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## Life Below Stairs True Lives of Edwardian Servants

**Alison Maloney**

### Description

Upstairs, an Edwardian home was a picture of elegance, sophistication and serenity, filled with social engagements and lavish dinner parties. Downstairs was another story; a hive of domestic activity, as servants strove to ensure that life ran as smoothly as possible for their employers.

*Life Below Stairs* paints a detailed picture of what really went on downstairs, revealing the true-life trials and tribulations of the servants in a typical Edwardian household.

Thoroughly researched and containing first-hand stories from staff of the time, this book looks at the daily life of the servants, the household structure and hierarchy, pay and working conditions, hiring and firing, and the backgrounds of the people working in these houses.

Looking at the lives of servants from the scullery maid to the butler, bestselling author Alison Maloney presents a vibrant account of a way of life from a bygone era.

### Sales Points

- A fascinating look at the real-life experiences of servants in Edwardian stately homes
- Reveals the secrets of life below stairs – the perks, the daily grind, the hierarchy, the rules and the gossip – as well as presenting personal accounts and tales from the staff themselves
- The perfect gift for any fan of the award-winning *Downton Abbey*
- Over 20,000 copies of the hardback edition sold to date

### Reviews

- 'Fascinating' - *Daily Mail*
- 'A fascinating slice of British History' - *Readers Digest*
- 'A fascinating new book' - *Daily Express*
- 'A captivating snapshot of a different world and time' - *Sainsbury's Magazine*

### Author Biography

Alison Maloney is a journalist and author whose books include *The Grannies' Book*, *Things to Do With Mum* and *Strictly Come Dancing: The Official Annual 2008*. As well as a long stint on *The Sunday Post* newspaper, she worked as a children's book editor for two years. Alison lives in Kent with her husband and two children.

Michael O'Mara.

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