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# The Secret Wife: A Captivating Story Of Romance, Passion And Mystery



## Synopsis

**\*\* The USA Today Bestseller\*\*\*\*The number one Kindle bestseller\*\*** A cleverly crafted novel and an enthralling story. A triumph. **DINAH JEFFERIES** A Russian grand duchess and an English journalist. Linked by one of the world's greatest mysteries . . . Love. Guilt. Heartbreak. 1914 Russia is on the brink of collapse, and the Romanov family faces a terrifyingly uncertain future. Grand Duchess Tatiana has fallen in love with cavalry officer Dmitri, but events take a catastrophic turn, placing their romance and their lives in danger . . . 2016 Kitty Fisher escapes to her great-grandfather's remote cabin in America, after a devastating revelation makes her flee London. There, on the shores of Lake Akanabee, she discovers the spectacular jewelled pendant that will lead her to a long-buried family secret . . . Haunting, moving and beautifully written, *The Secret Wife* effortlessly crosses centuries, as past merges with present in an unforgettable story of love, loss and resilience. Perfect for fans of Kate Morton and Dinah Jefferies.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The story of the fate of the Russian royal family in the early 20th Century is well known, they were

butchered by the Bolsheviks after they were transported from pillar to post during World War I. Whilst war raged, Revolution at home was building. The conspiracy theory persisted that there were indeed survivors of the mass execution, people came forward who later in the 20th century claimed to be Tatiana or Anastasia or Olga – the Romanov children who had somehow survived the massacre. And it is with this tiny percentage of doubt about the fate of the children that Gill weaves a credible and gripping story. Gill was alerted to a snippet on TV about a mooted relationship between Tatiana, one of the daughters of Nicholas and Alexandra, Tsar and Tsarina of Russia, and a cavalry officer and this serves as the foundation for a gripping time slip story. The Romanovs were the glittering family who were at the height of power as World War I started. Their glamour and wealth were beyond comprehension, they were synonymous with sparkling jewels, opulence and of course Fabergé eggs. As the war took its toll, however, the disparity between their wealth and ruthless rule, and the poverty of the populace lay at the heart of the burgeoning revolution. Cavalry officer Dimitri Yakovlevich Malama and Grand Duchess Tatiana forge a close friendship after she nurses him in a makeshift war hospital. The world as they know it is unravelling around them. War takes him to several fronts, yet they maintain a close and chaste connection and on the eve of yet another departure, they marry in secret. This gives him the strength to withstand the terrors and onslaughts he is about to face at the front. But as the casualties rise, the revolution grows until finally the Romanov family is herded and all the members, it is reported, are summarily executed. Dimitri naturally becomes distraught and clings to any sign of life, and finally lands in Berlin after the war. There he meets Rosa, but is not really emotionally available to her as he is still in thrall to his Tatiana – and he struggles to extinguish the hope of ever finding his true love alive. Rosa is a tolerant soul and tolerates his ambivalent commitment to her. Forward to early 21st Century and his great granddaughter, grappling with her husband's infidelity, takes off for a shack set on fictional Lake Akanabee in a remote part of New York state, which was left to her in her great grandfather Dimitri's will. She knew nothing of his existence until she was alerted to her legacy. It is here that she spends a Summer of reflection and research that unravels a painful, yet interesting family history. This novel bowls along at a very good pace, it is well researched, and the author's passion for this period in history is palpable. You too will wonder at the fate of the Romanovs and whether indeed any members could have survived their experience and what their story might have been. This is an excellent novel to delve into this country's troubled past.

The best historical fiction I have ever had the pleasure of reading. Even with the author using literary licence to further the story, it is a seamless read. I could barely stop myself from reading through the night when my eyes were scratchy and tired. Loved the story, the history and this writer.

I read this book in a day. That being said, I did nothing but read. I just couldn't put it down. Thank you for writing this amazing book. Now I have to try to find something to read that will top that.

From the beginning, I could not put this story down. The author is an amazing writer and although she was basically telling two stories it was done flawlessly. I loved that she made it Tatiana who survived.....not Anastasia. The story created was very believable and seems realistic. The Romanov Tragedy is so difficult to swallow. Surely a guard or soldier would struggle with his task or fall for a Princess. This is a captivating read and I highly recommend!!

This is a fascinating historical romance. I have always been fascinated by the Russian royal family, the Romanovs. While many stories have considered the possible survival of Anastasia, this is the first time that I have encountered the possibility that Tatiana might have survived. I love genealogy so I liked the idea of the chapters going back and forth between generations. The development of each character is excellent. A fascinating read! I highly recommend this book!

When I first bought this book and began reading about it, I was uncertain. Not being an historian especially not a Russian history buff, I thought I may have purchased a "lemon" to my disappointment. I was, however, extremely impressed and quickly became enthralled in this book. I could not put it down! I learned a great deal about the Romanov's and Russian history, which I have to admit, was entertaining. I also really liked how the story involved cross-centuries. Kitty was a great character and I thought it was clever that she was related to Dmitri, came to Lake Akanabee, made the cabin hers. When everything came together in the end, I did not want the story to end!

I just finished reading this book and had to write a review (although there are already lots of them!). I love historical novels and have read some previous works on the Romanovs before reading this book. This book being written about one of the Grand Duchesses made for a different and interesting novel. I found myself completely caught up in this story and after reading I wished that it had been true! Gill Paul is a very gifted author - both her writing style and her research are outstanding. I will definitely be reading more of her books in the future. Just a

follow-up...I just purchased three more of Gill Paul's books...looking forward to reading them!

I usually buy a book by it's cover but in this case -- I was leary of the cover. I thought this was going to be one more ladies book about a your woman who finds herself in the roll of secret wife. Or, one more book about finding out the husband has a secret wife.Wow! Was I wrong. This is a great book filled with history. Gill Paul has written a fabulous book about the aftermath of the Russian Revolution through World War II and into modern times. The characters are well-developed and totally believable. The situations are logical and never hokey.This is a book worth reading. My compliment to the author.

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