



## Princesses Behaving Badly: Real Stories from History Without the Fairy-Tale Endings

By Linda Rodriguez McRobbie

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You think you know her story. You've read the Brothers Grimm, you've watched the Disney cartoons, and you cheered as these virtuous women lived happily ever after. But *real* princesses didn't always get happy endings. Sure, plenty were graceful and benevolent leaders, but just as many were ruthless in their quest for power—and *all* of them had skeletons rattling in their royal closets. Princess Stephanie von Hohenlohe was a Nazi spy. Empress Elisabeth of the Austro-Hungarian empire slept wearing a mask of raw veal. Princess Olga of Kiev slaughtered her way to sainthood while Princess Lakshmibai waged war on the battlefield, charging into combat with her toddler son strapped to her back. *Princesses Behaving Badly* offers true tales of all these princesses and dozens more in a fascinating read that's perfect for history buffs, feminists, and anyone seeking a different kind of bedtime story.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“Forget conventional fairy-tale endings... From pirate princesses to princesses with bizarre beauty routines to warrior royalty, this book shows there's a lot more to life than a cookie-cutter story.”—*Bustle*

“History has produced some very real, very dangerous ladies who make their movie and book counterparts seem lame by comparison. From Nazi spy to bloodthirsty killer, these women were not meek in any way. Heck, one of them even wore a mask of raw veal! You'll find out all this and more in this little book of miniature biographies.”—*Geeks of Doom*

“...McRobbie includes a good mix that will satisfy anyone who loves tales of history and audacity.”—Terri Schlichenmeyer, *The Bookworm Sez*

“...an important and impressive contribution to the feminist narrative.”—*Bust* magazine

“Princess, diva, pain in the ass — all terms that resonate throughout *Princesses Behaving Badly*, which tells of royal terrors who make modern gossip queens seem as demure as Snow White.”—*New York Post*

“McRobbie gives many of these princesses exactly what their stories require: a narrative that tells their stories in broad strokes, without omitting any of the juicy details.” —*ForeWord Reviews*

“Irreverent, informative, and entertaining, *Princesses Behaving Badly* is the perfect companion to royal novels.” —Jennifer Conner, *Literate Housewife*

“...[*Princesses Behaving Badly*] is a major addition to feminist libraries, and more importantly, it's lots of fun!”—Anna Jedrziewski, *Retailing Insight*

#### About the Author

**Linda Rodriguez McRobbie** has written for the Boston Herald, Christian Science Monitor, CNN Money, US News & World Report, and Mental Floss. She lives in London with her husband, son, and cat.

**Douglas Smith** is an award-winning illustrator. He is perhaps best known for illustrating Gregory Maguire's *Wicked* novels.

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#### Donald Campbell:

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