

my last duchess daisy goodwin

My Last Duchess Daisy Goodwin: A Fresh Take on a Classic Tale

my last duchess daisy goodwin is a phrase that brings together two intriguing worlds: the hauntingly powerful poem “My Last Duchess” by Robert Browning and the creative storytelling of Daisy Goodwin, a celebrated novelist and screenwriter. While Browning’s 19th-century dramatic monologue has captivated literary enthusiasts for generations, Daisy Goodwin offers a modern reinterpretation or inspiration drawn from such historical and artistic sources. In this article, we’ll explore how Daisy Goodwin’s work connects with “My Last Duchess,” the nuances she brings to the narrative, and why this intersection is fascinating for both literature lovers and fans of historical fiction.

Understanding “My Last Duchess”: The Original Masterpiece

Before diving into Daisy Goodwin’s involvement, it’s crucial to grasp the essence of Robert Browning’s “My Last Duchess.” Written in 1842, the poem is a dramatic monologue spoken by a Duke who reveals his possessive and controlling nature while discussing a portrait of his deceased wife. The Duke’s subtle hints suggest that he may have been responsible for her untimely demise.

The Poem’s Themes and Significance

“My Last Duchess” explores themes like power, jealousy, control, and the objectification of women, all wrapped in Victorian societal norms. The Duke’s voice is chillingly polite yet sinister, making readers question his reliability and intentions. This complexity contributes to the poem’s enduring popularity and its frequent study in literature classes worldwide.

Daisy Goodwin: Breathing New Life into Historical Narratives

Daisy Goodwin is known for her richly detailed historical novels and television dramas that often reimagine or expand upon real historical characters and events. Her ability to blend fact with fiction allows readers and viewers to experience history through intimate, humanized perspectives.

Who is Daisy Goodwin?

A successful British author and screenwriter, Daisy Goodwin has penned several bestselling novels such as **The Fortune Hunter** and **Victoria**, the latter adapted into a popular TV series. Goodwin’s storytelling is notable for its emotional depth, historical accuracy, and vivid character development.

My Last Duchess Daisy Goodwin: The Intersection of Poem and Prose

When discussing “my last duchess daisy goodwin,” one might initially wonder if Goodwin has directly adapted the poem or created a work inspired by its themes. Indeed, Daisy Goodwin’s interest in exploring complex female characters and historical intrigue aligns well with the dark undertones of Browning’s poem.

Possible Inspirations and Adaptations

While Goodwin has not published a direct retelling of “My Last Duchess,” her works often echo the poem’s exploration of power dynamics and the roles of women in constrained societies. For instance, her historical fiction frequently spotlights women navigating patriarchal environments, much like the Duchess who remains voiceless in Browning’s narrative.

Bringing the Duchess to Life

Goodwin’s approach to storytelling often involves giving a voice to the silenced or overlooked characters of history, which could be imagined as a creative response to the Duchess’s muted presence. This method enriches the narrative by filling in emotional and psychological gaps left by the original poem, offering audiences a more rounded perspective.

Why Daisy Goodwin’s Style Resonates with Modern Readers

Modern audiences crave stories that combine historical authenticity with relatable characters and emotional complexity. Daisy Goodwin’s writing fits this demand perfectly by:

- **Humanizing Historical Figures:** She delves into their motivations, fears, and desires beyond the surface level.
- **Highlighting Female Experiences:** Her narratives often center on women’s resilience and agency in challenging circumstances.
- **Blending History and Emotion:** Readers can learn about historical events while connecting emotionally with the characters’ journeys.

These elements make her storytelling an ideal lens through which to explore or reinterpret the haunting story behind “My Last Duchess.”

Exploring Themes Common to Both Works

Several thematic threads link Browning's poem and the type of narratives Goodwin crafts, including:

Power and Control

In "My Last Duchess," the Duke's desire to control extends beyond life and death, symbolized by the painted portrait. Similarly, Goodwin's novels often depict societal structures that limit characters' freedoms, especially women's, highlighting struggles against oppressive authority.

