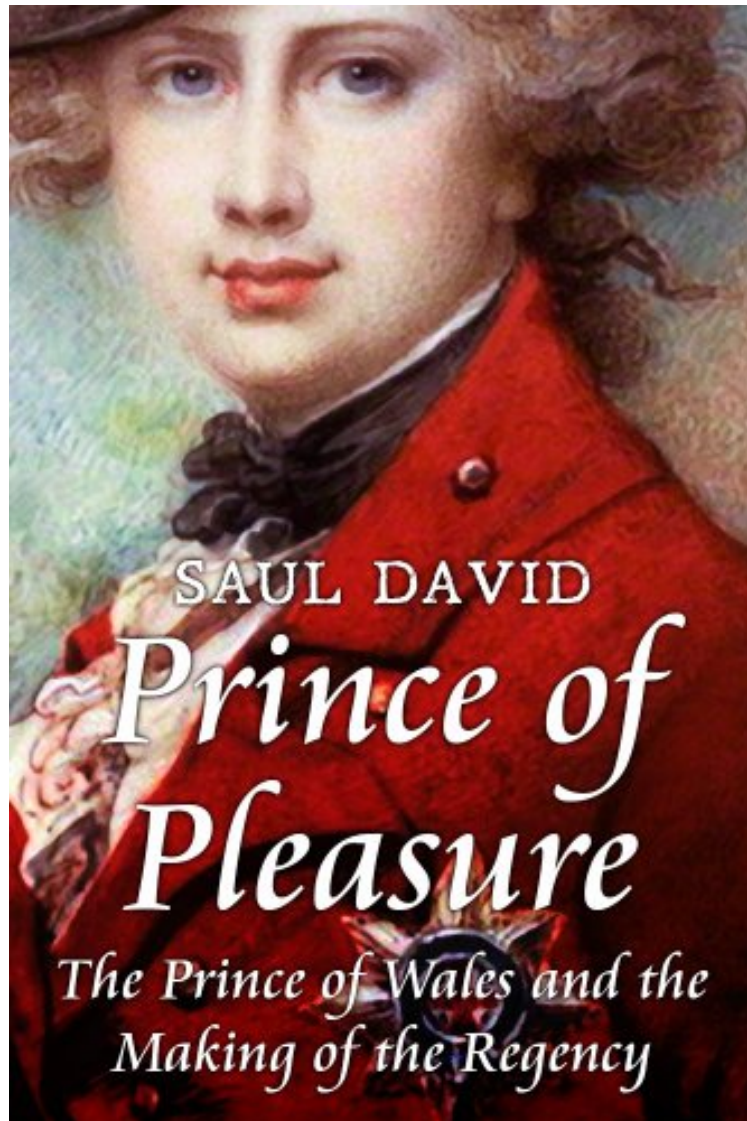


[Ebook pdf] Prince of Pleasure: The Prince of Wales and the Making of the Regency (English Edition)

## Prince of Pleasure: The Prince of Wales and the Making of the Regency (English Edition)

Von Saul David

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**Von Saul David : Prince of Pleasure: The Prince of Wales and the Making of the Regency (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Prince of Pleasure: The Prince of Wales and the Making of the Regency (English Edition):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Wastrel's Life Von Ein Kunde A wasted life - wasted on wine, women, song, dance, poetry - they say the 'road to Hell

is paved with good intentions.' Truly Prinky had good intentions - he wanted to lead his troops in battle, win glory and thereby the respect of his disapproving parents; he wanted to do many things, but the booze, porphyria, and, obviously, depression kept getting in his way. That he passed it on to his only recognised daughter is another tragedy - but, with regard to today's situation amongst the British Royals, isn't this just another case of unruly spoiled children? Very well done and full of 'dirt' - George IV wasn't the only brat in the family - 'Prince of Pleasure' presents an incisive view of late-18th century politics and society. His explanation of the various 'regency crises' is succinct and easy to follow - something that most historians make a hash of. The Pitt and Fox portraits are particularly revealing - altruistic for the one and definitely earthy for the other. Overall an extremely readable overview of the period that 'formed' the 19th century in Britain and the US.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Georgie Porgie Von P A Brown

The truly odious Prince Regent, later George IV, was fat, vain, hateful to his family, cruel to his Queen and a spendthrift of the highest order: but he had great taste -- in interior decoration and clothing, food and wine. Much of what we admire of English literature, decor and architecture today blossomed during the early part of the 19th c. when George, Prince of Whales, waited and waited for his mad father, George III to succumb to prophyria. "Prince of Pleasure" does what few other books on the Regent bother to do -- it looks beyond George's excesses and flamboyance, his Chinese fantasy at Brighton, his parties for hundreds, his "secret" marriage to Marie Fitzherbert and all the other delightful gossip of history to the real political dynamics behind the boozing and building. Fox and Pitt get their due, along with Napoleon and Wellington (who, with Nelson, were the superstars of their day), the lovely Duchess of Devonshire and her fast set (so well limned in the excellent "Georgianna") and other fascinating characters -- saints and sinners alike -- surrounding and surmounting "Prinny" and his very louche circle. A good compliment to Caroly Erickson's "Our Tempestuous Day," "Prince of Pleasure" is a real find for both the casual and serious reader of this period. Compare the legacy of this King of England who regularly passed out drunk in public, wore a corset and heavy make-up, frivoleed away his reign and public funds on redecorating his various houses, married bigamously and tried to convict his wife of treason to get rid of her to the deadly dull Windsors sitting on the throne today, and try to remember why anyone got their knickers in a twist over "Squiggigate."

