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## First cited Celtic Women

- High status women, known by archeological evidence
- HAd to have had some significant impact
- Vix tomb in Mont Lassois
- Spectacular tomb
- Evidence of warrior-queen
  
- Halstatt culture; queenly burials
- Reinheim burial: princess in oak-lined chamber
- Jewelry, gold, etc
  
- Graves tell much about women
- Many causes of death were childbirth or osteoarthritis, mid twenties
- About 160 cm
  
- Most prominent Celtic Queens: Boudica of the Iceni
  - Onomaris
  - Teuta
  - Chiomara

## Onomaris

- mentioned in Latin text *Tracatus De Mulieribus in Bello*
- Honoured by Galatians in time of famine

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- When no men took charge, Celts would look to women
- Suggested that she lead her people into today's Serbia (Scordisci)
- Onomars probably means "great rowan tree"
  - A type of tree that was sacred to Druids

### Celto-Illyrians

- Archeology demonstrates a movement of Celts into Bosnia from mid 400s BC, but became large displacement by 310 BC
- Intermarriages between Celts, leading to Queen Teuta
  - Tribes-Queen; leader of people

### Teuta

- Romans taking interest in Illyrian coast
- Area ruled by King Agron, died in Fall 231 BC, succeeded by Teuta
- Perceived as female pirate
- Controlled coast and shipping
- "She suffered from a typical feminine weakness, that of taking the short view of everything"
- Put down uprising in which Romans suffered
- Ambassador scolded Teuta
- Was assassinated
- Rome dispatched 200 ships, Teuta lost most of her cities
- Teuta concluded a treaty, which they saw as a victory
- Interesting that they considered Teuta a legitimate ruler
  
- Onomaris and Teuta actually went into battle
- Part of the whole warrior-culture

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- Celtic armies included women until about 7th C AD

Chiomara

- of the Tolistoboi,
- United Galatian Celts into a powerful state against Rome
- Chiomara was captured by the Romans
- Raped by a centurion; demanded a ransom
- Price was accepted; exchange to take place by river
- When centurion collected the gold, and gave over Chiomara over, she had her decapitated and took his head to her husband
- Plutarch records:
  - "woman a fine thing is good faith"
  - "A better thing only one man be alive who had intercourse with me"
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