*BBC Bloody Queens Elizabeth I and Mary of Scots.mp4*

**Спикер 11:**  
Queen Elizabeth I, conqueror of the Spanish Armada,  
Tudor defender of the Protestant faith,  
the headstrong Virgin Queen who refuses to marry.  
But of all her challenges,  
her most gruelling battle is with another woman,  
her own cousin, Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots.

**Спикер 8:**  
I am a free princess in that I am not responsible to you or any other.

**Спикер 11:**  
Elizabeth will not face a more relentless threat  
to her crown or her life.

**Спикер 5:**  
With black ingratitude, she tries to kill me,  
who so often saved her life.

**Спикер 6:**  
Elizabeth never forgives Mary for the fact  
that she has laid claim to her throne.  
She never forgets it.

**Спикер 5:**  
So long as I live, there shall be no other queen in England  
but I.

**Спикер 8:**  
There is no other queen of England but I.

**Спикер 11:**  
Both claim the English throne, two queens on opposite sides of the greatest conflicts  
of their time, Protestant and Catholic, Tudor and Stuart, and that most ancient of rivalries,  
English and Scottish.

**Спикер 9:**  
When rude Scotland vomits up a poison,  
must fine England lick it up for a restorative.

**Спикер 11:**  
Their combat will last from 1561 to 1587,  
ending in one final, fatal decision.  
And yet, in nearly three decades of obsession with each other, they will never actually  
meet.  
That explosive relationship is played out entirely through letters, written with an  
intimacy and passion that still burns through the paper.

**Спикер 4:**  
Beneath those elegant phrases, swirls this dark, deadly current, which is going to drag  
one of the writers down.

**Спикер 11:**  
Here for the first time on television, dramatized purely from the words of the two queens and  
their courtiers, is the fatal story of Elizabeth and Mary.

**Спикер 8:**  
No more tears.  
I will think upon revenge.  
Would that we, being two queens so near of kin,  
neighbours living in one isle,  
should be friends and live together like sisters,  
than by some strange means divide ourselves to the hurt of us both.

**Спикер 5:**  
I assure you I’d be fully resolved to live with you in the knot of friendship,  
as we are in that of nature and blood.

**Спикер 8:**  
I am glad to hear of your goodwill towards us,  
and good inclination to peace and friendship.

**Спикер 5:**  
God could not have blessed these two kingdoms with greater felicity  
than if one of us had been a king and married the other.

**Спикер 11:**  
1561. Mary Stuart’s arrival in Scotland has the two queens brimming over with goodwill.  
She is 18, Elizabeth 27.

**Спикер 6:**  
The fact that with Mary and Elizabeth we have two young women who are  
queens is extraordinary. This is not an era of female rulers and now we have two of them  
and their kingdoms border each other.

**Спикер 11:**  
As two young queens on one island,  
surrounded by a sea of male rulers,  
they seem to be drawn to one another.  
Yet their characters couldn’t be more different.

**Спикер 1:**  
Elizabeth’s godson, Sir John Harrington,  
said of her that when she smiled,  
it was like pure sunshine.  
But then he continued, he said,  
Anon would come a storm, and then thunderous weather  
would fall upon them all.

**Спикер 4:**  
At one point, she actually broke one of her maid’s fingers  
by slamming a candlestick down on it.  
She would smash things.  
She could say very unkind things.

**Спикер 11:**  
Elizabeth has survived prison and death threats  
to become queen only two years earlier.  
Mary has been Queen of Scots since she was six days old.  
She’s been raised in the luxury of the French court.

**Спикер 1:**  
Mary loved life.  
She loved dancing, she loved hunting, she loved sewing,  
she loved people.  
She would have danced all night if she could.

**Спикер 6:**  
She’d been raised the pampered princess in France.  
She was very vulnerable, she was volatile.

**Спикер 1:**  
She was alluring, but she was impulsive and she was impatient.  
And these were seen as quite dangerous qualities  
in a queen in the 16th century.

