

The Duchess Of Windsor A Memoir

The explosive new book by the bestselling author of *The Mountbattens*.

Examines the very different backgrounds of the Duke and Duchess and their thirty-five year marriage

Offers an intimate portrait of the American woman for whom a British King gave up his throne, and the glamour, rumor, and secrets associated with the Duke and Duchess of Windsor.

The Duchess writes of her first two marriages, her divorce, her escape from the abdication publicity, and her marriage to Edward VIII.

In 1936, King Edward VIII renounced the throne to marry Wallis Simpson, a twice-divorced American divorcee. From her birth in Pennsylvania to her lonely end in Paris, this book traces the life of the Duchess of Windsor.'

The Channel Four Television Corporation presents a biographical sketch of the American-born British Duchess of Windsor Wallis Warfield Simpson (1896-1986). British King Edward VIII abdicated the British throne in December 1936 in order to marry Simpson. The abdication and marriage were a scandal because Simpson was a divorcee.

"A sympathetic and believable portrait" of the American woman for whom King Edward VIII gave up the throne, with photos included (*Christian Science Monitor*). A woman's life can really be a succession of lives, each revolving around some emotionally compelling situation or challenge, and each marked off by some intense experience. It was the love story of the century—the king and the commoner. In December 1936, King Edward VIII abdicated the throne to marry "the woman I love," Wallis Warfield Simpson, a twice-divorced American who quickly became one of the twentieth century's most famous personalities, a figure of intrigue and mystery, both admired and reviled. Wrongly blamed for the abdication crisis, Wallis suffered hostility from the Royal Family and much of the world. Yet interest in her story has remained constant, resulting in a small library of biographies that convey a thinly veiled animosity toward their subject. The truth, however, is infinitely more fascinating than the shallow, pathetic portrait that has often been painted. Using previously untapped sources, acclaimed biographer Greg King presents a complete and, for the first time, sympathetic portrait of the Duchess that sifts the decades of rumor and accusation to reveal the woman behind the legend. From her birth in Pennsylvania during the Gilded Age to her death in Paris in 1986, King takes the reader through a world of privilege, palaces, high society, and love with the accompaniment of hatreds, feuds, conspiracies, and lies. The cast of characters is vast: politicians and presidents, dictators and socialites. Twenty-four pages of photographs reveal the life of the Duchess in all its incomparable glamour and romance. "A wide, absurd cast of characters—led by the British royal family . . . Wallis' lavish decorati

In this brilliant and authoritative work, based on their private correspondence and papers, Michael Bloch describes the feud which developed between the Duke of Windsor and the British royal establishment after the Abdication, the humiliations which were suffered by the ex-King and his wife, and the plots to ensure that they remained in exile.

Royal scandal is nothing new. In 1936, the royal family was rocked by events that threatened its very existence. Edward VIII, King of the United Kingdom and the Dominions of the British Empire, Emperor of India, gave up his throne. A constitutional crisis ensued. The reason? He

intended to marry Wallis Simpson - a divorcee. In *The Duchess of Windsor*, Michael Bloch tells her fascinating story. This is the definitive biography of the woman Edward prized above his crown. Drawing on first-hand access to their intimate correspondence, it paints a picture of Simpson which was often startlingly at variance with the official story as reported at the time. It brings vividly to life the qualities which captivated her royal suitor, and on publication caused outrage and surprise by uncovering the great mysteries of her life.

Describes the historical background for the romance and marriage between Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson, and shares the letters they exchanged between their meeting and marriage. The first full scale biography of Wallis Simpson to be written by a woman, exploring the mind of one of the most glamorous and reviled figures of the Twentieth Century, a character who played prominently in the blockbuster film *The King's Speech*. This is the story of the American divorcee notorious for allegedly seducing a British king off his throne. "That woman," so called by Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, was born Bessie Wallis Warfield in 1896 in Baltimore. Neither beautiful nor brilliant, she endured an impoverished childhood, which fostered in her a burning desire to rise above her circumstances. Acclaimed biographer Anne Sebba offers an eye-opening account of one of the most talked about women of her generation. It explores the obsessive nature of Simpson's relationship with Prince Edward, the suggestion that she may have had a Disorder of Sexual Development, and new evidence showing she may never have wanted to marry Edward at all. Since her death, Simpson has become a symbol of female empowerment as well as a style icon. But her psychology remains an enigma. Drawing from interviews and newly discovered letters, *That Woman* shines a light on this captivating and complex woman, an object of fascination that has only grown with the years.

