

APPENDIX B

CATHERINE DE' MEDICI

Catherine de' Medici (1519-89), Queen Consort of France (1547-59):

- I. Daughter of Lorenzo II (1492-1519) of Florence, called "Lorenzo the Magnificent," a patron of the arts whose tomb in the Medici Chapel in Florence was designed by Michelangelo (1475-1564), the same sculptor, artist, and architect who created the statues "Dawn" and "Dusk" for Lorenzo's tomb as well as "Day" and "Night" for the tomb of Giovanni de' Medici, also located in the Medici Chapel
- II. Niece of Leo X (Giovanni de' Medici--1475-1521), Pope from 1513-21, who paid huge sums on projects carried out by masters of his day such as Raphael, Bramante and Michelangelo, and whose extravagances such as rebuilding Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, and the pomp of his court, bore much responsibility for the Reformation movement and resulting Protestantism
- III. Married Henry II (son of Francis I), King of France, though she had little power during her reign as Queen Consort
- IV. Mother of French kings:
 - A. Francis II (1544-60), King of France (1559-60), who married Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, on April 24, 1558
 - B. Charles IX (1550-74), King of France (1560-74)
 - C. Henry III (1551-89), King of France (1574-89), weak-willed last king of the house of Valois and responsible for the assassinations of Henry I de Lorraine, 3rd Duke de Guise, and his brother Louis, Cardinal of Lorraine, at Blois in 1588
- V. Also mother of daughters:
 - A. Elizabeth of Valois, who married Philip II, King of Spain (son of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V), powerful and radical Catholic leader who freely used The Inquisition (instituted by his grandparents Ferdinand V and Isabella of Castile in 1480) to persecute religious and political opponents, and as member of the Holy League created by Henry I de Lorraine, 3rd Duke de Guise, in 1576, warred against France when necessary to ensure continued repression of the Protestant movement
 - B. Margaret of Valois, who married Henry III, King of Navarre, (later becoming Henry IV, King of France), even though Henry was a Calvinist and titular leader of the Huguenots (the Protestant political faction in France), but was divorced by way of a papal dispensation after he converted to Catholicism allowing him to marry Maria de' Medici, daughter of Francis I, Duke of Tuscany
- VI. Tried to maintain personal power by playing Protestants against Catholics in such a way as to have power over both while they scrapped with each other
- VII. Forced fanatical Catholics Francis de Lorraine, 2nd Duke de Guise, and his brother Charles, Cardinal of Lorraine, from the royal court after Francis II died on December 5, 1560
- VIII. After Francis's death, her hostility toward Mary Stuart (1542-87), Queen of Scotland (1542-67), Queen Consort of France (1559-60), who was the niece of Francis and Charles

de Lorraine through the marriage of their sister, Mary de Guise, to James V of Scotland, forced Mary to reconcile herself with the nobles of her now-Protestant country of Scotland so that she would be allowed to return, which she did on August 15, 1561, only to be forced to abdicate in favor of her son, James VI (born in 1566 and fathered by Mary's second husband and cousin, Henry Stuart, Lord Darnley) in 1567, after which she fell into the hands of her cousin Elizabeth I, Queen of England, to be held prisoner until beheaded at Fotheringay Castle on February 8, 1587 (an event which inspired Philip II of Spain to launch his ill-fated Spanish Armada against Protestant England in mid-1588)

- IX. As the new king's regent, she temporarily allowed Charles IX to be advised by Huguenot French Admiral Gaspard de Coligny, who counseled toleration towards the Protestant movement, until she feared the power that the Huguenots were attaining
- X. Conspired with son Henry III to undertake the infamous St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre of Huguenots in 1572, in which 50,000 perished, during which Admiral Coligny was killed by Henry I de Lorraine, 3rd Duke de Guise, who held him responsible for the assassination of his father, Francis de Lorraine, 2nd Duke de Guise, in 1562, and during which Henry of Navarre was forced to convert to Catholicism or be killed
- XI. She once again faded into the background when her son Henry III gained the throne
- XII. She died January 15, 1589, in her second floor bedroom in the Francis I wing of the Chateau de Blois, just below that of Henry III