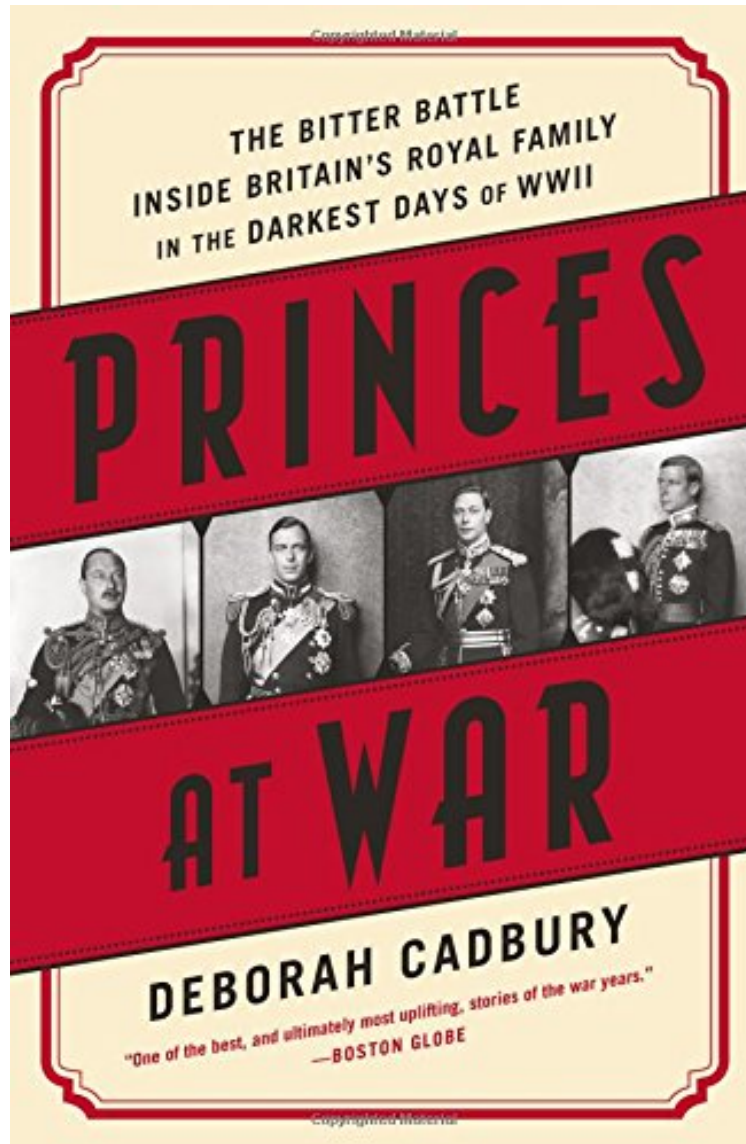


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Princes at War: The Bitter Battle Inside Britain's Royal Family in the Darkest Days of WWII

Deborah Cadbury

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Deborah Cadbury : Princes at War: The Bitter Battle Inside Britain's Royal Family in the Darkest Days of WWII before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Princes at War: The Bitter Battle Inside Britain's Royal Family in the Darkest Days of WWII:

48 of 48 people found the following review helpful. TerrificBy Sarah RThis was a great read. I've read a number of

books about the time period and the Princes and yet this book contained new information for me. I especially enjoyed the way the author presented the information about all four brothers concurrently, along with information on what was occurring politically in Great Britain, Europe and the US as well as the progress of the war. The book is well researched and well written. When the author presents a thesis (regarding the Duke of Kent's death, for example) she presents her reasoning logically and clearly. I definitely recommend this book for anyone interested in the time period or the subjects. 68 of 68 people found the following review helpful. Well-researched, well-written account of the four royal brothers at a critical period in history By Anthony Golding This is a well-researched, well-written book on the four royal brothers from the time of the abdication crisis until the death of George VI in 1952. The focus is on the Duke of Windsor and the King but it also devotes considerable attention to the two younger brothers whose stories are less well known. The perennial questions surrounding the actions and motives of the Duke and, even more so, the Duchess of Windsor are given as full an airing as possible using all available sources but remain essentially unresolved. The author successfully brings the momentous events of the period alive as we experience the highs and lows through the eyes of the central participants. All in all, this is an informative and fascinating read for anyone who wants to deepen their understanding of the critical events of the late 1930s and the Second World War. 51 of 51 people found the following review helpful. A well told story By Texas girl We have all heard the story of the king who abdicated his throne for the "woman he loved", but the story of his brother, shy and supposedly ill suited to be king, is a splendid one told in a very personal way in this book. The struggle to become the king that his country needed during WWII, to overcome his own doubts arising from lack of preparation and to lead his country to victory are a rousing tale which finally gives voice to a great king. As George rises, David declines, revealing a pathetic, grasping little man who selfishly tortured his brother with insensitive demands, even on D Day. As they say, character is fate, and each brother's character is now written for posterity. And of course, it is forever obvious that lend lease was not the best gift America gave to Britain. Our best gift was Wallis Simpson, who ensured that Britain was spared a stupid, shallow misguided man as king, who would have betrayed his country for personal gain. Long live King George!

In 1936, the British monarchy faced the greatest threats to its survival in the modern era—the crisis of abdication and the menace of Nazism. The fate of the country rested in the hands of George V's sorely unequipped sons: • a stammering King George VI, terrified that the world might discover he was unfit to rule • a dull-witted Prince Henry, who wanted only a quiet life in the army • the too-glamorous Prince George, the Duke of Kent—a reformed hedonist who found new purpose in the RAF and would become the first royal to die in a mysterious plane crash • the Duke of Windsor, formerly King Edward VIII, deemed a Nazi-sympathizer and traitor to his own country—a man who had given it all up for love Princes at War is a riveting portrait of these four very different men miscast by fate, one of whom had to save the monarchy at a moment when kings and princes from across Europe were washing up on England's shores as the old order was overturned. Scandal and conspiracy swirled around the palace and its courtiers, among them dangerous cousins from across Europe's royal families, gold-digging American socialite Wallis Simpson, and the King's Lord Steward, upon whose estate Hitler's deputy Rudolf Hess parachuted (seemingly by coincidence) as London burned under the Luftwaffe's tireless raids. Deborah Cadbury draws on new research, personal accounts from the royal archives, and other never-before-revealed sources to create a dazzling sequel to *The King's Speech* and tell the true and thrilling drama of Great Britain at war and of a staggering transformation for its monarchy.

"[Deborah's] nuanced exploration of the king's reticent temperament and the psychic toll taken by his many troubles creates a fuller picture of the man, who was destined to lead during a 'spectacular downfall' in British power." --- Publishers Weekly Starred About the Author Deborah Cadbury is the author of seven acclaimed books including *Seven Wonders of the Industrial World*, for which the accompanying series received a BAFTA nomination for Best Series; *The Feminization of Nature*; *The Dinosaur Hunters*; *The Lost King of France*; *Space Race*; and *Chocolate Wars*. Before turning to writing full time, she worked for thirty years as a BBC TV producer and executive producer and has won numerous international awards, including an Emmy Award. She lives in London.