So far, the curse seems to have been very effective, as in the first four Book 5) we have seen poisoned kings, strangled queens, failed marriages
and family feuds. Feeling that her husband cares more for his favourite, Hugh Despenser the Younger, than he does for her, Isabella has turned to
Roger Mortimer for comfort.

The Accursed Kings - Wikipedia
As the novel opens, Roger escapes from imprisonment in Book 5) Tower of London and flees to France, where he hopes to gain support to return to England at the head of Book 5) army. The new Charles IV proves to be a weak king but others who surround him at court continue to plot and scheme, looking for ways to gain power for themselves.

But The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings to Charles, the person who could pose the biggest threat to his reign is far away, growing up in the care of Marie de Cressay, her existence known only to a select few. Luckily, the prologue gives us a reminder and then fills us in on the details of the reign of Philippe V the Long, who had just taken the throne at the end Book 5) The Royal Succession and is dead before this book begins.

So far, most of the history covered in this series has been new to me and the books have given me a Book 5) introduction to the reigns of the Capet kings of France. Having said that, I did like the fact that she and Roger are portrayed as being genuinely in love; The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings helped me to believe in their characters and their relationship.

The book was written in the s, though, and I assume they were probably the accepted theories at that time. I found these books fascinating and knew nothing of the history. This one stands by itself a little better than the others, though, since much of the action is in England. I remember reading this series long ago when I was a teenager, but I found them rather dry, especially as I knew very little about mediaeval France. However, there was a much more entertaining take on the story of the French kings — albeit a fictional alternative history — by an American author called Ira J Morris, writing The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings the 60s, which seemed to take many of the threads of real events and people and weave them into a The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings pattern, rather as Guy Gavriel Kay does now in his books.

Available on Amazon for a not too horrendous price. The Ira J Morris books sound intriguing. Thirteen generations seems like an excessive curse! Yes, it is. I definitely recommend them. I read this series several years ago and learned a lot more about French history, to add to The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings interest in British history.

I still have the final two books to read and hope to get to them in You are commenting using your WordPress account. You are commenting using your Google account. You are The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings using your Twitter account. You are commenting using your Facebook account. Notify me of new comments via email. Notify me of new posts via email. This site uses Akismet to reduce spam. Learn how your comment data is processed. March 13, March 13, Like this: Like Loading Who Killed Dick Whittington?

It is cool that this series ties French and English history together. What a fascinating history! Definitely worth adding to the TBR.

Available on Amazon for a not too horrendous price. The Ira J Morris books sound intriguing. Thirteen generations seems like an excessive curse! Yes, it is. I definitely recommend them. I read this series several years ago and learned a lot more about French history, to add to The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings interest in British history.

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Error rating book. Refresh and try again. Open Book 5) See a Problem? Details if other :. Thanks for telling us about the problem. Return to Book Page. Having been imprisoned by Edward as leader of the rebellious English barons, Roger Mortimer escapes to France, where he joins the war against the English Aquitaine.

But it is his love affair with Isabella, the 'She-Wolf of France', who has come seemingly Book 5) negotiate a treaty of peace that seals his fate Get A Copy. Kindle Edition pages. Published March 25th by HarperCollins first published More Details Original Title. The Accursed Kings 5. France England Other Editions Friend Reviews. To see what your friends thought of this book, please sign up.

To ask other readers questions about The She-Wolf please sign up. Lists With This Book. This book is not yet featured on Listopia.

Community Reviews. Showing Average rating 4. Rating details. Sort order. There are no discussion topics on this book yet. Readers also enjoyed. About Maurice Druon. Maurice Druon. Maurice Druon was born in Paris. He is the nephew of the writer Joseph Kessel, with whom he wrote the Chant des Partisans, which, with music composed by Anna Marly, was used as an anthem by the French Resistance during the Second World War.

In he Book 5) the Prix Goncourt for his novel Les grandes familles. He was Minister of Cultural Affairs in and in Pierre Book 5) cabinet, and a deputy of Paris from to Source: Wikipedia Other books in the series.

The Accursed Kings 7 books. Books by Maurice Druon. Related Articles. Fresh off the success of her World Fantasy Award—winning novel Witchmark comes a standalone romantic fantasy from author C. In The Read more Trivia About La loba de Book 5) No trivia or quizzes yet. Quotes from The She-Wolf. And nothing disgusts a woman more The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings the sweat of the man she has ceased to love.

