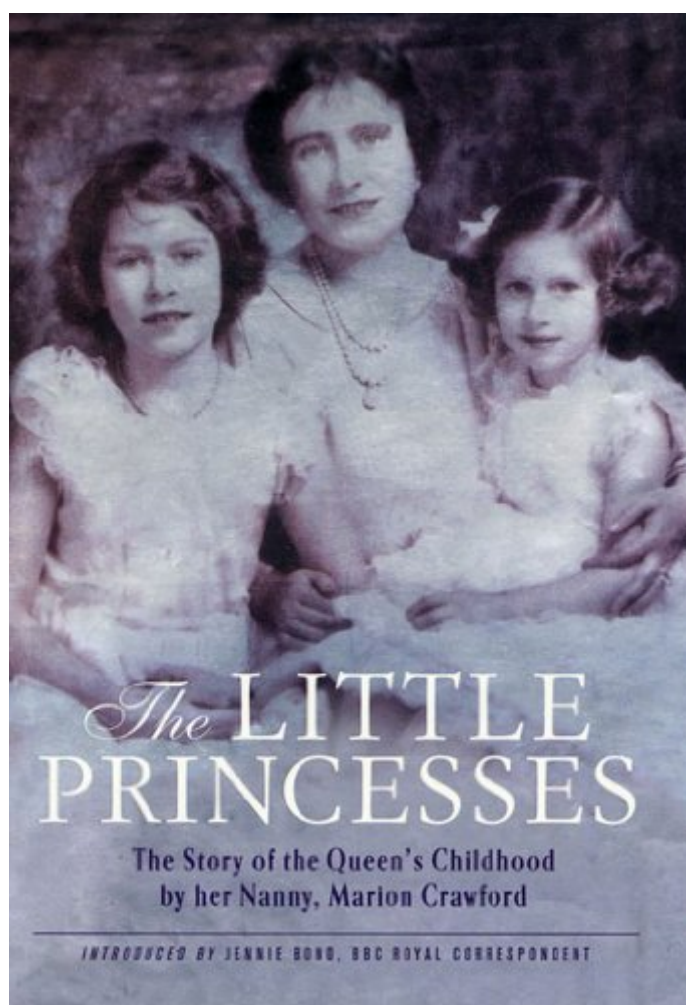


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The Little Princesses: The Story Of The Queen's Childhood By Her Nanny, Marion Crawford



Synopsis

Once upon a time, in 1930s England, there were two little princesses named Elizabeth and Margaret Rose. Their father was the Duke of York, the second son of King George V, and their Uncle David was the future King of England. We all know how the fairy tale ended: When King George died, "Uncle David" became King Edward VIII---who abdicated less than a year later to marry the scandalous Wallis Simpson. Suddenly the little princesses' father was King. The family moved to Buckingham Palace, and ten-year-old Princess Elizabeth became the heir to the crown she would ultimately wear for over fifty years. *The Little Princesses* shows us how it all began. In the early thirties, the Duke and Duchess of York were looking for someone to educate their daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret, then five- and two-years-old. They already had a nanny---a family retainer who had looked after their mother when she was a child---but it was time to add someone younger and livelier to the household. Enter Marion Crawford, a twenty-four-year-old from Scotland who was promptly dubbed "Crawfie" by the young Elizabeth and who would stay with the family for sixteen years. Beginning at the quiet family home in Piccadilly and ending with the birth of Prince Charles at Buckingham Palace in 1948, Crawfie tells how she brought the princesses up to be "Royal," while attempting to show them a bit of the ordinary world of underground trains, Girl Guides, and swimming lessons. *The Little Princesses* was first published in 1950 to a furor we cannot imagine today. It has been called the original "nanny diaries" because it was the first account of life with the Royals ever published. Although hers was a touching account of the childhood of the Queen and Princess Margaret, Crawfie was demonized by the press. The Queen Mother, who had been a great friend and who had, Crawfie maintained, given her permission to write the account, never spoke to her again. Reading *The Little Princesses* now, with a poignant new introduction by BBC royal correspondent Jennie Bond, offers fascinating insights into the changing lives and times of Britain's royal family.

Book Information

File Size: 662 KB

Print Length: 288 pages

Publisher: St. Martin's Press (April 10, 2003)

Publication Date: April 10, 2003

Language: English

ASIN: B00A3PJ9RW

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #62,575 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #68 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Royalty #144 in Kindle Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Royalty #12409 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction

Customer Reviews

This book should have been scandalous, given the objection of the royal family at the time Marion Crawford wrote it. All the portrayals are flattering; in fact, I am sure that she wrote more positive accounts than were really true. If the royals today had such a book written about them, they would hail the writer and invite him/her to tea at Buckingham to thank them for the respect that Marion Crawford originally afforded them. The book has now given me a new perspective on the royals at the time, and I feel they way over-reacted to a flattering and unobtrusive book about two little girls growing up royal. There is nothing scurrilous here!

This well written book shows us inside the royal family in ways we are rarely shown.

I enjoyed this book. It was actually written in the '50's by the princesses' nanny. It was light reading and interesting.

The Little Princesses is , simply the best book ever written about the Queen of England's childhood and early adult life. No other written piece delivers more eye witness first-hand detail about the private life of the Royal Family. Though written in 1950, it stands alone in the details of behind the scenes family life !!!

This was wonderful, loving and respectful first hand knowledged biography of the growing up period of Princess Elizabeth and her sister Princess Margaret by their Governess of 16 years.

Knowledgeable and lovingly written, it's the best most honest look into growing up Royal., that I've ever read. A must read for anyone who would be interested in an honest biography, with no false gossip or innuendo. Sheer joy!

I read about this book awhile ago, but the only copies were extremely high in price. Recently, I checked again and there was some prices I could afford. This book has captured my attention even before I had a copy. The story of Princess Elizabeth's and Princess Margaret's early childhood, and on up to Princess Elizabeth's marriage is fascinating to read about. 'Crawfie,' the author was ostracised for writing this book, but I think it did the monarchy a world of good. The average person can see what sweet, little, normal girl's the princesses were, and how Elizabeth was such a good candidate for Queen. I highly recommend this book to anyone, not just those interested in the British Monarchy.

Loved it. But then I loved it when I read it years ago, only then it had pictures and I miss them. Now "Crawfie" would have had to sign a confidentiality agreement when she was hired, although there is nothing in there that would have spoken ill of any of the Yorks. (not Andrew and his girls, but the Queen as a child.)

good information about the Royals

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