

THE LIFE OF ELIZABETH I IN UNDER A MINUTE

This month, NG Kids' time-travelling mouse, Max, visits Queen Elizabeth I...

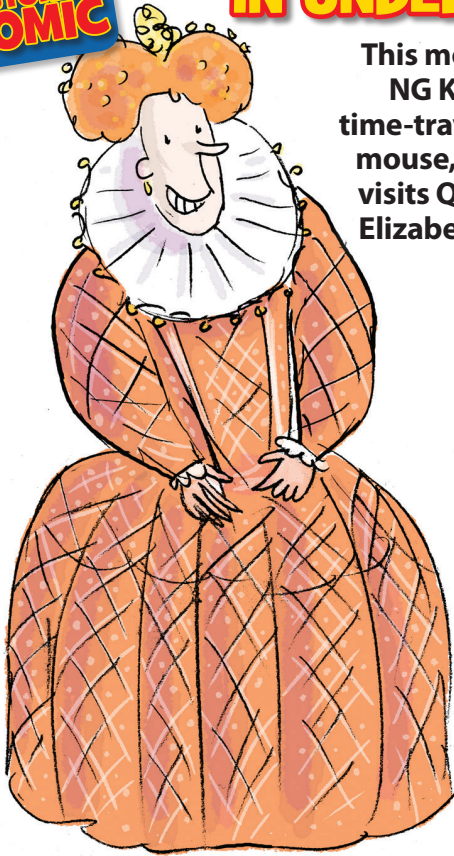
Watcha readers! Let's see if we can race through the exciting life of Elizabeth I in under a minute!



The daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, Elizabeth was born in 1533 and was only three years old when Henry had her mother beheaded.

Daddy, where's my mummy?

Er... I've sent her on a chopping trip...



When Henry died, Elizabeth's brother Edward ruled for a short while. Then her Catholic sister Mary came to power, executing Protestants (rival Christians). However, Elizabeth favoured Protestants.

Cough! I love Protestants, cough!

What was that?

Nothing!



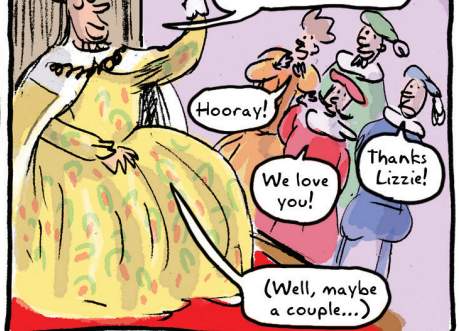
When Mary died without an heir, Elizabeth became Queen in 1558. She was much nicer than her sister and allowed Catholics to pray in private.

No more executions!

Hooray!

We love you! Thanks Lizzie!

(Well, maybe a couple...)



Elizabeth was immediately under pressure to find a husband and provide an heir, but she wasn't having any of it and declared...

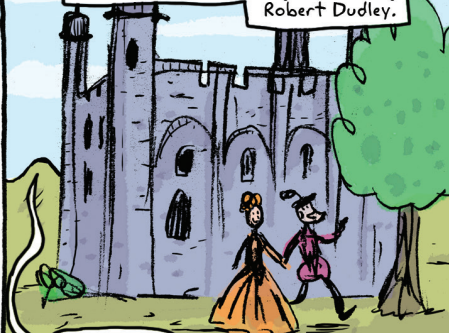
"I have already joined myself in marriage to a husband, namely the Kingdom of England!"

We make a lovely couple!



But that didn't stop her having plenty of boyfriends including the dashing Robert Dudley.

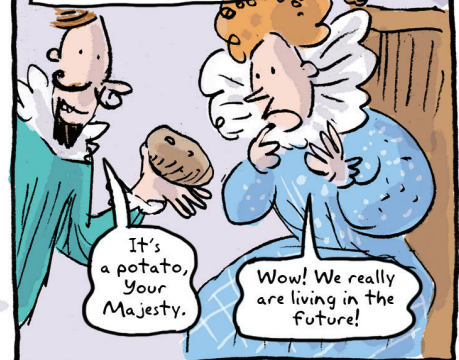
I think I've been dumped...



She also ruled during a Golden Age of arts and discovery. Shakespeare was busy writing his plays and explorers such as Walter Raleigh were discovering new lands.

It's a potato, Your Majesty.

Wow! We really are living in the future!



Meanwhile, her rival, Mary Queen of Scots, whom Elizabeth had imprisoned for 20 years, was executed for plotting to overthrow Elizabeth and restore Catholics to the throne.

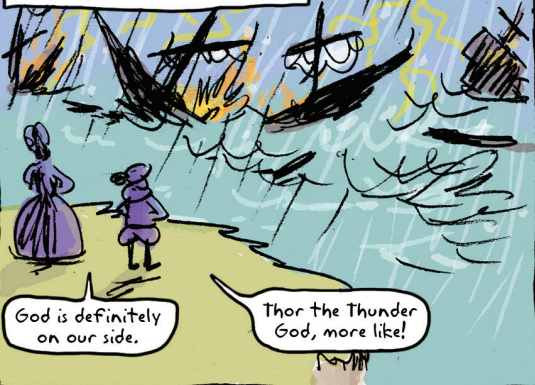
This is ruff justice.



Enraged by Mary's death, the Catholic King of Spain, Philip II, sent a fleet of ships, known as the Armada, to invade England. The Armada was defeated, with a little help from terrible storms.

God is definitely on our side.

Thor the Thunder God, more like!



By the end of her reign in 1603, Elizabeth was very old and frail, and more importantly, childless. Keen on a smooth succession, her courtiers pestered her to name her heir, but she didn't get involved.

Who? "Count Coco"?

...No you fool... I want a cup of cocoa...

Elizabeth's long reign had brought great stability after the turmoil of her sister's rule and is now seen as a real Golden Age!

