

The Swans of Fifth Avenue

author: Melanie Benjamin

2026-06

Synopsis

author	Melanie Benjamin
readBy	Cassandra Campbell, Paul Boehmer
inLanguage	english

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The author of *The Aviator's Wife* returns with a triumphant new novel about New York's "Swans" of the 1950s and the scandalous, headline-making, and enthralling friendship between literary legend Truman Capote and peerless socialite Babe Paley. **People's Book of the Week** • **USA Today** #1 • **New and Noteworthy** • **Book** • **Entertainment Weekly** • **Must List** • **LibraryReads** Top Ten Pick

Of all the glamorous stars of New York high society, none blazes brighter than Babe Paley. Her flawless face regularly graces the pages of *Vogue*, and she is celebrated and adored for her ineffable style and exquisite taste, especially among her friends—the alluring socialite Swans Slim Keith, C. Z. Guest, Gloria Guinness, and Pamela Churchill. By all appearances, Babe has it all: money, beauty, glamour, jewels, influential friends, a prestigious husband, and gorgeous homes. But beneath this elegantly composed exterior dwells a passionate woman—a woman desperately longing for true love and connection.

Enter Truman Capote. This diminutive golden-haired genius with a larger-than-life personality explodes onto the scene, setting Babe and her circle of Swans aflutter. Through Babe, Truman gains an unlikely entrée into the enviable lives of Manhattan's elite, along with unparalleled access to the scandal and gossip of Babe's powerful circle. Sure of the loyalty of the man she calls "True Heart," Babe never imagines the destruction Truman will leave in his wake. But once a storyteller, always a storyteller—even when the stories aren't his to tell.

Truman's fame is at its peak when such notable celebrities as Frank and Mia Sinatra, Lauren Bacall, and Rose Kennedy converge on his glittering Black and White Ball. But all too soon, he'll ignite a literary scandal whose repercussions echo through the years. *The Swans of Fifth Avenue* will seduce and

startle readers as it opens the door onto one of America's most sumptuous eras.
Praise for *The Swans of Fifth Avenue*
... teeming with scandal, gossip and excitement. "Harper's
Bazaar "This moving fictionalization brings the whole cast of
characters back to vivid life. Gossipy and fun, it's also a nuanced look at the beauty and
cruelty of a rarefied, bygone world. "People"
"The era and
the sordid details come back to life in this jewel of a novel."
*O: The Oprah
Magazine*

Reader's comments

comment 1:

â€"â€" ()