**Спикер 10:**  
If you’re a man looking at this from the 21st century backwards,  
you think if you want a good date,  
you’re going to choose Mary every time,  
you’re never going to choose Elizabeth.

**Спикер 11:**  
Mary Stuart hasn’t chosen to come to Scotland.  
The death of her husband, the King of France,  
just left her with no role at the French court.

**Спикер 1:**  
She’s sort of unmoored when she arrives in Scotland  
and she’s got these big, brash Scottish lords  
who are really not too sure about having this,  
you know, Bonnie Wee Lassie as their queen.

**Спикер 11:**  
To Mary, Scotland must seem like Afghanistan,  
a mountainous country of feuding clans,  
warlords, and religious fanatics.  
She’s a Catholic, and many of them are fiercely Protestant.  
Her indifference is an insult to these men,  
and will prove to be a dangerous mistake.  
Instead, her ambition makes her look south,  
to England and Elizabeth’s crown.

**Спикер 2:**  
She has to be forced back to Scotland,  
and when she’s there, when she arrives,  
she nags on about being recognized  
as Elizabeth’s successor.

**Спикер 8:**  
I am the nearest kinswoman she has,  
being both of us of one house and stock.

**Спикер 11:**  
As the great-granddaughter of Henry VII,  
Mary has a strong claim to be named Elizabeth’s successor,  
so the English queen has every reason to be wary.

**Спикер 5:**  
If it became known who would succeed me,  
I would never think myself secure.

**Спикер 11:**  
Tensions between Catholics and Protestants  
are worsening across Europe.  
Many people fear that just the presence of Queen Mary  
could inflame the passions of English Catholics.  
One reason England had become Protestant  
was so that Henry VIII could marry Anne Boleyn,  
Elizabeth’s mother.

**Спикер 1:**  
English Catholics had a settled hatred for Anne Boleyn.  
They always favoured Mary, Queen of Scots’ claim over Elizabeth.  
They called her bastardised Elizabeth.

**Спикер 6:**  
In the eyes of Catholic Europe,  
Mary, the good Catholic that she is,  
is the rightful heir to the English throne.

**Спикер 11:**  
Catholic Europe could back Mary  
if she tried to seize the English throne,  
a threat that obsessed Elizabeth’s chief minister,  
Lord Burleigh.

**Спикер 9:**  
The Queen of Scots is and always will be  
a dangerous person to your estate.  
She cannot forbear from her continual ardent desire  
to possess the crown of this realm.

**Спикер 10:**  
He thinks he’s the man appointed almost by God  
to save Elizabeth from herself.

**Спикер 1:**  
Burleigh is constantly dripping poison  
in Elizabeth’s ear about Mary.

**Спикер 9:**  
Not to be neglected, trusted, nor pardoned.

**Спикер 6:**  
He saw Mary almost as the Antichrist.  
There was no way he was going to allow that woman  
to get anywhere near the throne of England.

**Спикер 11:**  
Mary is aware of Burleigh’s opposition.

**Спикер 8:**  
I know how near I am descended of the blood of England  
and what devices have been attempted  
to make me a stranger from it.

**Спикер 11:**  
Elizabeth uses elaborate tactics  
to avoid ever giving Mary a straight answer  
about the succession.  
In September, 1564, Mary’s envoy, Sir James Melville,  
is sent to speak to Elizabeth to pin her down.  
But she bombards him with strangely personal questions.

**Спикер 5:**  
What colour of hair is reputed best?  
Is my hair or your queen’s the best?  
Well, which of us is fairer?

**Спикер 3:**  
Your Majesty is the fairest Queen in England, and ours is the fairest Queen in Scotland.  
Your Majesty is the whiter, but her Queen is very lovely.

**Спикер 5:**  
And who is taller?

**Спикер 3:**  
My Queen is, Your Majesty.

**Спикер 5:**  
Then she is too high.  
I’m neither too high nor too low.

**Спикер 4:**  
What Elizabeth does is intelligent and subtle.  
She simply does not want to have the conversation  
that Melville has travelled to her court to try and have with her.  
She refuses to do it.  
And what she does is she invokes femininity  
to simply evade this conversation.  
And he is climbing the walls with frustration.

