

The Match of the Century: Marrying the Duke



The Royal Family

The British monarchy has a long and storied history, dating back to the Norman Conquest in 1066. The current reigning monarch is Queen Elizabeth II, who ascended to the throne in 1952. Her son, Prince Charles, is the heir apparent and is expected to succeed her as king.



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by Cathy Maxwell

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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The Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip, was born in Corfu, Greece, in 1921. He was a member of the Greek and Danish royal families and served in the Royal Navy during World War II. He married Princess Elizabeth in 1947, and they had four children together: Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew, and Prince Edward.

Prince Albert was born in Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Germany, in 1819. He was the second son of Ernest I, Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and Louise of Saxe-Gotha-Altenburg. He was educated at the University of Bonn and served in the Prussian Army.

Queen Victoria was born in Kensington Palace, London, in 1819. She was the only child of Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, and Princess Victoria of

Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld. She ascended to the throne in 1837, at the age of 18.

The Wedding

The wedding of Prince Albert and Queen Victoria took place on February 10, 1840, at the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace, London. The ceremony was conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, William Howley. The bride wore a white satin gown designed by William Dyce and was attended by her sister, Princess Feodora of Leiningen, and her cousin, Princess Augusta of Cambridge.

The groom wore the uniform of a field marshal of the British Army and was attended by his brother, Prince Ernest of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and his cousin, Prince George of Cambridge.

The wedding was a lavish affair, attended by over 2,000 guests. The reception was held at Buckingham Palace, and the couple honeymooned at Windsor Castle.

The Marriage

The marriage of Prince Albert and Queen Victoria was a happy one. The couple had nine children together, and they were devoted to each other. Albert was a wise and trusted advisor to his wife, and he helped her to modernize the British monarchy.

Albert died in 1861, at the age of 42, from typhoid fever. Victoria was devastated by his death, and she wore black for the rest of her life. She died in 1901, at the age of 81.

The Legacy

The marriage of Prince Albert and Queen Victoria is considered to be one of the most successful royal marriages in history. The couple set a new standard for royal behavior, and they helped to modernize the British monarchy.

Albert's legacy is still felt today. He founded the Royal Albert Hall, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Royal College of Art. He also helped to establish the British Empire Exhibition of 1851, which was the forerunner of the Great Exhibition of 1851.

Victoria's legacy is also significant. She reigned for over 63 years, and she is the longest-reigning monarch in British history. She presided over a period of great social and economic change, and she helped to establish the United Kingdom as a global superpower.



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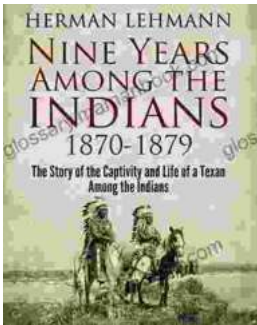
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