'The best book about the Windsors for decades' Petronella Wyatt The intimate biography of one of the most misunderstood women in British royal history.

When *Wallis & Edward* was first published in 1986, weeks after the death of the Duchess of Windsor, it caused a sensation: this was the story the world had been waiting for. For the first time, the story of Wallis Simpson and King Edward VIII was revealed in their own words.

Michael Bloch's edition of their intimate correspondence takes us from the moment they met in 1931 up to their marriage in 1937, and includes Wallis Simpson's diary of their affair in form of her weekly letters to her aunt in Washington. It sheds a wealth of fascinating new light on 'the greatest love story of the century' and the mysteries of King Edward's abdication.

The true story of Edward Windsor and Wallis Simpson's involvement with the Nazi regime, and the post-war cover-up. The story of the love affair between Wallis Simpson and King Edward VIII, and his abdication, has provoked endless fascination. However, the full story of their links with the German aristocracy and Hitler has remained untold. * 17 Carnations chronicles Hitler's attempts to matchmake between Edward and a German noblewoman, and Wallis's affair with the German foreign minister, who sent her a carnation for every night they had spent together. *Pro-German sympathizers, the couple became embroiled in a conspiracy to install Edward as a puppet king after the Allies' defeat. * The Duke's letters were hidden for years as the British establishment attempted to cover up the connection between the House of Windsor and Hitler. Thoroughly researched, 17 Carnations reveals the whole fascinating story, throwing sharp new light on this dark chapter of history.

King Edward VIII abdicated his throne for her in one of the world's great love stories – but who was Wallis Simpson? Born into a poor southern family but taken in by rich relatives, Wallis Simpson was raised as a socialite. Between family conflicts and debutante balls, she and her friends dream of their future husbands, and like millions of girls worldwide, dream of Prince Edward, the heir to the British throne who would someday be king. Beloved author Rebecca Dean imagines the early life of Wallis Simpson, her triumphs and heartbreaks, and the making of the twice divorced, nearly

destitute woman who captured a king's heart and changed the course of history. Set against a background of high society, royal circles, and diplomatic intrigue, *The Shadow Queen* features one of the most fascinating and controversial women of the 20th century.

Literary ombudsman John Crace never met an important book he didn't like to deconstruct. From Salman Rushdie to John Grisham, Crace retells the big books in just 500 biting satirical words, pointing his pen at the clunky plots, stylistic tics and pretensions to Big Ideas, as he turns publishers' golden dream books into dross. In the grand tradition of Tom Lehrer and Stan Freberg, Crace takes the books that produce the most media hype and retells each story in its author's inimitable style. Philip Roth, Don DeLillo, Margaret Drabble, Paul Auster, Alice Sebold, John Updike, Tom Wolfe, Ruth Rendell, A.S. Byatt, John LeCarre, Michael Crichton and Ian McEwan all emerge delightfully scathed in this book that makes it easy to talk knowingly about books you've never bothered to read or, for that matter, should have.

Bestselling biography of the enduringly fascinating Wallis Simpson One of Britain's most distinguished biographers turns her focus on one of the most vilified women of the twentieth century. Historian Anne Sebba has written the first full biography by a woman of Wallis Simpson, Duchess of Windsor. 'That woman', as she was referred to by the Queen Mother, became a hate figure for ensnaring a British king and destabilising the monarchy. Neither beautiful nor brilliant, she nevertheless became one of the most talked-about women of her generation, and she inspired such deep love and adoration in Edward VIII that he gave up a throne and an empire for her. Wallis lived by her wit and her wits, while both her apparent and alleged moral transgressions added to her aura and dazzle. Based on new archives and material only recently made available, this scrupulously researched biography sheds new light on the character and motivations of a powerful, charismatic and complex woman.

A 'social climbing' divorcee, Wallis Simpson is remembered as a snob and voluptuary who came close to destroying the British monarchy. But could she have been the pawn of Allied statesmen determined to remove a Nazi sympathiser from the throne? This memoir was found in her former Paris home.