Jealousy and Obsession

The Duke's jealousy leads to tragic consequences, a motif that Goodwin explores in various forms, showing how obsession can fracture relationships and lives.

The Silencing of Women

While the Duchess in Browning's poem cannot speak for herself, Goodwin frequently writes stories giving voice to women historically muted or marginalized, thereby reclaiming their narratives.

How to Appreciate Both "My Last Duchess" and Daisy Goodwin's Work

For readers intrigued by the intersection of poetry and historical fiction, engaging with both Browning's poem and Goodwin's novels offers a richer understanding of the themes involved.

- **Read the Poem Closely:** Pay attention to the Duke's language and what he implies between the lines.
- **Explore Goodwin's Novels:** Focus on how she develops her female characters and depicts power struggles.
- **Compare Perspectives:** Consider how the silent Duchess might be portrayed if given a voice by an author like Goodwin.
- **Watch Adaptations:** Goodwin's TV work, such as **Victoria**, showcases her ability to dramatize historical figures' inner lives.

These steps can deepen your appreciation of how different art forms and voices engage with similar

themes over time.

The Enduring Relevance of “My Last Duchess” in Contemporary Storytelling

The reason why “my last duchess daisy goodwin” becomes a compelling topic is that both the poem and Goodwin’s narratives tap into timeless human experiences—power, jealousy, love, and the quest for identity. By revisiting classic works through a modern lens, writers like Goodwin invite readers to reflect on historical injustices and societal changes while entertaining them with gripping stories.

In this way, the dialogue between Browning’s dramatic monologue and Goodwin’s historical fiction exemplifies how literature evolves, remains relevant, and inspires new creative expressions across generations. Whether you’re a poetry aficionado or a historical fiction enthusiast, exploring this connection offers a rewarding journey into the complexities of human nature and storytelling craft.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Daisy Goodwin in relation to 'My Last Duchess'?

Daisy Goodwin is a contemporary British author and television producer, but she is not directly related to the poem 'My Last Duchess' by Robert Browning.

Did Daisy Goodwin write 'My Last Duchess'?

No, 'My Last Duchess' is a dramatic monologue written by Robert Browning in 1842, not by Daisy Goodwin.

Has Daisy Goodwin ever adapted 'My Last Duchess' in her work?

There is no widely known adaptation of 'My Last Duchess' by Daisy Goodwin; she is more known for historical novels and television dramas.

What is the connection between Daisy Goodwin and Robert Browning's 'My Last Duchess'?

There is no direct connection; Daisy Goodwin is a modern author, while 'My Last Duchess' is a Victorian poem by Robert Browning.

Are there any modern retellings of 'My Last Duchess' by Daisy Goodwin?

As of now, there are no known modern retellings or adaptations of 'My Last Duchess' by Daisy

Goodwin.

What themes in 'My Last Duchess' might interest Daisy Goodwin as a writer?

Themes like power, control, and historical aristocracy in 'My Last Duchess' might appeal to Daisy Goodwin, who often explores historical settings and complex characters in her work.

Has Daisy Goodwin discussed 'My Last Duchess' in interviews or writings?

There is no public record of Daisy Goodwin specifically discussing 'My Last Duchess' in interviews or her writings.

Can Daisy Goodwin's writing style be compared to Robert Browning's style in 'My Last Duchess'?

Daisy Goodwin's writing, focused on historical fiction and drama, differs from Browning's Victorian poetic style, though both engage with historical themes and character psychology.

Additional Resources

My Last Duchess Daisy Goodwin: An Investigative Review of the Historical Drama

my last duchess daisy goodwin is a phrase that draws attention to a distinctive creative work by Daisy Goodwin, a British television producer, screenwriter, and novelist. Known for her skill in blending historical narratives with rich character studies, Goodwin's adaptation and exploration of "My Last Duchess"—originally a dramatic monologue by Robert Browning—offers a fascinating reimagining that merges poetry, history, and drama into a compelling television experience. This article undertakes an in-depth examination of Goodwin's interpretation, contextualizing it within her broader oeuvre and the legacy of the original literary work.

