



# Mistresses: A History of the Other Woman

*By Elizabeth Abbott*

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## Mistresses: A History of the Other Woman By Elizabeth Abbott

She has been known as the 'kept woman', the 'fancy woman' and the 'other woman'. She exists as both a fictional character and flesh-and-blood human being. But who is she, really? What do Madame de Pompadour, Heloise, Marilyn Monroe, Jane Eyre and Camilla Parker-Bowles have in common? Why do women become mistresses, and what is it like to have a private life that is usually also a secret life? Is a mistress merely a wife-in-waiting, or is she the very definition of the emancipated, independent female? In *Mistresses* Elizabeth Abbott intelligently examines the motives of some of history's most infamous and fascinating women. Drawing intimate portraits of those who have - either by chance, coercion or choice - assumed this complex role, from Chinese concubines and European royal mistresses to mobster molls and trophy dolls, *Mistresses* offers a rich blend of history, personal biography and cultural insight.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

'a fascinating account of the other woman through history, more sobering than titillating.' Sunday Times 'It is not just mistresses, it seems, who need to wake up to the new millennium; one of the surprises of this engrossing book is how mired in myth and fantasy it reveals our attitude to mistresses as being.' Sunday Telegraph

### **About the Author**

Elizabeth Abbott is Research Associate at the Trinity College, University of Toronto and, from 1991 to 2004, was Dean of Women. She is author of several books, including *Sugar: A Bittersweet History* and *Haiti: A Modern History*, also published by Duckworth, and *A History of Marriage*. She lives in Toronto.

## **Users Review**

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This *Mistresses: A History of the Other Woman* book is not really ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you have by reading this book is information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This kind of *Mistresses: A History of the Other Woman* without we comprehend teach the one who studying it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't be worry *Mistresses: A History of the Other Woman* can bring if you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it within your lovely laptop even cellphone. This *Mistresses: A History of the Other Woman* having very good arrangement in word and also layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

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