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER. Sunday Times bestselling author Andrew Morton reveals new information and sources that totally transform our perception of Wallis Simpson. *Wallis in Love* brings a fascinating new perspective on the 20th century's most controversial royal scandal. Andrew Morton's impeccable research and unerring skill for riveting storytelling combine to present a strong case for a new and startling reveal: that the woman who rocked the world with her uncompromising passion for the Prince of Wales may have fooled everyone by keeping the object of her true passion hidden away... From her relatively lowly beginnings in America - where young Wallis and her mother were dependent on her domineering and powerful Uncle Sol, to her rise through the social ranks and her determination to one day beat men at their own game - to the ultimate conquest of the Prince of Wales, Morton paints a vivid and multi-faceted picture of a compelling, ambitious and often hard-hearted woman, who may have won the jewel in the British crown but very possibly at the expense of her true happiness. *Wallis in Love* reveals the men Wallis truly loved, the men who broke her heart - and the hearts she broke in turn. In this vivid, fresh and frankly amazing portrait of the Duchess of Windsor, Morton draws on interviews, secret letters, diaries and

never before seen or heard primary sources. From the day she was born in a ramshackle cottage in the hills to revealing what really happened the night her husband died, Morton paints a fresh and enticing portrait of the Duchess of Windsor.

"Wallis, Duchess of Windsor (previously Wallis Simpson and Wallis Spencer, born Bessie Wallis Warfield; 19 June 1896[1] ? 24 April 1986) was an American socialite whose third husband, Prince Edward, Duke of Windsor, formerly King Edward VIII of the United Kingdom and the Dominions, abdicated his throne to marry her."--Wikipedia. Wallis Simpson is known as the woman at the center of the most scandalous love affair of the 20th century, but in this "unputdownable...lively and detailed" (The Times) biography, discover a woman wronged by history with new information revealed by the latest research and those who were close to the couple. The story that has been told repeatedly is this: The handsome, charismatic, and popular Prince Edward was expected to marry a well-bred virgin who would one day become Queen of England when he ascended the throne. But when the prince was nearly forty, he fell in love with a divorced American woman—Wallis Simpson. No one thought the relationship would last, and when the prince did become king, everyone assumed that was the end of the affair. But to the shock of the British establishment, the new king announced his intention to marry the American divorcée. Overnight, Wallis was accused of entrapping the prince in a seductive web in order to achieve her audacious ambition to be queen. After declaring that he could not rule without the woman he loved, the king abdicated, and his family banished him and his new wife from the country. The couple spent the rest of their days in exile, but happy in their devoted love for each other. Now, Anna Pasternak's *The Real Wallis Simpson* tells a different story: that Wallis was the victim of the abdication, not the villain. Warm, well-mannered, and witty, Wallis was flattered by Prince Edward's attention, but like everyone else, she never expected his infatuation to last. She never anticipated his jealous, possessive nature—and his absolute refusal to let her go. Edward's true dark nature, however, was no secret to the royal family, the church, or the Parliament; everyone close to Edward knew that beyond his charming façade, he was utterly unfit to rule. Caught in Edward's fierce obsession, she became the perfect scapegoat for those who wished to dethrone the troubled king. With profound insight and evenhanded research, Pasternak pulls back the curtain on one of the darkest fairy tales in recent memory and effortlessly reveals "a host of intriguing insights into a misunderstood woman" (Kirkus Reviews).

The romance of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor has been called the greatest love story of the twentieth century. However with the first edition of this biography in 1988, highly acclaimed author Charles Higham used explosive secret intelligence files to reveal a far darker side to their forty-year relationship. Now the author has re-visited and updated his international bestseller, resulting in a fascinating, and at times shocking exposé of Wallis Simpson. New and disturbing revelations have come to light, adding to the now classic story of an illegitimate child from Baltimore who rose to become the mistress of the king of England and brought about his abdication. Wallis gained control of the Monarch through sexual techniques learned in China, but risked losing everything through a reckless, long-term affair with William Bullitt, US Ambassador to France. Newly released FBI files demonstrate, as no other source has done, the extent of the Duchess's espionage activities and how she conspired against Britain in the interest of Hitler. This is an intimate and extraordinary account of

the woman who very nearly became the Queen of England. 'An enthralling and jaw-dropping read' Sunday Express 'An excellent account of life, love and Roger Vivier shoes' Tatler 'A rattling read' Mail on Sunday

