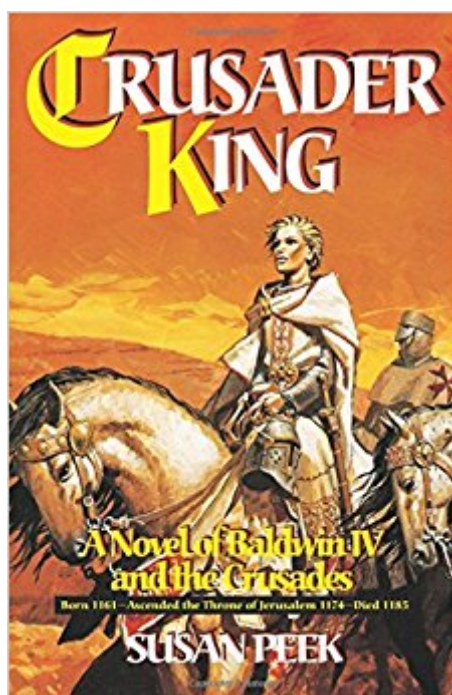


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# Crusader King: A Novel Of Baldwin IV And The Crusades



## Synopsis

A new historical novel about the unusual life of King Baldwin IV of Jerusalem, the leper crusader king who - despite ascending to the throne at only 13, his early death at 24 and his debilitating disease - performed great and heroic deeds in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds. Teenagers and avid readers of all ages will be amazed at this story and be inspired by a faith that accomplished the impossible!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

4.5 stars for a compelling story about an inspiring young king during a turbulent time and place in history. Made king at age 13, surrounded by enemies without as well as within his kingdom, and dealing with the unimaginable effects of leprosy, this young man's steadfast faith in God and his inspirational courage have left an indelible mark on my heart. King Baldwin's best friend, Theodore, and the Templar Sir Geoffrey were also well done, so well done, in fact, that two final scenes brought tears to my eyes. I couldn't unreservedly give this book 5 stars, though, because a few instances of slang and modern words pulled me out of the 12th century with a bit of a jar. Young readers will find this book fascinating, fast-paced, and unforgettable.

Crusader King by Susan Peek caught my eye the first time I saw its cover. In the first place, as a cradle Catholic I've heard a lot about the Crusades but never remember studying them in detail even at Georgetown University. So Susan had me hooked before I even opened the book. At the beginning of the book, I quickly discovered that much of the book was factual, based on actual

people who lived when the author said they did and did what she claims. So now, I could barely put the book down--I'm just a historical fiction junkie when the author goes to the trouble to bring the main characters to life--3-dimensionally and believably. Ms. Peek did just that and for the next 10 days I had to sneak in a chapter or two while still taking care of all my other duties and responsibilities as a husband, father, and grandfather. The main thing I liked about Crusader King is that her two heroes are credible and highly likable. I couldn't help but root for them harder with each new page. Moreover, her villains left me seething with anger because from the beginning they posed huge problems for the main characters, and they became more and more hateful as the book progressed. The book is a great read, and I highly recommend it for youth and adult readers. Not only is it entertaining, but it explains a lot about a part of history about which many of us have little or no understanding.

Loved this book. It's factual but not dry history. Actually very timely also since the world is still fighting this same war. Very well done. Have already recommended it to family and friends.

I really enjoyed this book even though I'm not particularly attracted to this period of history. It's very easy reading, and younger or older readers will definitely appreciate this story. I was quite moved by the end and did not expect it. This book makes a great gift!

This is the story of St. Baldwin IV the Leper King entertainingly written by talented novelist Susan Peek. You are immediately drawn to the inspiring characters in this fast-paced, gripping novel! A truly fantastic story about a remarkable saint! It is a book you can read over and over again!

Susan Peek has written this story in such a way that it has captured my interest, and the interest of all of my children. They love the book, and some of them have read it more than once. The ones who can't read yet, ask for us to read it to them.

This book was love at first reading! It is an absolute favorite in all of the schools where I have taught! To quote some of my students: "This book is AWESOME! Everyone said it was good, but I didn't think it would be THIS good!" "I actually read for three hours straight and my head didn't even hurt." - (a "book-hater") "Do you have any other books like Crusader King?" "I don't know what to read next. After that, nothing else seems good." "I read Crusader King three times this school year, and I'm already ready to read it again!" "When is a copy of Crusader King going to be available? It's

all everybody is talking about!"(ETC!)I could go on and on, but I will just end by saying that Baldwin and Theo are unforgettable, and this book will be one that you will want to go back to and read to your children and grandchildren some day!

One of my favorite books! I first read it in high school and it is still inspirational and a favorite of mine many years later. Very highly recommended!

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