We lose our hair more quickly than our weaknesses. Welcome back. Just a moment while we sign you in to your Goodreads account.

The She-Wolf (The Accursed Kings, #5) by Maurice Druon
Set in the 14th century during the reigns of the last five kings of the direct Capetian dynasty and the first two kings of the House of Valois the series begins as the French King Philip the Fair already surrounded by scandal and intrigue, brings a curse upon his family when he persecutes the Knights Templar. The first six novels of Les Rois maudits were published in France by Del Book 5) between and until the final volume was released by Plon in The initial six books Book 5) first issued in English translated by Humphrey Hare between and by Rupert Hart-Davis in the United Kingdom and by Scribner's in the United States, with periodic reprints through the s.

Between and HarperCollins reissued the entire series in print and audiobook including the last installment The King Without a Kingdom which had never previously been published in English. French King Philip the Fair rules with an iron fist, but is surrounded by scandal and intrigue. Philip's daughter Isabella, Queen of England, plots with the ambitious Robert of Artois to catch the wives of his three brothers— Marguerite, Jeanne and Blanche—in their suspected adulterous affairs.

Robert's own motive is to avenge himself on Jeanne and Blanche's mother, his great aunt Mahaut, Countess of Artois who he believes has stolen his rightful inheritance. Philip's younger brother Charles, Count of Valois represents the power and influence of the common-born Guillaume de Nogaretphi's prime councillor and keeper of the sealand Enguerrand and Philippe who encourages him to keep the secret. Marguerite and Blanche are sentenced to life imprisonment for their crimes, and their lovers Gautier and Philippe d'Aunay are tortured and executed.

Jeanne, innocent of adultery herself but complicit in the scandal, is imprisoned indefinitely. Philip fears that Molay's curse is to blame; soon enough, he suffers a cerebral hemorrhage and collapses during a hunt, and dies days later. Seeking to remarry and father a male heir, Louis Book 5) Robert of Artois to compel Marguerite to sign a statement, in exchange for her freedom, that her marriage to Louis was never consummated and the She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings her daughter Jeanne is illegitimate.

Though his initial efforts to destroy Marigny fail, Valois manages—with the help of the Lombard banker Tolomei—to assemble a barrage of criminal charges that sees Marigny executed. Louis, now a widower, marries the beautiful Clemence of Hungary. Her discovery of his illegitimate daughter prompts Louis to confess all of his sins to her, and he swears to do whatever penance she requires.

Louis' uncle Charles, Count The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings Valois, continues grasping for influence over royal affairs by trying to secure the allegiance of the new queen, his niece by his previous marriage.

Philippe outmaneuvers his rivals and assumes power. Marie de Cressay gives birth to Guccio's son in a convent, and within days Clemence gives The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings to Louis' son Jean. With Clemence deathly ill, Hugues de Bouville and his clever wife Marguerite enlist Marie as wet nurse to the young king.

The Countess Mahaut recognizes the infant Jean as the only obstacle between Philippe—who is married to her daughter Jeanne—and the French throne. Fearful of Mahaut, Hugues and Marguerite switch Jean with Marie's child Giannino when the baby king is presented to the barons by the countess. Poisoned by Mahaut, the infant Book 5) almost immediately.

Without direct proof of her guilt, and unsure of Book 5) involvement, the Bouvilles are compelled to keep their secret or possibly be implicated themselves. As Philippe secures his support and accedes the throne, the Bouvilles coerce a devastated Marie to raise Jean as her own and—as a means to keep the secret—never see Guccio again.

His sister The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings is still married to the English King Edward Il whose open favour of his lover Hugh Despenser and the extended Despenser The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings has marginalized Isabella and incited rebellion among Edward's vassal barons. When rebel Baron Roger Mortimer escapes imprisonment in the Tower of London and flees to France to plot against Edward, Isabella The She-Wolf (the Accursed Kings follows on the pretext of negotiating a treaty with her brother, and joins Mortimer as his lover and co-conspirator.

