



## 1020s Births: William The Conqueror

*Lasandra Oneill*

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What's so special about William The Conqueror? In this new, compelling book from author Lasandra Oneill, find out more about William The Conqueror ... William I, also known as William the Conqueror or William the Bastard, was the first Norman King of England, reigning from 1066 until his death in 1087. He was also Duke of Normandy from 3??July 1035 until his death, under the name of William II. Descended from Viking raiders, William faced a number of difficulties when he became duke at the age of 7 or 8, but by 1060 he had established his hold over Normandy and was able to invade and conquer England in 1066. William was the illegitimate child of the unmarried Duke Robert the Magnificent of Normandy and Herleva. This caused some difficulties for him after he succeeded his father in 1035. His youth presented further problems when he became duke, as did the anarchy which plagued the first years of his rule. During his childhood and adolescence, the Norman aristocracy battled each other, both for control of the child duke and for their own ends. In 1047, William was able to defeat a rebellion and begin to establish his authority over the duchy, a process that was not complete until about 1060. His marriage in the 1050s to Matilda of Flanders aided his efforts by providing a powerful ally in the neighbouring county of Flanders. By the time of his marriage, William was able to appoint his own choices as bishops and abbots in the Norman church. His consolidation of power allowed him to expand his horizons, and by 1062 William was able to secure control of the neighbouring county of Maine. In the 1050s and early 1060s, William became a contender for the throne of England, then held by his childless relative, Edward the Confessor. But there were other potential claimants, including the powerful English earl Harold Godwinson, who was named the next king by Edward on the latter's deathbed in January 1066. But William argued that Edward had earlier promised the throne to him, and that Harold had sworn to support William's claim. After building a large fleet, William invaded England in September 1066 and decisively defeated and killed Harold at the Battle of Hastings on 14 October 1066. After some further military efforts, William was crowned king on Christmas Day, 1066 at London. He then made arrangements for the governance of England in early 1067 before returning to Normandy. A number of rebellions followed, but William was able to put them down and by 1075 his hold on England was mostly secure. This allowed William to spend the majority of the rest of his reign on the continent. The final years of William's reign were marked by difficulties in his continental domains, troubles with his eldest son, and threatened invasions of England by the Danes. In 1086 William ordered the compilation of Domesday Book, a survey listing all the landholders in England along with their holdings. William died in September 1087 while leading a campaign in northern France, and was buried in Caen. So, what separates this book from the rest? A comprehensive narrative of William The Conqueror, this book gives a full understanding of the subject. A brief guide of subject areas covered in "1020s Births - William The Conqueror" include - - William the Conqueror - Norman conquest of England - Battle of Hastings - Revolt of the Earls - Domesday Book Find out more of this subject, it's intricacies and it's nuances. Discover more about it's importance. Develop a level of understanding required to comprehend this fascinating concept. Author Lasandra Oneill has worked hard researching and compiling this fundamental work, and is proud to bring you "1020s Births - William The Conqueror" ... Read this book today ...

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