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Modern: The Shaping of Richard III -- 2. From Infancy to Adolescence: Formative Experiences 1452-68 -- 3. The Young Adult: The Second War 1469-71 -- 4. Adult Maturity: The King's Servant 1471-5 -- 5. Forging the Future 1471-83 -- 6. Lord of the North 1471-83 -- 7. Richard as 'Good Lord' -- 8. Strategic Foresight I: Gloucester's Wish List 1477-8 -- 9. Career Culmination: The Scottish War 1480-3 -- 10. Changing Trajectories: The Road to the Crown 1483 -- 11. Richard III: The Consolidation of the Regime The Creation of an Opposition: Buckingham's 285 Rebellion 1483 -- 12. The Creation of an Opposition: Buckingham's Rebellion 1483 -- 13. Counterattack: Rebuilding the Regime 1483-5 -- 14. Strategic Foresight II: So Many Enterprises -- 15. Setbacks and Adversity 1483-5 -- 16. Defeat, Disaster, and Death: The Battle of Bosworth -- SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY -- INDEX

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## Sommario/riassunto

The definitive biography and assessment of the wily and formidable prince who unexpectedly became monarch-the most infamous king in British history The reign of Richard III, the last Yorkist king and the final monarch of the Plantagenet dynasty, marked a turning point in British history. But despite his lasting legacy, Richard only ruled as king for the final two years of his life. While much attention has been given to his short reign, Michael Hicks explores the whole of Richard's fascinating life and traces the unfolding of his character and career from his early years as the son of a duke to his violent death at the battle of Bosworth. Hicks explores how Richard-villainized for his imprisonment and probable killing of the princes-applied his experience to overcome numerous setbacks and adversaries. Richard proves a complex, conflicted individual whose Machiavellian tact and strategic foresight won him a kingdom. He was a reformer who planned big changes, but lost the opportunity to fulfill them and to retain his crown.

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