A guilt-ridden Bouville finally admits the truth about the French boy king to Pope Jean, whose link to Philippe encourages him to keep the secret. Mahaut seeks her revenge against Isabella—now popularly called the "She-Wolf of France"—by plotting her expulsion from France and certain death at Edward's hands.
The daughter and wife of kings, Isabella does not want to give the order to have the elder Edward killed, but a jealous and petulant Mortimer forces her hand, and his minions brutally murder the imprisoned and humiliated former king, following Hugh Despenser's trial Book 5) most cruel execution. Charles dies and is succeeded by his cousin Philippe of Valois, thanks in no small part to the machinations of Robert of Artois. When Mortimer orchestrates the execution of Edward's uncle Edmund, Earl of Kent, Edward reinclaims the throne and has Mortimer executed.

With Philippe in his debt, Robert reopens his claim on Artois, but is forced to forge documents Book 5) Mahaut has destroyed. When his case unravels, Robert refuses Philippe's offer of a quiet defeat, and is subsequently implicated in a lifetime of crimes. Now a fugitive and outlaw, Robert spends years wandering Europe before he seeks out Edward. Convincing the English king to make Book 5) claim on the French throne with force, Robert is killed in battle just as campaign is picking up speed.

Rienzi's murder, however, thwarts Jean's bid for the throne, and he eventually dies in captivity in Naples, the last direct victim of the curse inflicted upon Philippe's house. The epilogue to the novel suggests, however, that the curse would reverberate over the House of Valois and France itself until the burning of Joan of Arc in Rouen a century after the main events of the novel.

Jean creates discord among his lords by the disproportionate favour he bestows upon the handsome Charles de La Cerda whose subsequent murder ignites a bitter feud between Jean and his treacherous son-in-law, Charles, King of Navarre.

His son, Edward, the Black Prince, mounts a relatively small but largely unchecked invasion of France. Finally confronted by Jean's forces, which vastly outnumber his, young Edward still manages to turn the tables and defeat the French, capturing Jean, his youngest brother Book 5) Philippe and many of his great lords. Les Rois Book 5) has been adapted twice for French Book 5).

Dubbed "the French I, Claudius", [1] [3] the series was "hugely successful", [9] and brought the novels "from cult Book 5) mainstream success". Overall Les Rois maudits averaged 7. According to John Lichfield, The Independent's French correspondent and a friend of Druon's, "Les Rois maudits was written to make money very quickly Les Rois maudits The Accursed Kings was one of the few works of contemporary western literature to be published in Russian in the Soviet Union in the s.

When Putin became president of The She-Wolf, he started an unlikely friendship with his literary hero. The Accursed Kings has it all. Iron kings and strangled queens, battles and betrayals, lies and lust, deception, family rivalries, the curse of Book 5) Templars babies switched at birth, she-wolves, sin, and swords, the doom of a great dynasty … and all of it well, most of it straight from the pages Book 5) history.

And believe me, the Starks and the Lannisters have nothing on the Capets and Plantagenets. There are murders galore in these books—one queen is The She-Wolf, the Accursed Kings, one king poisoned and another thought to be poisoned while still a baby at his christening. There is skulduggery, conspiracy and civil war. There are men of great ability and few scruples, and scarcely a page without dramatic incident The She-Wolf, the Accursed Kings characters are impressive, but few are admirable.

Almost the only likeable one is the young Siennese banker Guccio—and bankers are important figures in the novels, for Druon never lets us Book 5) that even in his world of kings, barons and knights, it is money that rules, money that oils the wheels of war and politics The novels are not recommended to the squeamish, but anyone with strong nerves will delight in them.

Few figures in literature are as terrible as the Countess Mahaut, murderer and maker of kings. Adding to the intrigue is Druon's marvelous depiction of the swirl of those lives that move around him Seasoned with sex, betrayal, brutal warfare, cold pragmatic calculating, and curses from the lips of martyrs dying at the stake, this tale cuts a memorable swath through the reader's imagination. The flavor of the times, the smells, sounds, values, and superstitions give this work a fine readability as well as a sensation of reality.

The Sunday Times called The Iron King "dramatic and The She-Wolf, the Accursed Kings as a Dumas romance but stiffened by historical accuracy and political insight" and a "blood-curdling tale of intrigue, murder, corruption and sexual passion". From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. For the tokusatsu superhero TV series, see Iron King. This article may be expanded with text translated from the corresponding article in French.

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