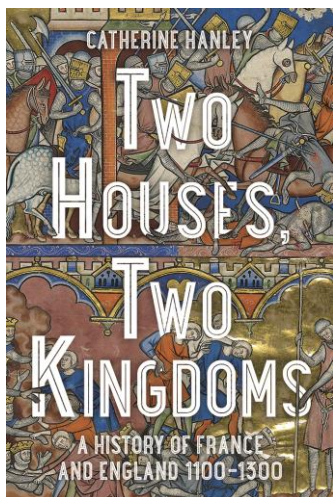


‘Catherine Hanley knows the twelfth and thirteenth centuries like the back of her hand. In *Two Houses, Two Kingdoms* she brings vividly to life an extraordinary cast of characters, the men and women through whom the kingdoms of England and France took shape, telling their story with wit, wisdom, and formidable scholarship.’—**Helen Castor**, author of *She-Wolves: The Women Who Ruled England Before Elizabeth*



Two Houses, Two Kingdoms

A History of France and England, 1100–1300

Catherine Hanley

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Hardback | £25

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An exhilarating chronicle of the ruling families of France and England, showing how two dynasties formed one extraordinary story

This is a story about *people*.

The twelfth and thirteenth centuries were a time of personal monarchy, when the close friendship or petty feuding between kings and queens could determine the course of history. The Capetians of France and the Angevins of England waged war, made peace, and intermarried. The lands under the control of the English king once reached to within a few miles of Paris, and those ruled by the French house, at their apogee, crossed the Channel and encompassed London itself.

In this lively, engaging history, Catherine Hanley traces the great clashes, and occasional friendships, of the two dynasties. Along the way, she emphasizes the fascinating and influential women of the houses—including Eleanor of Aquitaine and Blanche of Castille—and shows how personalities and familial bonds shaped the fate of two countries. This is a tale of two intertwined dynasties that shaped the present and the future of England and France, told through the stories of the people involved.

Catherine Hanley is a writer and researcher specializing in the Middle Ages. She is the author of *Matilda: Emperor, Queen, Warrior*, which was described as ‘impressive’ (*Guardian*), ‘lively’ (*TLS*) and ‘a fine example of the study’ (*Financial Times*). Catherine lives in Somerset.

‘People make history, but never alone. Hanley brings to life the royal families of England and France in this exciting period, through their interactions as close bedfellows (literally), brothers (and sisters) in arms, petulant rivals, and bitter enemies.’—**Anne Curry**, author of *Henry V: From Playboy Prince to Warrior King*

‘Hanley has created a rich tapestry that tells the story of two kingdoms whose rulers bucked against the fundamental truth that their histories and futures were woven together ... This book creates a picture of kingdoms like siblings, connected but destined to be at war. A must-read for anyone interested in the entwined stories of medieval kingdoms and dynasties.’—**Matt Lewis**, author of *Richard III: Loyalty Binds Me*