Isabel Wolff - A Vintage Affair

Review: Shadows Over Paradise by Isabel Wolff

Revue bouquin : Isabel Wolff - Les mésaventures de Minty Malone (vidéo tournée Mercredi 15 juin)

A captivating story about the power of friendship . . . More than a novel, it is a recipe for happiness.” —Anne Fortier, New York Times bestselling author of Juliet Every dress has a history. And so does every woman. Phoebe Swift’s friends are stumped when she abruptly leaves a plum job to open her own vintage clothing shop in London—but to Phoebe, it’s the fulfillment of a dream. She knows that when you buy a piece of vintage clothing, you’re not just buying fabric and thread—you’re buying a piece of someone’s past. But one particular article of clothing will soon unexpectedly change her life. Thérèse Bell, an elderly Frenchwoman, has an impressive clothing collection. But among the array of elegant suits and couture gowns, Phoebe finds a child’s sky-blue coat—an item with which Mrs. Bell is stubbornly reluctant to part. As the two women become friends, Phoebe will learn the poignant tale of that little blue coat. And she will discover an astonishing connection between herself and Thérèse Bell—one that will help her heal the pain of her own past and allow her to love again. BONUS: This edition contains an A Vintage Affair discussion guide

Where the eye sees the brushstroke, the heart sees the truth. At thirty-five, Gabriella “Ella” Graham is a successful portrait artist in London. She captures the essential truth in each of her subjects’ faces—a tilt of the chin, a glint in the eye—and immortalizes it on canvas. But closer to home, Ella finds the truth more elusive. Her father abandoned the family when she was five, and her mother has remained silent on the subject ever since. Ella’s sister, Chloe, is engaged to Nate, an American working in London, but Ella suspects that he may not be so committed. Then, at Chloe’s behest, Ella agrees to paint Nate’s portrait. From session to session, Ella begins to see Nate in a different light, which gives rise to conflicted feelings. In fact, through the various people she paints—including an elderly client reflecting on her life and a woman dreading the prospect of turning forty—Ella realizes that there is so much more to a person’s life than what is seen on the surface. And as her portraits of Nate and the others progress, they begin to reveal less about their subjects than about the artist herself. Look for special features inside. Join the Circle for author chats and more.

A childhood mistake. A lifetime of regrets—the poignant and bittersweet new novel from beloved writer Isabel Wolff, author of A Vintage Affair. Jenni loves her job as a ghostwriter—it satisfies her insatiable curiosity about people, and she’s helped create everything from cookbooks to celebrity biographies. It also means that she can hide behind the stories of others, and not think about her own life too much . . . But when she starts work on the wartime memoirs of a survivor from the Japanese internment camps in Java, striking coincidences force Jenni to examine her role in a tragedy that has haunted her since childhood. Gripping, moving and beautifully researched, Ghostwritten delivers Isabel Wolff’s signature blend of pathos, mystery and romance. Wolff’s legions of fans and new readers alike will be riveted by this touching, layered story, which sheds light on a forgotten chapter of history and shimmers with an element of the supernatural that will send tingles down the reader’s spine. “A brilliant, tender and thought-provoking read.” —THE LADY

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From the author of the New York Times bestsellers The Paris Apartment and The Guest List, an evocative love story set along the Italian Riviera about a group of charismatic stars who all have secrets and pasts they try desperately — and dangerously — to hide. Rome, 1953: Hal, an itinerant journalist flailing in the post-war darkness, has come to the Eternal City to lose himself and to seek absolution for the thing that haunts him. One evening he finds himself on the steps of a palazzo, walking into a world of privilege and light. Here, on a rooftop above the city, he meets the mysterious Stella. Hal and Stella are from different worlds, but their connection is magnetic. Together, they escape the crowded party and imagine a different life, even if it’s just for a night. Yet Stella vanishes all too quickly, and Hal is certain their paths won’t cross again. But a year later they are unexpectedly thrown together, after Hal receives an invitation he cannot resist. An Italian Contessa asks him to assist on a trip of a lifetime — acting as a reporter on a tremendous yacht, skimming its way along the Italian coast toward Cannes film festival, the most famous artists and movie stars of the day gathered to promote a new film. Of all the luminaries aboard — an Italian ingénue, an American star, a reclusive director — only one holds Hal in

Page 1/2
thrill: Stella. And while each has a past that belies the gilded surface, Stella has the most to hide. As Hal's obsession with Stella grows, he becomes determined to bring back the girl she once was, the girl who's been confined to history. An irresistibly entertaining and atmospheric novel set in some of the world's most glamorous locales, The Invitation is a sultry love story about the ways in which the secrets of the past stay with us — no matter how much we try to escape them.

An engaging first novel by the bestselling author of THE VERY PICTURE OF YOU and A VINTAGE AFFAIR.

New Bedford, 1850. Young, strong-willed Eliza Mae Holmes risks her life helping slaves escape through the Underground Railroad. And even though danger prowl the city, Eliza refuses to stay home on this night and meets the man who will change her life forever. Eliza is saved from an unspeakable fate at the hands of a sadistic criminal by the benevolent and charismatic Charles DaFornas. Though she is instantly enthralled by the handsome Portuguese wine merchant, Eliza won't succumb to his charm. Love is for the faint of heart, after all, even though the very sight of Charles makes her heart sing. When Eliza's father arranges for Charles to take Eliza and her mother to England to meet her betrothed, Eliza resolves to stand strong against her growing feelings during the long sea voyage. But being so close to Charles, learning about his culture and his island home of Madeira, only draws her to that much closer to him. For his part, Charles is struck by Eliza's strength, vitality, and incredible beauty. It is not long before the two succumb to their feelings and tumble headlong into love. But Eliza's betrothal still stands and with pressure from her mother to see the marriage through, she must make a devastating choice. Will Eliza find her inner strength and live according to her own truth, or will she lose the one man who has finally captured her heart?

The sparkling new comedy from the bestselling author of Behavior Badly. Perfect for fans of Jane Green.

A romantic, heart-wrenching tale of love against the odds from the Number One Sunday Times bestselling author 1930, Rajputana, India. Since her husband's death, 28-year-old photojournalist Eliza's only companion has been her camera. When the British Government send her to an Indian princely state to photograph the royal family, she's determined to make a name for herself. But when Eliza arrives at the palace she meets Jay, the Prince's handsome, brooding brother. While Eliza awakens Jay to the poverty of his people, he awakens her to the injustices of British rule. Soon Jay and Eliza find they have more in common than they think. But their families - and society - think otherwise. Eventually they will have to make a choice between doing what's expected, or following their hearts. . .

A sparkling novel by the bestselling author of THE VERY PICTURE OF YOU and A VINTAGE AFFAIR.

One dream house. Two possible futures. One big risk. Thirty-something Sophie Stone's life is safe and predictable, which is just the way she likes it. But when a mysterious benefactor leaves her an inheritance, Sophie has to accept that change is in the air. There is just one big catch: in order to inherit, Sophie must agree to see the father she has never met. Saying 'yes' means the chance to build her own dream home, but she'll also have to face the past and hear some uncomfortable truths... With interference from an evil boss, warring parents, an unreliable boyfriend and an architect who puts his foot in it every time he opens his mouth, will Sophie be able to build a future on her own terms - and maybe even find love along the way? *** Readers are captivated by Cathy Bramley's heartwarming stories: 'Funny and sweet and as satisfying as a homemade apple pie' Milly Johnson 'As comforting as hot tea and toast made on the Aga!' Veronica Henry 'A delicious tale turns' Trisha Ashley

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