

The Downfall of Katherine Howard

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Introduction

Katherine Howard, the fifth wife of Henry VIII, was executed on February 13, 1542. She was charged with the crimes of adultery and treason. However, her downfall may have started years before.



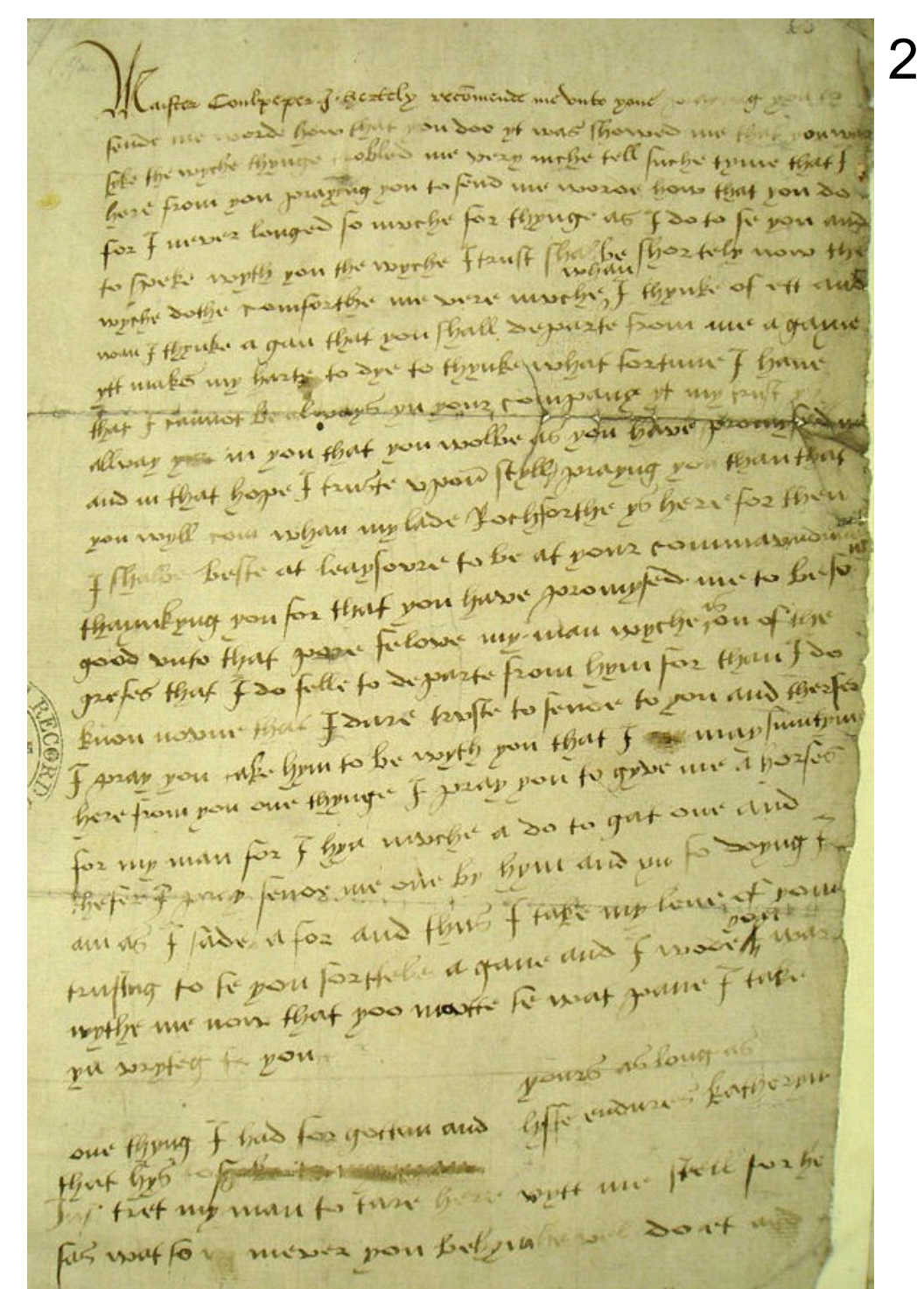
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Key points

- Katherine is sent to live with her grandmother at around 11.
- Katherine enters into a secret relationship with her older music teacher at around 13.
- Katherine enters into a secret relationship with her grandmother's secretary at around 15.
- Katherine is sent to court and becomes lady-in-waiting to the current queen.
- At around 17, Henry VIII divorces the current queen and decides to marry Katherine.
- Katherine enters into a "friendship" with Thomas Culpeper.
- At around 19, Katherine is executed for adultery and treason.

Conclusions

It is important to note that a person is not always in charge of their own fate. Given Katherine's young age of execution at around 19, it is hard to believe that she was solely at fault for her untimely end. Rather, it was the people around her that shaped her future and led her down this path. Ultimately, they failed Katherine, who was barely an adult at the time of her death.



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Acknowledgements

Funding for this Study Abroad class provided by the UAH Honors College.