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Jane Austen's monarch... Von Dianne Foster

I read 'The Prince of Pleasure' by Saul David because I am fascinated with the Regency Period in England, the French Revolution, and Jane Austen's writing. Partly biography and mostly very good historical research (letters, journals, diaries), the book provides excellent background information on architecture (the Pavillion at Brighton, townhouses in London); clothing (Empire waistlines, Beau Brummel); Luddite rebellions and starving workers in Glasgow; the Duke of Wellington and Waterloo; and Nelson, the British Navy, and Trafalgar. Mostly, I read the book because I love Jane Austen and want to know all I can about her times. Saul David says that next to Walter Scott, Jane Austen was the Duke of Wales' (Prince Regent and eventually George IV) favorite novelist. Ms Austen did not reciprocate his feelings. In one of her letters, Austen said of Princess Caroline, the wife the Duke was attempting to divorce and/or put away, "I shall support her as long as I can because she is a Woman, and because I hate her husband...[If] I must give up the Princess, I am resolved at least always to think that she would have been respectable, if the Prince had behaved tolerably by her at first." When she visited Carlton House (one of the Royal residences) in November 1815, the librarian informed Austen of the Regent's admiration for her work. By this knowledge she was coerced into dedicating her next novel 'Emma' to the Prince Regent. But she had earlier expressed her poor opinion of the Prince indirectly in 'Mansfield Park.' In what David describes as a "thinly veiled criticism" she set a scene where a crisis is precipitated by the absence of the 'Lord' of the Manor, Sir Thomas Bertram (like George III) and the reckless follies of his oldest son Tom, "who takes over the 'regency' from his brother Edmund...[and like the Regent Prince] "loves to gamble, live well and run up debts." When Tom becomes the 'Regent' of Mansfield Park, he "prefers the ceremonial to the practical aspects of government." The subversive conclusion of 'Mansfield Park' "is that the younger son is a more suitable regent than the legal heir, while the poor female relation (Fanny Price) is preferable to them both." My goodness, it's a wonder they didn't try Ms. Austen for Sedition. But then, most readers didn't get her irony, and still don't.

Kurzbeschreibung Described by the Duke of Wellington as 'the most extraordinary compound of talent, wit, buffoonery, obstinacy and good feeling that I ever saw in one character in my life', George Augustus Frederick, Prince of Wales, later George IV, was a highly controversial figure. He courted both Whigs and Tories in his attempts to establish the Regency during the 'madness' of his father, George III. Scandalous liaisons with prostitutes and duchesses, and his 'secret' marriage to the Catholic Mrs Fitzherbert, tested his duty - to nation and to family. Yet his support for overseas campaigns against Napoleon, culminating in such historic victories as Trafalgar and Waterloo, consolidated Britain's status as the pre-eminent world power amid the great social and economic upheavals of the Industrial Revolution. Drawing on a wealth of original accounts of life in Georgian Britain, Saul David has created a masterly portrait - of a flamboyant, opportunistic and influential figure, and of a nation in a time of great change. Saul David is Professor of War Studies at the University of Buckingham and the author of several critically-acclaimed

history books, including *The Indian Mutiny: 1857* (shortlisted for the Westminster Medal for Military Literature), *Zulu: The Heroism and Tragedy of the Zulu War of 1879* (a Waterstone's Military History Book of the Year) and, most recently, *Victoria's Wars: The Rise of Empire*. Saul David also writes acclaimed historical fiction. *Zulu Hart*, the first in the George Hart series, was a bestseller in 2009, and the sequel, *Hart of Empire*, will be published in August 2010. An experienced broadcaster, Saul David has presented and appeared in history programmes for all the major TV channels and is a regular contributor to Radio 4. Praise for Saul's books: 'Filled with swashbuckling derring-do, the reek of blood and gunpowder, combined with shrewd analysis of power, war and psychology' (Simon Sebag Montefiore on *ALL THE KINGS MEN*) 'Those wishing to immerse themselves in this golden age of British military success will relish David's fine piece of history' (Sunday Times on *ALL THE KINGS MEN*) 'A first-rate historian, now a masterly story-teller' (Bernard Cornwell on *ZULU HART*) 'David is a popular historian with a rare talent . . . An unashamed crowd-pleaser with a compelling, sexy hero who could give Cornwell's Sharpe a run for his money.' (The Times on *ZULU HART*) Endeavour Press is the UK's leading independent digital publisher.

When the future British monarch George IV (1762-1830) was a lad of 15, his head instructor predicted the Prince of Wales "will either be the most polished gentleman or the most accomplished blackguard in Europe, possibly an admixture of both." It was, as historian Saul David notes, "a particularly prescient remark." He is most popularly remembered for setting the pace for drunkenness and lechery among England's upper crust, not to mention his attempts to exploit the "madness" of his father, George III, for political gain (which would incidentally help him raise the money necessary to pay off his massive debts). But, David says, he was also a generous patron of the arts--responsible for, among other things, the establishment of the National Portrait Gallery--and played a critical role in the multinational campaign against Napoleon, thereby securing Britain's position of supremacy. *Prince of Pleasure* is a lively biography, rich in anecdote, which provides a nuanced view of the monarch and statesman that hides nothing, but considers the flaws within the context of a nation where parliament and royalty maintained a delicate balance while revolutionary fervor swept many other countries. Drawing deeply upon contemporary sources, David is able to offer substantial detail on matters such as the prince's "secret" wedding to the Catholic widow Mrs. Fitzherbert, or his later, legally sanctioned matrimony to Princess Caroline of Brunswick, who so physically repulsed him that, after three instances of congress in the first two days of their marriage, he never went near her again. There is also much fine detail on the personal rifts between the prince and his father, and the ways in which that discord shaped Whig-Tory rivalries in the House of Commons. People fascinated by the stories surrounding the late 20th century's Prince of Wales will find his Hanoverian antecedent as compelling--probably more. --Ron Hogan

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