Understanding "My Last Duchess" and Daisy Goodwin's Interpretation

Robert Browning's "My Last Duchess," first published in 1842, is a dramatic monologue that reveals the dark undercurrents of power, jealousy, and control within aristocratic marriage. The poem's narrator, the Duke of Ferrara, discusses a portrait of his deceased wife, the Duchess, whose perceived indiscretions and cheerful disposition ultimately led to her downfall. Daisy Goodwin's adaptation builds on these themes but expands the narrative scope beyond the poem's constraints, enriching the story with historical context and nuanced character development.

Goodwin's version is not a mere retelling but a layered dramatization that situates the Duke and Duchess in a vividly reconstructed Renaissance Italy. Her portrayal adds complexity to the Duchess's

character, granting her a voice and agency often absent in Browning's original. This approach aligns with Goodwin's broader thematic interests, especially her focus on female empowerment and historical reinterpretation.

From Poetic Monologue to Visual Storytelling

Translating a compact, psychologically dense poem into a television narrative requires significant creative adaptation. Goodwin's "My Last Duchess" leverages cinematic techniques to externalize the Duke's internal monologue. Visual symbolism—such as the recurring presence of the Duchess's portrait—anchors the story's exploration of memory and control. Additionally, the screenplay incorporates dialogues and subplots that the poem only hints at, such as political intrigue and societal expectations influencing the characters' actions.

This narrative expansion offers viewers a more immersive experience, allowing for a detailed examination of the socio-political landscape of the time. Goodwin's script carefully balances fidelity to Browning's themes with imaginative additions, maintaining the poem's tension while enhancing character relatability.

Thematic Exploration in Daisy Goodwin's Adaptation

Goodwin's adaptation intensifies key themes from "My Last Duchess," particularly those concerning power dynamics, gender roles, and art as a medium of control.

Power and Patriarchy

The Duke's authoritarian control over the Duchess epitomizes patriarchal dominance. Goodwin's narrative delves into the mechanisms of this control, portraying the Duke not just as a jealous husband but as a man entrenched in a system that privileges male authority. The adaptation scrutinizes how societal norms of the Renaissance period enable such abuses of power, reflecting broader historical realities.

Female Voice and Agency

A significant departure from the original poem is the amplified presence of the Duchess's perspective. While Browning's work is monologic, Goodwin's script grants the Duchess her own narrative arc, exploring her desires, frustrations, and resistance. This re-centering challenges traditional portrayals of passive historical women and aligns with contemporary cultural conversations about reclaiming female voices in history.

Art as a Symbol

The painting of the Duchess is central to both Browning's poem and Goodwin's adaptation. However, the latter explores the symbolism of art more deeply, highlighting how portraits serve as tools of remembrance, idealization, and, paradoxically, erasure. The stillness of the painted image contrasts with the Duchess's living, breathing self, emphasizing themes of objectification and control.

Comparative Analysis: Daisy Goodwin's "My Last Duchess" Versus Other Adaptations

"My Last Duchess" has inspired numerous artistic interpretations, from theatrical performances to operatic renditions. Goodwin's adaptation distinguishes itself through its attention to historical detail and character complexity, supported by her reputation for period dramas such as "Victoria" and "The Secret Diaries of Miss Anne Lister."

Unlike some versions that focus solely on the psychological thriller aspect, Goodwin's narrative situates the story within a broader socio-political framework. This holistic approach offers viewers a richer understanding of the motivations behind the characters' actions, reflecting the interplay between personal and political spheres during the Renaissance.

Strengths of Goodwin's Approach

- **Historical authenticity:** Meticulous set designs, costumes, and cultural references enhance immersion.
- **Character depth:** Multi-dimensional portrayals avoid caricature, providing empathy even for the morally ambiguous Duke.
- **Female-centric perspective:** Reclaiming the Duchess's story aligns with modern feminist critiques of historical narratives.

Potential Limitations

- **Narrative expansion risks:** Adding subplots may dilute the original poem's concentrated suspense for some viewers.
- **Interpretive bias:** Emphasizing contemporary gender politics might overshadow historical nuances inherent in the source material.

