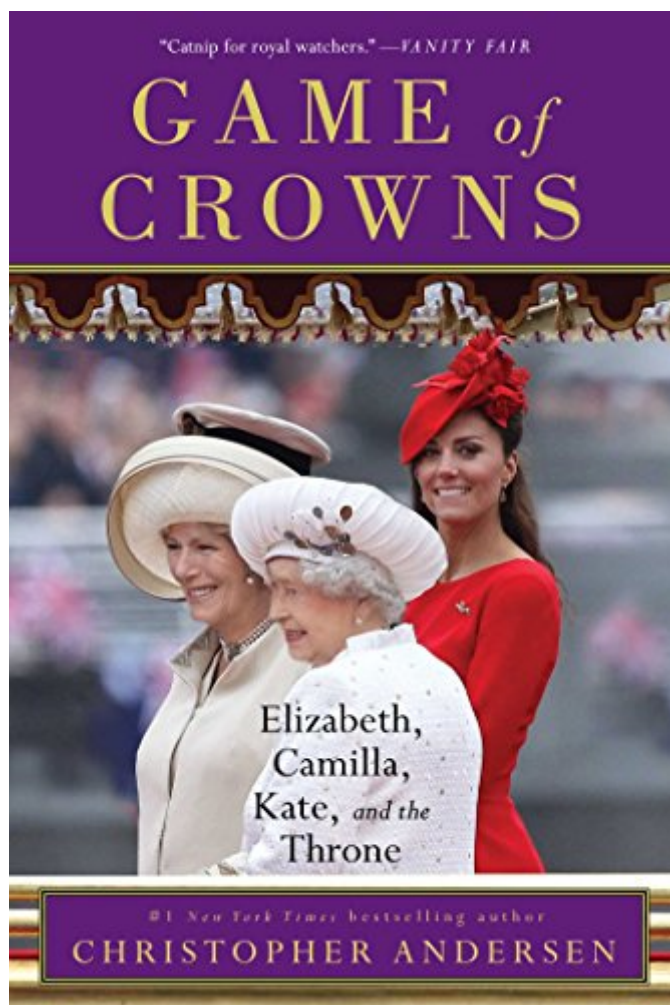


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Game Of Crowns: Elizabeth, Camilla, Kate, And The Throne



Synopsis

A moving and compulsively readable look into the lives, loves, relationships, and rivalries among the three women at the heart of the British royal family today: Queen Elizabeth II, Camilla Parker-Bowles, and Kate Middleton—”from the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Good Son*, *These Few Precious Days*, and *The Day Diana Died*. One has been famous longer than anyone on the planet—a dutiful daughter, a frustrated mother, a doting grandmother, a steel-willed taskmaster, a wily stateswoman, an enduring symbol of an institution that has lasted a thousand years, and a global icon who has not only been an eyewitness to history but a part of it. One is the great-granddaughter of a King—”s mistress and one of the most famous —other women— • of the modern age—a woman who somehow survived a firestorm of scorn to ultimately marry the love of her life, and in the process replace her arch rival, one of the most beloved figures of the twentieth century. One is a beautiful commoner, the university-educated daughter of a flight attendant-turned-millionaire entrepreneur, a fashion scion the equal of her adored mother-in-law, and the first woman since King George V—”s wife, Queen Mary, to lay claim to being the daughter-in-law of one future king, the wife another, and the mother of yet another. *Game of Crowns* is an in-depth and exquisitely researched exploration of the lives of these three remarkable women and the striking and sometimes subtle ways in which their lives intersect and intertwine. Examining their surprising similarities and stark differences, Andersen travels beyond the royal palace walls to illustrate who these three women really are today—and how they will directly reshape the landscape of the monarchy.

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Customer Reviews

Odd book. Jumps back and forth from past to present day, then back to past again. A lot of well known gossip rehashed. I purchased book used for 99 cents, so am not complaining, but I certainly wouldn't pay full price for it. There's better books out there.

