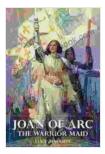
# Joan of Arc: The Warrior Maid Illustrated

In the annals of history, the name Joan of Arc stands tall as a symbol of courage, faith, and indomitable spirit. A young peasant girl from the remote village of Domrémy, France, Joan emerged from obscurity to lead the French army to victory in the Hundred Years' War, inspiring her nation and captivating the world.

Joan's story is one of extraordinary transformation. From a humble shepherdess to a military commander, she defied societal norms and overcame countless obstacles to fulfill her divine mission. Her life and legacy continue to fascinate and inspire to this day.



#### Joan of Arc - The Warrior Maid (Illustrated) by Kari M. Kron

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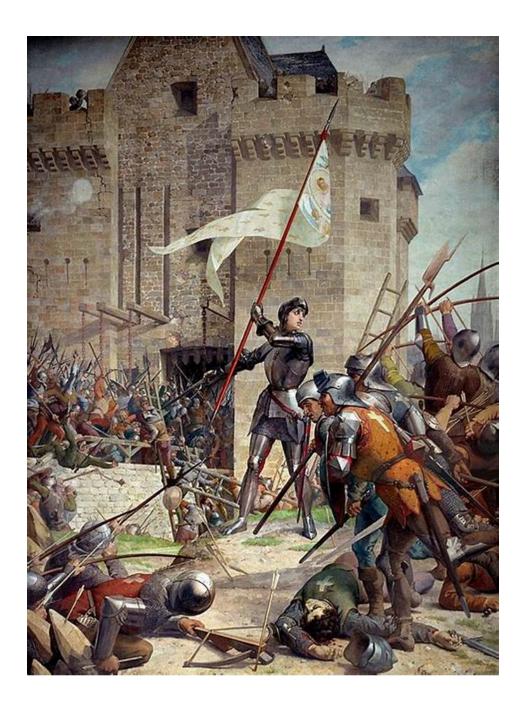


### Early Life and Divine Calling

Joan of Arc was born in the year 1412 to a peasant family in Domrémy. From a young age, she displayed an intense piety and a deep love for her homeland. At the age of 13, Joan began experiencing visions and hearing voices, which she believed were from the Archangel Michael, Saint Margaret, and Saint Catherine.

These voices instructed her to lead the French army to victory and crown the Dauphin, Charles VII, as the rightful King of France. In 1429, at the height of the Hundred Years' War, Joan left her home and traveled to Vaucouleurs, where she persuaded the local lord to grant her an audience with the Dauphin.

# Military Exploits and Siege of Orléans



Despite her humble origins and lack of military experience, Joan's unwavering faith and charisma inspired the French army. She donned armor and led her troops into battle, displaying exceptional courage and tactical acumen. Her presence on the battlefield turned the tide of the war, most notably at the Siege of Orléans in 1429. Joan's victories and leadership brought hope to the French people, who had been demoralized by years of defeat. She became a symbol of unity and resistance, rallying her countrymen to fight for their freedom.

Coronation of Charles VII and Capture at Compiègne



Joan of Arc attending the coronation ceremony of Charles VII in Reims

After her victories at Orléans and other battles, Joan accompanied Charles VII to Reims, where he was crowned King of France in 1429. Joan's mission had been fulfilled, but she continued to fight alongside the French army, determined to expel the English invaders from her homeland.

In May 1430, Joan was captured by the Burgundians at the Siege of Compiègne. She was sold to the English, who put her on trial for heresy and witchcraft.

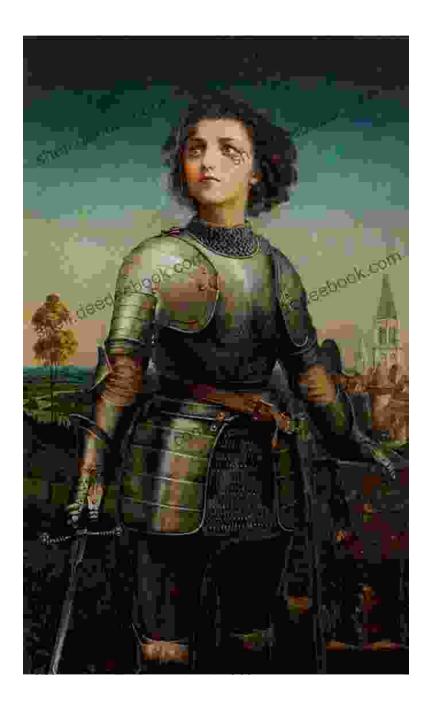
## **Trial and Execution**



Joan's trial was a travesty of justice. She was accused of multiple charges, including sorcery, heresy, and wearing men's clothing. Despite her eloquent and spirited defense, she was found guilty and sentenced to death. On May 30, 1431, Joan of Arc was burned at the stake in Rouen.

Joan's execution was a devastating blow to the French people. However, her death only strengthened her legacy as a martyr and a symbol of hope.

#### Legacy and Canonization



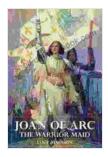
A 15th-century portrait of Joan of Arc

In the centuries following her death, Joan of Arc's reputation underwent a remarkable transformation. From being condemned as a heretic, she became a beloved national heroine and a symbol of French patriotism. In 1920, she was canonized as a saint by the Catholic Church.

Joan of Arc's story continues to inspire and fascinate people around the world. She is remembered as a symbol of courage, faith, and determination, and her legacy as a warrior maid, martyr, and saint has been immortalized in art, literature, and film.

Joan of Arc's life and achievements stand as a testament to the indomitable spirit of the human soul. Her courage, unwavering faith, and selfless sacrifice have left an indelible mark on history. As a warrior maid, martyr, and saint, Joan of Arc remains an enduring symbol of hope, inspiration, and the triumph of good over evil.

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