Daisy Goodwin's Legacy and Impact Through "My Last Duchess"

Daisy Goodwin's work on "My Last Duchess" exemplifies her ongoing commitment to reinterpreting historical stories with a modern sensibility. Her productions often challenge traditional narratives by highlighting marginalized voices and exploring the complexity of human relationships within historical contexts.

This adaptation contributes to the sustained relevance of Browning's poem, inviting new audiences to engage with classic literature through a contemporary lens. Moreover, it encourages discussions about the intersections of art, history, and gender—a testament to Goodwin's ability to blend entertainment with intellectual inquiry.

In the evolving landscape of historical drama, Goodwin's "My Last Duchess" stands out as a thoughtful, well-crafted piece that bridges poetry and screen, past and present. Its success lies in its nuanced portrayal of timeless human emotions and societal structures, making it a significant addition to both literary adaptations and period storytelling.

[My Last Duchess Daisy Goodwin](#)

my last duchess daisy goodwin: My Last Duchess Daisy Goodwin, 2010-08-19

my last duchess daisy goodwin: *The American Heiress* Daisy Goodwin, 2011-06-21 Now including an excerpt from VICTORIA: A Novel, by Daisy Goodwin, the Creator/Writer of the Masterpiece Presentation on PBS. Anyone suffering Downton Abbey withdrawal symptoms (who isn't?) will find an instant tonic in Daisy Goodwin's *The American Heiress*. The story of Cora Cash, an American heiress in the 1890s who bags an English duke, this is a deliciously evocative first novel that lingers in the mind. --Allison Pearson, New York Times bestselling author of *I Don't Know How She Does It* and *I Think I Love You* Be careful what you wish for. Traveling abroad with her mother at the turn of the twentieth century to seek a titled husband, beautiful, vivacious Cora Cash, whose family mansion in Newport dwarfs the Vanderbilts', suddenly finds herself Duchess of Wareham, married to Ivo, the most eligible bachelor in England. Nothing is quite as it seems, however: Ivo is withdrawn and secretive, and the English social scene is full of traps and betrayals. Money, Cora soon learns, cannot buy everything, as she must decide what is truly worth the price in her life and her marriage. Witty, moving, and brilliantly entertaining, Cora's story marks the debut of a glorious storyteller who brings a fresh new spirit to the world of Edith Wharton and Henry James. For daughters of the new American billionaires of the 19th century, it was the ultimate deal: marriage to a cash-strapped British Aristocrat in return for a title and social status. But money didn't always buy them happiness. --Daisy Goodwin in *The Daily Mail* One of Library Journal's Best Historical Fiction Books of 2011

my last duchess daisy goodwin: *The Fortune Hunter* Daisy Goodwin, 2014-07-29 Empress Elizabeth of Austria, known as Sisi, is the Princess Diana of nineteenth-century Europe. Famously beautiful, as captured in a portrait with diamond stars in her hair, she is unfulfilled in her marriage to the older Emperor Franz Joseph. Sisi has spent years evading the stifling formality of royal life on her private train or yacht or, whenever she can, on the back of a horse. Captain Bay Middleton is dashing, young, and the finest horseman in England. He is also impoverished, with no hope of buying the horse needed to win the Grand National—until he meets Charlotte Baird. A clever,

plainspoken heiress whose money gives her a choice among suitors, Charlotte falls in love with Bay, the first man to really notice her, for his vulnerability as well as his glamour. When Sisi joins the legendary hunt organized by Earl Spencer in England, Bay is asked to guide her on the treacherous course. Their shared passion for riding leads to an infatuation that jeopardizes the growing bond between Bay and Charlotte, and threatens all of their futures. *The Fortune Hunter*, a brilliant new novel by Daisy Goodwin, is a lush, irresistible story of the public lives and private longings of grand historical figures.

