

Feuding Windsor brothers and their wives—some things, it seems, never change. *The Windsor Affair* re-creates the cataclysmic events that nearly toppled the British monarchy. Told from the perspectives of both Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, queen to George VI, and Wallis Simpson, the American divorcée who married Edward VIII, the novel propels readers into the fabulous 1930s world of the debonair Prince of Wales, café society, and the glittering private lives of the Windsors. The first novel to be dedicated to this infamous rivalry, *The Windsor Affair* brings us all the gossip and intrigue between two very different—yet perhaps more similar than they would admit—wives of royals.

As queen, Elizabeth will become a symbol of British pluck and courage during World War II and remain a British institution—the beloved “Queen Mum”—the rest of her long life. Wallis will be forever forced to enact the “Greatest Love Story Ever Told” even after it sours, as she goes from being admired to vilified and ultimately pitied. Against the backdrop of the abdication crisis, the Blitz, coronations, funerals, births, and deaths, these two women maintain a biting, sharp-tongued feud—until age and the long arc of history bring about a kind of understanding. For the last communication between these bitter rivals was a simple, surprising message: “In friendship, Elizabeth.”

MELANIE BENJAMIN is a prize-winning novelist and *New York Times* bestselling author of *California Golden*, *The Children’s Blizzard*, *Mistress of the Ritz*, *The Girls in the Picture*, *The Swans of Fifth Avenue*, *The Aviator’s Wife*, *The Autobiography of Mrs. Tom Thumb*, and *Alice I Have Been*.

READ BY CLARE CORBETT



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The Windsor Affair

MELANIE BENJAMIN

Adult



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