

### **Lady Catherine, the Earl, and the Real Downton Abbey by Fiona Carnarvon**

Using copious materials--including diaries and scrapbooks--from the castle's archives, the current Countess of Carnarvon tells the story of Catherine Wendell, the beautiful and spirited American woman who married Lady Almina's son, the man who would become the 6th Earl of Carnarvon, while paying particular attention to the staff who offer the Castle continuity between generations.

### **The Titled Americans : three American sisters and the British aristocratic world into which they married by Elisabeth Kehoe**

A sweeping, three-generational saga of the remarkable Jerome sisters – among the most glamorous women of their time – whose well-chosen marriages to British aristocracy represented the first of such transatlantic unions.

### **To Marry an English Lord by Gail MacColl**

From the Gilded Age until 1914, more than 100 American heiresses invaded Britannia and swapped dollars for titles--just like Cora Crawley, Countess of Grantham. This volume is filled with vivid personalities, gossipy anecdotes, grand houses, and a wealth of period details.

### **Below Stairs : the classic kitchen maid's memoir that inspired "Upstairs, downstairs" and "Downton Abbey" by Margaret Powell**

Margaret Powell's classic memoir of her time in service, *Below Stairs*, is the remarkable true story of an indomitable woman who, though she served in the great houses of England, never stopped aiming high.

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# For Fans of... Downton Abbey

Transport yourself to the world of fancy gatherings and family manors.



## **Fiction Books**

### **The Children's Book by A.S. Byatt**

A tale spanning the end of the Victorian era through World War I finds famous children's book author Olive Wellwood taking in a runaway and exposing the boy to dark truths about her family's summer bacchanals at their rambling country house.

### **Snobs by Julian Fellowes**

Preparing to marry heir Charles Broughton, attractive accountant's daughter Edith Lavery makes humorous and astute observations about contemporary England's class system.

### **Fall of Giants by Ken Follett**

Follows the fates of five interrelated families – American, German, Russian, English, and Welsh – as they move through the dramas of the First World War, the Russian Revolution, and the struggle for women's suffrage.

### **Howards End by E.M. Forster**

A dying woman's bequest, a girl's attempt to help an impoverished clerk, and the marriage of an idealist and a materialist — all intersect at an estate called Howards End. The fate of this country home symbolizes the future of England in an exploration of social, economic, and philosophical trends during the post-Victorian era.

### **The Forsyte Saga by John Galsworthy**

The saga begins with Soames Forsyte, a successful solicitor who buys land at Robin Hill on which to build a house for his wife Irene and future family. Eventually, the Forsyte family begins to disintegrate when Timothy Forsyte, the last of the old generation, dies at the age of 100.

### **Cranford by Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell**

A comic portrait of early Victorian life in a

country town which describes with poignant wit the uneventful lives of its lady-like inhabitants, offering an ironic commentary on the separate spheres and diverse experiences of men and women.

### **The American Heiress by Daisy Goodwin**

Like Cora, the Countess of Grantham, The American Heiress' heroine is a wealthy American that marries a Duke in need of money. Of course, she soon discovers being a Duchess might not be all she wanted or needed.

### **Flirting with Destiny by Sara Hylton**

Summer, 1914. As the storm clouds of war gather over Europe, four privileged young women prepare to leave school and embark on adult life. But for Louise, Imogen, Cora and Miranda, the outbreak of war will change everything.

### **A Countess Below Stairs by Eva Ibbotson**

The story of Anna, a young Russian countess, who has no choice but to flee to England. Penniless, Anna hides her aristocratic background and takes a job as servant in the household of the esteemed Westerholme family.

### **The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro**

At the end of his three decades of service at Darlington Hall, Stevens, a loyal butler, embarks on a country drive, during which he looks back over his career to reassure himself that he has served humanity by serving “a great gentleman.” A compelling portrait of the perfect English butler and of his fading, insular world postwar England.

### **Love in a Cold Climate by Nancy Mitford**

The classic comedy of upper crust English manners and mores on the subject of love between the Wars.

### **The House at Riverton by Kate Morton**

Perfect for fans of Downton Abbey, this is the post-war story of an English aristocratic family, a house, a mysterious death and a way of life that vanished forever, told in flashback by a woman who witnessed it all and kept a secret for decades.

### **The House at Tyneford by Natasha Solomon**

It's the spring of 1938 and no longer safe to be a Jew in Vienna. Nineteen-year-old Elise Landau realizes her only means of escape is to advertise her services as a domestic servant in England. Fate brings her ad to the attention of Christopher Rivers, handsome scion of the aristocratic Rivers family and master of Tyneford, a grand estate where she soon travels for employment.

### **A Bitter Truth by Charles Todd**

A battlefield nurse during World War I, Bess Crawford, returning to London for a well-earned Christmas leave, finds her holiday fraught with mystery and murder when she agrees to help a bruised and battered woman return to her small village in Sussex.

### **Habits of the House by Fay Weldon**

The award-winning writer for Upstairs Downstairs presents a first entry in a new trilogy about the shared lives of masters and servants at the turn of the 20th century, tracing the family life of Cabinet hopeful Lord Robert, who hopes to alleviate financial woes by marrying his son to a disgraced Chicago heiress.

## **Non-Fiction Books**

### **To End All Wars: a story of loyalty and rebellion, 1914-1918 by Adam Hochschild**

An in-depth look at the political mood in Britain as the war broke out—particularly the pacifist movement. Portraits of aristocrats at war should also appeal to the “Downton” devotee.