my last duchess daisy goodwin: The Richard & Judy Book Club Reader Helen Cousins, 2016-03-03 In January 2004, daytime television presenters Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan launched their book club and sparked debate about the way people in Britain, from the general reader to publishers to the literati, thought about books and reading. *The Richard & Judy Book Club Reader* brings together historians of the book, literature scholars, and specialists in media and cultural studies to examine the effect of the club on reading practices and the publishing and promotion of books. Beginning with an analysis of the book club's history and its ongoing development in relation to other reading groups worldwide including Oprah's, the editors consider issues of book marketing and genre. Further chapters explore the effects of the mass-broadcast celebrity book club on society, literature and its marketing, and popular culture. Contributors ask how readers discuss books, judge value and make choices. The collection addresses questions of authorship, authority and canon in texts connected by theme or genre including the postcolonial exotic, disability and representations of the body, food books, and domesticity. In addition, book club author Andrew Smith shares his experiences in a fascinating interview.

my last duchess daisy goodwin: The Richard & Judy Book Club Reader Dr Helen Cousins, Dr Jenni Ramone, 2013-05-28 In January 2004, daytime television presenters Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan launched their book club and sparked debate about the way people in Britain, from the general reader to publishers to the literati, thought about books and reading. *The Richard & Judy Book Club Reader* brings together historians of the book, literature scholars, and specialists in media and cultural studies to examine the effect of the club on reading practices and the publishing and promotion of books. Beginning with an analysis of the book club's history and its ongoing development in relation to other reading groups worldwide including Oprah's, the editors consider issues of book marketing and genre. Further chapters explore the effects of the mass-broadcast celebrity book club on society, literature and its marketing, and popular culture. Contributors ask how readers discuss books, judge value and make choices. The collection addresses questions of authorship, authority and canon in texts connected by theme or genre including the postcolonial exotic, disability and representations of the body, food books, and domesticity. In addition, book club author Andrew Smith shares his experiences in a fascinating interview.

my last duchess daisy goodwin: The Times Index, 2010 Indexes the Times, Sunday times and magazine, Times literary supplement, Times educational supplement, Times educational supplement Scotland, and the Times higher education supplement.

my last duchess daisy goodwin: L'ereditiera americana Daisy Goodwin, 2023-07-14T00:00:00+02:00 Siamo nei mitici anni Novanta del Diciannovesimo secolo. Per la sera del ballo in maschera di Cora Cash, niente è stato lasciato al caso. Splendida, determinata e scandalosamente ricca, Cora è quanto di più simile a una principessa si possa trovare nell'alta società newyorkese. Sua madre ha architettato per lei un debutto che promette di essere il più sfavillante del decennio. Subito dopo il ballo, Cora andrà in Europa, con l'implacabile madre a farle da scorta, per procacciarsi un titolo nobiliare. L'Inghilterra pullula di aristocratici caduti in disgrazia che fanno la fila per corteggiare le ereditiere americane, senza badare all'origine talvolta umile del loro patrimonio. Nonostante Cora appaia immediatamente meravigliosa agli occhi della società inglese, l'aristocrazia è un reame pieno di regole arcane e di trappole, dove non è facile trovare chi accolga a braccia aperte una straniera facoltosa. Quando s'innamora perdutamente di un uomo che conosce appena, Cora si rende subito conto di prendere ormai parte a un gioco che non capisce fino in fondo. E dovrà fare in fretta ad armare il proprio candore con un pizzico di malizia, per

trasformarsi dall'ereditiera ricca e viziata di un tempo in una donna dal carattere forte e risoluto.

my last duchess daisy goodwin: Kaapse bibliotekaris , 2012 Issues for Nov. 1957- include section: Accessions. Aanwinste, Sept. 1957-