Imagine being a twice-divorced woman, in her late thirties, of average looks, shunned by wealthy relatives, only to discover the most eligible bachelor in the world cannot live without you. Now imagine being that handsome, charming bachelor, educated to honor tradition and duty, in order to become a perfect King-Emperor and rule over one third of the world. Both of these extraordinary beings had the same secret dream: To breakaway from their apparent destiny and pursue what many thought was a hedonistic life, regardless of the cost and public outrage. So it was that, on December 10, 1936, Britain's new King Edward VIII abdicated his throne to marry Wallis Simpson - "the woman I love" - against the violent objection of the British royal family, the Cabinet and the Church of England. For the following thirty-six years, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor became the King and Queen of international high society. This personal account of their lives refutes history's traditional, often scurrilous portrayal of the iconic yet mysterious couple. It reveals heretofore-unknown details of their private lives, illnesses and very different deaths. Noblesse Oblige is Silvin's fictionalized, intimate description of the duchess' last valiant battle to protect her young protégée while he was running the famous American Hospital of Paris. The detailed memoir sits atop an easily absorbed history of both protagonists as the author rejects historians' claim that the Duchess of Windsor was a ruthless, conniving and superficial woman. Instead he validates Time Magazine's decision to honor her as the first Woman of the Year, of who it has been said "out-Hollywooded Hollywood," while making Greek tragedy seem trivial.

"...an enduring record of the most remarkable jewellery sale of our time, each piece of the Windsor collection is fully described not only in gemological terms but also in relation to the lives of the celebrated couple"--book jacket flap.

At the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the British government, alarmed at the Duke and Duchess of Windsor's association with the Nazis and the possibility that they would remove themselves to the United States to preach their pacifist (and slightly pro-German) credo, decided that a job had to be found for the ex-King Edward VIII. and his wife, the American, Wallis Simpson. He was appointed Governor of The Bahamas, one of the smallest and least important possessions of the British Empire, far away from the scene of battle. Away from their sybaritic living in the south of France, the couple struggled unhappily with the very different lifestyle of minor colonial life. This story is of their successes and their failures during their last official service to The British--and of the only Royal Governor to have served in British colonial history. Owen Platt's recounting of their escapades in wartime Bahamas is a fascinating insight into a little known aspect of British history.

Diana Mosley is the last intimate friend of the Duchess of Windsor still alive. In this revised and updated biography, she addresses the latest allegations of secret service reports about the Windsors' conduct during the war and the abdication. A new chapter has been added.

The author has had a fascination with the story of the Duchess of Windsor since he was a young man. This book brings a fresh perspective on the story by focussing on the later years of exile: the criminal exploitation of an old sick woman after the death of her

husband. She was ruthlessly exploited by a French lawyer called Suzanne Blum. Some members of the Royal Family, like Mountbatten and the Queen Mother, don't emerge with much credit, either. Using previously unpublished papers and other personal testaments, Hugo Vickers relates a tragic story which has lost none of its resonance over the years since the Duchess died in 1986.

In December 1936, Britain faced a constitutional crisis that was the gravest threat to the institution of the monarchy since the execution of Charles I. The ruling monarch, Edward VIII, wished to marry the American divorcée Wallis Simpson and crown her as his Queen. His actions scandalised the Establishment, who were desperate to avoid an international embarrassment at a time when war seemed imminent. An influential coalition formed against him, including the Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin, his private secretary Alec Hardinge, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the editor of The Times. Edward seemed fated to give up Wallis and remain a reluctant ruler, or to abdicate his throne. Yet he had his own supporters, too, including Winston Churchill, the Machiavellian newspaper proprietor Lord Beaverbrook and his brilliant adviser Walter Monckton. They offered him the chance to remain on the throne and keep Wallis. But was the price they asked too high? Using previously unpublished and rare archival material, and new interviews with those who knew Edward and Wallis, **THE CROWN IN CRISIS** is the conclusive exploration of how an unthinkable and unprecedented event tore the country apart. This seismic event has been written about before but never with the ticking-clock suspense and pace of the thriller that it undoubtedly was for all of its participants. Painstakingly researched, incisively written and entirely fresh in its approach, **THE CROWN IN CRISIS** brings the events of that time to thrilling life, and in the process will appeal to an entirely new audience.

Wallis in Love The untold true passion of the Duchess of Windsor Michael O'Mara Books
An intimate biography examines the character of the enigmatic woman who was the object of such unsurpassed devotion from the Duke of Windsor that he renounced his family and country in order to stay with her

'Draws startling parallels with Meghan ... Both were 34 when they met their princes, both are adored children of strong, single mothers, both have a pared-down style and an electric presence and both are evidently worshipped by their Royal partners.' S Magazine

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