Kind of a rehash on what has already been written about Princess Diana's life with the Royal Family. A few new tidbits about Camilla PB. Was not too sure of the information about Kate's mother pushing her towards Prince William. He has certainly gained a better prospective of upper middle class English subjects by being with her family. I am sure it is a delightful break from all the palace drama surrounding his mother, father and step mother. Catherine and William seem to be truly happy with each other. I hope it stays that way forever and that she can survive in the limelight of being Royal.

Everyone thinks it is easy to be a member of royalty, with castles and servants, but actually I feel sorry they have to follow so many rules and traditions. Perhaps the younger royal family members will change things up.

Very enjoyable. Some info old but lots new.

Although the book has a gossipy flavor, my hunch is that every bit is true - e.g. the very STRONG denial of the truth value by Kensington Palace. Actually, he's done his research, and he's read just about every other book written on the royal family. The sad part, to me, is Camilla Parker-Bowles desire to be like her great great grandmother. Also her belief in the British upper class show very little knowledge and wisdom, and none of them really seem to understand that the monarchy is tenuous at best. Charles has a somewhat better understanding - he just wouldn't quite know what to

do if the monarchy were to cease to exist.

Very. Interesting found new info about the monarchy. Still not sure I like Prince Charles. I do believe he reminds me of Peter O'Toole as a caricature rather than a monarch in waiting. Camilla still seems rather a climber. But it made me respect Catherine more.

Actually I meant to give it only 2 stars. Mostly a rehash of other books with little new information in it except for the Camilla part and even that contained little that we didn't know. Lots of info on all the affairs by various royals. Now we know there is nothing special about them!

The prologue of the book and opening chapter highlight a theoretical battle between William and Kate versus that of Charles and Camilla for the admiration of the people. It is hinted at that Queen Elizabeth may abdicate at some point, but only on the condition that Charles agrees to an abdication himself in 15 years. Although all speculation, the reader is immediately reminded that even a 15-year reign by Charles would place him in his 80s. If you're looking for a narrative that is a bit scandalous and informal, then yes, this is for you. There's nothing wrong with that, sometimes that's the joy of reading. There's even casual details regarding the sexual proclivities of some of the royal family, and how Prince Philip was a charmer at a young age, often reprimanded for the flashlight he kept in his pocket that poked people. However, if you're someone who is looking for a traditional, authentic, well referenced, perhaps family interviews, biographical account, no, this isn't for you. This seems odd, but I feel like the first chapter, where the death of the queen is discussed has been released to the public before, it outlines what the world would look like the day that Queen Elizabeth has died; I don't read a lot of the gossip sites, but I know that I've read this one selection before. In particular, British newscasters keep dark suits in reserve in case the Queen does die and it talks about whether or not the crown will continue in England when the less Popular-Charles gets it. Anyway, to the narrative of the book. It is told in a casual manner of fact method, and well, if you're looking for something that maybe a bit gossipier and sensationalist, then this maybe the right book. There are singular direct quotes throughout, which I am assuming are from interviews, sometimes they are referenced, but these are used to phrase a much broader interpretation of a situation and if viewed with a more scrupulous eye, could actually be a bit out of context, such as Charles making the comment, "At least, he later observed, she was there for me" which is in reference to his Spanish

nanny, but couched in how distant and unavailable his mother was from him. The book is filled with what are perceived to be more intimate details of the lives of all the royal family, including a number of allusions to rumors that have persisted, one such being the Prince of Wales and a relationship with Barbra Streisand. Details like these continue for all royal family members, there are some elements that are re-capped from other tabloids from over the years. However, this book does the job of piecing them all together in a rather coherent story that reads quickly and certainly entertains. Although the title alludes to jockeying between the women for the crown, it is less about that and appears to give fairly equal lip service to the women and elements of what they have endured based on the characteristics and behaviors of their parents and partners. I gave it four stars, mainly because it's such a guilty pleasure, but it also does not really give me anything too terribly new, and I'm not even one who constantly follows the tabloids on the royal family, but I've encountered some of this information before.

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