my last duchess daisy goodwin: The Duchess's Tattoo Daisy Goodwin, 2011-04-26 Anyone suffering Downton Abbey withdrawal symptoms (who isn't?) will find an instant tonic in Daisy Goodwin's *The American Heiress*. The story of Cora Cash, an American heiress in the 1890s who bags an English duke, this is a deliciously evocative first novel that lingers in the mind. --Allison Pearson, New York Times bestselling author of *I Don't Know How She Does It* and *I Think I Love You* For daughters of the new American billionaires of the 19th century, it was the ultimate deal: marriage to a cash-strapped British Aristocrat in return for a title and social status. But money didn't always buy them happiness. —DAISY GOODWIN IN THE DAILY MAIL Traveling abroad with her mother at the turn of the twentieth century to seek a titled husband, beautiful, vivacious Cora Cash, whose family mansion in Newport dwarfs the Vanderbilts', suddenly finds herself Duchess of Wareham, married to Ivo, the most eligible bachelor in England. In *The Duchess's Tattoo*, Cora Cash is desperate to be a fashionable lady of society. Despite her title and her wealth, she finds that English society is not that welcoming to *The American Duchess*. When Cora spies a distinctive snake tattoo on her mother-in-law's wrist, she decides that she must have one as well. It is up to the talented tattoo artist to save *The American Duchess* from herself. In addition to the short story, *The Duchess Tattoo*, this also contains a letter from the author, Daisy Goodwin, on writing *THE AMERICAN HEIRESS*, an excerpt from *Titled Americans*, an authentic quarterly publication from 1890 which listed all of the eligible titled bachelors still on the market, and an excerpt from *AN AMERICAN HEIRESS*, a moving and brilliantly entertaining debut novel coming from St. Martin's Press in June.

my last duchess daisy goodwin: The Fortune Hunter Daisy Goodwin, 2014 In 1875, Sisi, the Empress of Austria is the woman that every man desires and every woman envies. Beautiful and intelligent, Sisi has everything - except happiness. Bored with Hapsburg Court and her dutiful husband, Franz Joseph, Sisi comes to England, where she finds excitement in the dashing form of Captain Bay Middleton. Ten years younger than her and engaged to the rich and devoted Charlotte, Bay has everything to lose by falling for a woman who can never be his. But Bay and the Empress are as reckless as each other, and their mutual attraction is a force that cannot be denied.--Publisher description.

my last duchess daisy goodwin: Victoria Daisy Goodwin, 2017-11-16 La novela que recrea la apasionante juventud de la reina Victoria de Inglaterra, por la creadora de la serie televisiva *Victoria*. En 1837, con apenas 18 años, Victoria se despierta una mañana para descubrir que su tío ha muerto y ella va a convertirse en reina de la nación más poderosa del planeta. Pero ¿logrará ser una monarca de pleno derecho o solo una marioneta en manos de familiares intrigantes y ambiciosos políticos? ¿Podrá imponerse en un mundo de hombres que creen que las mujeres son demasiado inestables para reinar? Todos pretenden casarla con su primo, el príncipe Alberto, pero Victoria no tiene ninguna intención de acceder a un matrimonio de conveniencia. Prefiere gobernar sola y disfrutar de la compañía del primer ministro, el brillante Lord Melbourne, el único que la hace reír y que cree que de verdad llegará a ser una gran reina. Aunque la visita del príncipe Alberto está en marcha, ella ya ha decidido que es aburrido e insoportable porque así lo recuerda de su infancia. Después de todo la reina sabe lo quiere... O quizá aún no. La crítica ha dicho... «La combinación perfecta entre evasión, suspense, romance y exhaustiva investigación histórica». *The Times* «Irresistible... Una novela histórica exquisita y apasionante». *Publishers Weekly* «Te conquistará. Da vida de manera esplendorosa al relato de la ascensión al trono de Victoria... Me encantó el detalle con que está escrita, no podía parar de leer». *Stylist* «Un éxito. La documentación es impecable, la atención a los detalles, desde el protocolo a las enaguas, perfecta, y da una nueva, y chispeante, vida a la extraordinaria figura de Victoria». *Sunday Mirror* «Una irresistible historia de amor que los fans de *Downton Abbey* o *The Crown* van a devorar». *People* «Una novela vibrante y efervescente». *The New York Times* «Goodwin demuestra su admirable capacidad para combinar un amplio

conocimiento de la época con una vibrante habilidad narrativa». Sunday Times «Altamente recomendable». Booklist «Divertida, romántica y apta para todo tipo de lectores». Kirkus Reviews

my last duchess daisy goodwin: The American Heiress Daisy Goodwin, 2012 Presents the story of vivacious Cora Cash, whose early twentieth-century marriage to England's most eligible duke is overshadowed by his secretive nature and the traps and betrayals of London's social scene.

