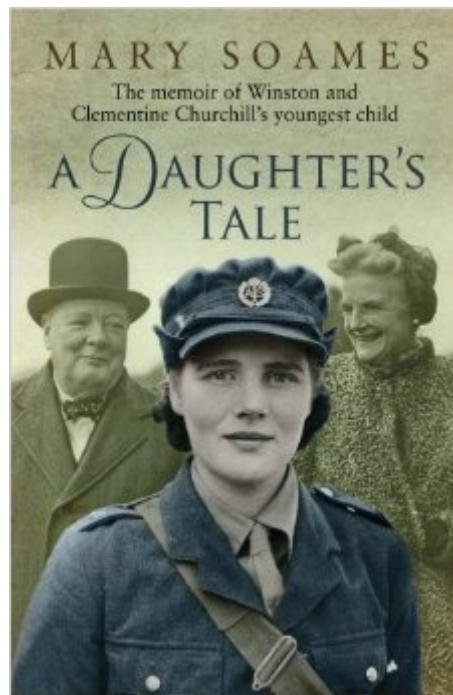


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Daughter's Tale: The Memoir Of Winston And Clementine Churchill's Youngest Child



Synopsis

Now in her eighty-ninth year, Mary Soames is the only surviving child of Winston and Clementine Churchill. Younger than her siblings by several years, she went to day school and enjoyed an idyllic childhood played out in her very own 'Garden of Eden' - Chartwell. Here she roamed house and grounds, tended diligently to her collection of pets, and had her first glimpses of the glittering social world in which her parents moved. Then, in 1939, Chamberlain's declaration of war dramatically ended this world as she and her family had known it. Hereafter we follow Mary's life through her fascinating personal diary, published here for the first time. Through the immediacy of her private observations we are drawn into a world where the ordinary minutiae of a packed family, social and romantic life proceed against a background of cataclysmic events. Joining the ATS and serving in mixed anti-aircraft batteries, Mary takes on her own set of professional demands while sharing the many anxieties and stresses brought to bear upon her family through her father's position. The mutual love and affection between Mary and her parents is evident on every page, from her earliest years at Chartwell to Winston's defeat at the 1945 general election, when Mary recounts her own pain and devastation on her father's behalf. At this point she meets her future husband, Christopher Soames. We are left in no doubt at the end of this charming and revealing memoir that, at twenty-four, Mary has lived a full life and is well prepared for her future as young wife and mother.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I thoroughly enjoyed Churchill's youngest daughter's memoir, as I was able to gain insight into the

life and memories of his youngest daughter. As I was born after WWII, it was interesting to follow the events as experienced by Mary and to share the emotions of the Churchill family in relation to family issues and the war. There is no doubt that this was a devoted family and their love for each other is expressed strongly in the many letters they exchanged. I recommend this book.

Mary Churchill Soams the daughter of Winston is beautiful, very bright, and led an incredibly interesting life, as she was an almost constant companion of her father when he was making diplomatic contacts which included FDR, Stalin, and others. Very interesting.

I am enjoying this autobiography by Mary Churchill-Soames. It is interesting to engage in upper British norms at the time and to contrast with today's American societal attitudes. It is interesting observing the family dynamics and the type of person and father Winston Churchill was.

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