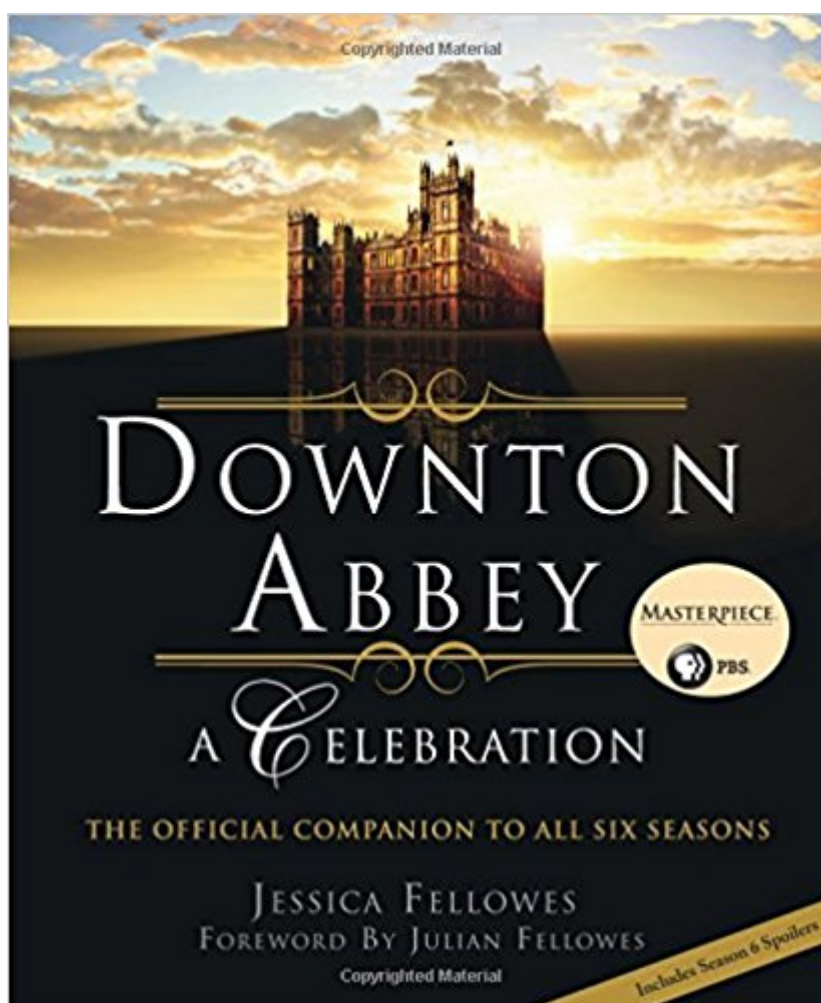


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Downton Abbey: A Celebration - The Official Companion To All Six Seasons



Synopsis

"Downton Abbey set a new standard, and it's probable that in 20 or 50 years critics will look back and say that this was period drama at its very best, often imitated but never bettered." *—The Daily Mail* Since the moment we first entered Downton Abbey in 1912, we have been swept away by Julian Fellowes's evocative world of romance, intrigue, drama and tradition. Now, in 1925, as Downton Abbey prepares to close its doors for the final time, Jessica Fellowes leads us through the house and estate, reliving the iconic moments of the wonderfully aristocratic Crawley family and their servants as they navigate the emerging modern age. Travelling from Great Hall to servants' hall, bedroom to boot room, we glimpse as we go Matthew and Isobel Crawley arriving for the first time, the death of Kemal Pamuk, Cora's tragic miscarriage, Edith's affair with Michael Gregson, Mary's new haircut, Thomas and Olivia's scheming, Anna and Bates's troubles with the law, and Carson's marriage to Mrs Hughes. Alongside are in-depth interviews with the cast, who have worked on the show for six years and know it so well, as well as a complete episode guide for the first five seasons and a teaser for the sixth. Packed full of stunning location shots and stills from all six seasons of the show including exclusive behind-the-scenes photography, this celebratory book is the ultimate gift for Downton Abbey fans the world over.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"It's a posh soap opera but it's a pretty bloody splendid posh soap opera. . . . Television will be a dowdier place without it." *—The Guardian* "What is a Sunday night without the Crawley family? Golly gumdrops, Downton, we're going to miss you." *—Allison Pearson* "Devotees

dreading saying goodbye...can linger over this deep bow to Lady Mary, Lord Grantham, the Dowager Violet, Bates, Anna, Daisy. . . sob!"

— USA Today on Downton Abbey - A Celebration

— "Downton Abbey is a cultural phenomenon, [with] many and varied famous fans."

— The Daily Beast

— "This series has a connoisseur's eye for the most exquisite emblems of privilege and breeding and a fan's gusto for intrigue and melodrama."