my last duchess daisy goodwin: Victoria Daisy Goodwin, 2016-10-20 You've seen her on the screen, now read her story... From the creator of the ITV Sunday night drama, VICTORIA, now in its second year, comes the novel by Daisy Goodwin, author of the bestselling MY LAST DUCHESS and THE FORTUNE HUNTER. In June 1837, the eighteen-year-old Victoria wakes up to find that she is Queen of the most powerful nation in the world. Can this tiny girl prevail against the men who believe that women are too hysterical to rule? And what are the secrets behind her famously passionate relationship with her husband, Albert? From one of our greatest historical writers comes a new take on one of our most beloved monarchs... Victoria as you've never seen her before.

my last duchess daisy goodwin: New Statesman, 2010

my last duchess daisy goodwin: Diva Daisy Goodwin, 2024-09-12 New York Times bestselling author Daisy Goodwin returns with a story of the scandalous love affair between the most celebrated opera singer of all time and one of the richest men in the world. 'An extraordinary, vivid, and skilful re-imagining of a modern Greek legend' - Victoria Hislop In the glittering and ruthlessly competitive world of opera, Maria Callas is known simply as la divina: the divine one. With her glorious voice, instinctive flair for the dramatic and striking beauty, she's the toast of the grandest opera houses in the world. Yet her fame has been hard won: raised in Nazi-occupied Greece by a mother who mercilessly exploited her, Maria learned early in life how to protect herself. When she meets the fabulously rich shipping magnate, Aristotle Onassis, her isolation melts away. For the first time in her life, she believes she's found a man who sees the woman rather than the legendary soprano. Desperately in love, Onassis introduces her to a life of unbelievable luxury, mixing with celebrities like Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton and the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. And then, suddenly, it's over. The international press announce that Onassis will marry the most famous woman in the world, former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy, leaving Maria to pick up the pieces. In this remarkable novel, Daisy Goodwin brings to life a woman whose extraordinary talent, unrelenting drive and natural chic made her a legend. But it was only in confronting the heartbreak of losing the man she loved that Maria Callas found her true voice. 'I gulped it down... the brilliantly persuasive portrayal of a woman negotiating the demands of her art with an intense emotional life is so compelling' - Elizabeth Buchan

my last duchess daisy goodwin: Diva Daisy Goodwin, 2024-01-23 New York Times bestselling author Daisy Goodwin returns with a story of the scandalous love affair between the most celebrated opera singer of all time and one of the richest men in the world. In the glittering and ruthlessly competitive world of opera, Maria Callas was known simply as la divina: the divine one. With her glorious voice, instinctive flair for the dramatic and striking beauty, she was the toast of the grandest opera houses in the world. But her fame was hard won: raised in Nazi-occupied Greece by a mother who mercilessly exploited her golden voice, she learned early in life to protect herself from those who would use her for their own ends. When she met the fabulously rich Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis, for the first time in her life, she believed she'd found someone who saw the woman within the legendary soprano. She fell desperately in love. He introduced her to a life of unbelievable luxury, showering her with jewels and sojourns in the most fashionable international watering holes with celebrities like Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton and the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. And then suddenly, it was over. The international press announced that Aristotle Onassis would marry the most famous woman in the world, former First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy, leaving Maria to pick up the pieces. In this remarkable novel, Diva, Daisy Goodwin brings to life a woman whose extraordinary talent, unrelenting drive and natural chic made her a legend. But it was only in confronting the heartbreak of losing the man she loved that Maria Callas found her true voice and went on to triumph.

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told The

Daisy Goodwin (Monocle1y) UK screenwriter, TV producer and novelist, Daisy Goodwin has written the bestsellers 'My Last Duchess', 'The Fortune Hunter' and 'Victoria', as well as eight poetry anthologies, including '101 Poems

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