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Start by marking "Elizabeth I: Her Life in Letters" as Want to Read: Want to Read. Currently Reading. Read. Elizabeth I: Her Life by Felix Pryor. Other editions. She is a near-legendary figure from a remote past who remains fascinatingly modern. This handsome volume has been published to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Elizabeth I's death in 1603. Her early life was full of uncertainties, and her chances of succeeding to the throne seemed very slight once her half-brother Edward was born in 1537. She was then third in line behind her Roman Catholic half-sister, Princess Mary. Elizabeth I - the last Tudor monarch - was born at Greenwich on 7 September 1533, the daughter of Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn. Her early life was full of uncertainties, and her chances of succeeding to the throne seemed very slight once her half-brother Edward was born in 1537. She was then third in line behind her Roman Catholic half-sister, Princess Mary. Roman Catholics, indeed, always considered her illegitimate and she only narrowly escaped execution in the wake of a failed rebellion against Queen Mary in 1554. The life of Elizabeth I was anything but expected. On 7 September 1533, Henry VIII was preparing to announce the birth of a son - his long-awaited... Elizabeth's mother, Anne Boleyn, soon fell out of favour with her husband and the young princess's life changed forever when the king executed her mother on 19 May 1536. Living in a world dictated by the whims of her father, Elizabeth could never be too certain of her position or her life. But despite all this, she rose to become known as one of England's greatest rulers, a legacy that continues today. Here are 10 facts about this extraordinary monarch.