

Joan of Arc: History's Most Inspiring Female Warrior

Read the extraordinary story of a peasant girl who led armies into battle and helped change the course of history.

Joan of Arc: A History file=eyJjdCI6Imo0Vn

by Helen Castor

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Joan's Early Life

Joan of Arc was born in 1412 in Domrémy, a small village in northeastern France. Her parents were poor farmers, and she grew up in a deeply religious household. As a child, Joan claimed to have visions of saints and angels, who told her that she was destined to lead France to victory in the Hundred Years' War against England.

Joan's Role in the Hundred Years' War

In 1429, Joan of Arc arrived in Chinon, where she met with the Dauphin Charles, the heir to the French throne. Charles was impressed by Joan's conviction and her claim to have visions from God, and he agreed to let her lead his army into battle. Joan's first military success came at the Battle of Orleans, where she helped to rally the French troops and drive the English out of the city. Joan's victories continued, and she helped to turn the tide of the Hundred Years' War in France's favor.

Joan's Capture and Trial

In 1430, Joan was captured by the Burgundians, who sold her to the English. The English tried Joan for heresy and witchcraft, and she was found guilty and sentenced to death. Joan was burned at the stake in Rouen on May 30, 1431, at the age of 19.

Joan's Legacy

Joan of Arc is remembered as one of the most inspiring figures in history. Her courage, determination, and faith have made her a role model for generations of people around the world. Joan of Arc is also a symbol of French national pride, and she is celebrated in many works of art, literature, and music.



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Joan of Arc in Popular Culture

Joan of Arc has been the subject of numerous books, movies, and television shows. Some of the most famous depictions of Joan of Arc include:

- The play *Saint Joan* by George Bernard Shaw
- The movie *The Passion of Joan of Arc* by Carl Theodor Dreyer
- The television series *Joan of Arc* by CBS

Joan of Arc is also a popular figure in video games, including the *Civilization* series and the *Age of Empires* series.

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