— The New York Times

JESSICA FELLOWES is an author, journalist, and public speaker. Formerly a celebrity interviewer at the Mail on Sunday and deputy editor of Country Life magazine, she has written seven books as well as touring with her lectures on Downton Abbey from Cheltenham to California. She lives in Oxfordshire and London with her family. JULIAN FELLOWES is the writer and creator of the Emmy and Golden Globe Award-winning TV series Downton Abbey. He is also the Academy Award-winning screenwriter of Gosford Park and the author of the New York Times bestselling novel Snobs.

**** Quick Note to Start:** this book contains content from all six seasons of the show -- be advised that details of character and plot from the final season (not yet aired in the US at the time of this review) are discussed at various points in the book. So I'd recommend reading this only after you've seen season six (unless you don't mind having it spoiled; everyone has their own sensitivity to this sort of thing).

*****"Downton Abbey - A Celebration"** is going to be a must-own for fans of the series. The book celebrates the show through exploration of story, character, and setting. The book essentially jumps from location to location, with relevant character profiles sparsely throughout. For example, the pages about The Kitchen are accompanied by the profiles of Daisy and Mrs. Patmore; while after the pages on the Dower House you would of course find the profile of Violet. I really like how the content was assembled - it's an unconventional layout but one that is very intuitive. I should also mention that in addition to the great writing by Jessica Fellowes, the book includes hundreds of pictures. In fact, you can consider this book a visual companion to the series. At the very end of the book is an episode guide that briefly recaps every episode of the show. This is a welcome addition for someone looking to get a quick reminder of past events or wanting to identify a particular episode. Again, this includes all six seasons, so be careful reading until you've completed the series. One thing to note: If you are more interested in a making-of book that goes behind the scenes of the TV production process, your best bet is this one: *Behind the Scenes at Downton Abbey*

.ÃfÂçÃ â -Ã Â|be forewarned that the cover note "Includes Season 6 Spoilers" is accurate. From small details in the text and some of the, as always, beautiful photography to a near complete (except for the series finale, which hasn't been shown in the UK yet) season by season and episode by episode summary of the series- little details are sprinkled throughout. You don't get much, it won't spoil things for most fans or other readers. The book is bigger than the others in the series but not excessively so. I found the text very interesting, sometimes giving little details most people wouldn't know such as behind the scenes notes and film locations (including the Buckingham Palace interiors from season 4), well worth reading. The cast/character profile bits were good too. Good book, good series, both worth owning!

Another beautiful Downton Abbey book. I have 4 others by Julian Fellowes/Jessica Fellowes and many of the pictures in this latest book are from the older books. May be a waste of money, but when it comes to anything Downton, you can never have too many authentically written by the Fellowes team.

As others have noticed - this goes into season six. Beware. Calling this book a "celebration" is quite apt. Or maybe an understatement. "Paean" might be better. It's a lavish book, well suited for fans of the show. And while it may be tempting to leave this on a coffee table, please resist the urge. There is a lot of good stuff in this book, from photos to background information on our favorite Brits. It's a substantial book, and while it's tempting to detail the content for you...it would also be to do a disservice. Simply put, if you are a fan of the show, you won't be disappointed with this book. It's fantastic.

This book is outstanding - whoever did the photographs should receive an award. I LOVE it - the colored photos (and there are a LOT) are beautiful and you showcased each member of the Upstairs and Downstairs staff. This is handsome book and will remain on my table forever. It's like having the entire cast in your house - don't hesitate to get this book - it is a FOREVER book. I love it and thank you for carrying this spectacular masterpiece.

Return to Downton Abbey is this splendid celebration of the great series. The author is Jessica Fellowes the niece of Julian Fellowes the splendid chap who wrote the six seasons. If you think this is just a coffee table book filled with pretty pictures you are wrong! Instead, this book:a. Has several

pages devoted to each of the major characters including Robert, Cora, Mary, Edith, Sybil, Mr. Carson, the Bates, Mrs Crawley and the splendid Violet.b. Beautiful pictures of each of the stars and the setting of Highclere Castle where the series was filmed. The pictures are accompanied by an indepth analysis of each of the characters.c. Great information of how life was lived in the country homes of the landed rich from 1912-25.d. A summary of each of the episodes in the long running show. This beautiful book is a joy to read your or present as a gift a fan of the series. We will all miss tuning in to Downton Abbey on Sunday nights but this book will keep its memory and the joy it has provided to millions of fans in our hearts and minds forever!

I've only had the book a few hours but that was long enough to know what a treasure it is. Buy it whether or not you have the three that preceded it. The book is a masterpiece of beautiful photos and excellent well written narrative. Hats off to everyone that put this wonderful book together. In addition the modest price that charges is unbelievable. You'll more than likely pay the cover price if you purchase it at your local bookstore.

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