**Спикер 1:**  
But then he goes back to Mary, and he’s not fooled at all.  
He says, you cannot trust Elizabeth.

**Спикер 3:**  
There are nothing but jealousies and suspicion.

**Спикер 11:**  
But the two women hide their suspicions behind a charm offensive.

**Спикер 8:**  
We shall present to the world such friendship as has never been seen.

**Спикер 11:**  
They seem to compete in their declarations of love.  
Elizabeth sends Mary a diamond ring, but Mary goes one better.

**Спикер 1:**  
Mary sends Elizabeth her portrait.  
It’s a miniature portrait in heart-shaped diamond ring, and she sends it with Petrarchan,  
and almost love lyrics.  
And it’s this sort of sense that she’s wooing Elizabeth,  
she wants to meet her.

**Спикер 11:**  
Mary’s most comfortable writing in French.

**Спикер 7:**  
So, dear sister, if this card follows the affection  
of a voice that presses me,  
it is that I am in pain and sadness,  
if promptly the facts are followed.

**Спикер 2:**  
Mary’s obsession with being recognized as Elizabeth’s heir  
to the English throne, made her easy to manipulate.  
Elizabeth could deal with this.  
She’s dealing with someone who wants  
what only Elizabeth can give.  
It’s marvelous.

**Спикер 11:**  
But Elizabeth avoids actually meeting her cousin.

**Спикер 6:**  
Mary was renowned for her charisma, for her charm.  
It was said that anyone who came within 10 feet of the Queen  
of Scots would fall in love with her.  
Now, I think Elizabeth had heard that,  
and she believed it, and she feared it.  
She didn’t want to like Mary.

**Спикер 11:**  
Having failed to meet and charm Elizabeth,  
Mary tries a new scheme to strengthen her claim  
to the crown, marriage.  
But Elizabeth is not about to let her cousin marry  
one of her powerful European rivals.

**Спикер 5:**  
I recommend some fit nobleman within the island, but I declare no child of France,  
Spain or Austria will be acceptable. And your right and title to the English crown  
will depend much on your marriage.

**Спикер 10:**  
The root problem is Elizabeth regards  
herself as the superior Queen, and she regards Mary as a satellite Queen,  
and no Scott, then or now, would accept that.

**Спикер ?:**  
♪♪

**Спикер 11:**  
Elizabeth isn’t like other queens.  
She has little interest in marriage.  
That would mean handing power to a husband.  
No husband means no chance of an heir,  
no matter how much Burleigh badges her.

**Спикер 9:**  
God send our mistress a husband,  
and by him a son, that we may hope our posterity shall have a masculine succession.

**Спикер 5:**  
I am already bound unto a husband which is the kingdom of England.  
As many as are English are my children.  
If I am to disclose to you what I prefer if I follow the inclination of my nature, I will  
tell you it is this, beggar woman and single,  
far rather than queen and married.

**Спикер 6:**  
I think the reason Elizabeth chose not to marry  
had an awful lot to do with the examples from which  
she had learned in childhood.  
So of course, it’s not a great role model,  
the fact that her mother, Anne Boleyn,  
is executed by her father.  
But I think it went further than that for Elizabeth.  
There have been a number of scandals surrounding her.  
At the age of just 13, the first major scandal erupted.

**Спикер ?:**  
♪♪

**Спикер 10:**  
Her stepfather, Thomas Seymour,  
came into Elizabeth’s bedroom early in the morning,  
and basically, you might say he sexually touched her.

**Спикер ?:**  
♪♪

**Спикер 6:**  
His wife, Catherine, was actually complicit in this,  
and there’s one occasion described  
where she held Elizabeth down  
while her husband cut Elizabeth’s gown  
And that’s what you’re gonna do.  
  
  
  
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