just a pink-and-white wisp of lovely Scotch babyhood.

## FEAR GOD—HONOUR THE KING

Loyal subjects, throughout this great British Empire on which the sun never sets, turn their thoughts, at this time, to the solemn ceremonies of

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