



First Women: The Grace and Power of America's Modern First Ladies

By Kate Andersen Brower

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From the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of the groundbreaking backstairs look at the White House, *The Residence*, comes an intimate, news-making look at the true modern power brokers at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue: the First Ladies, from Jackie Kennedy to Michelle Obama and Melania Trump.

One of the most underestimated—and challenging—positions in the world, the First Lady of the United States must be many things: an inspiring leader with a forward-thinking agenda of her own; a savvy politician, skilled at navigating the treacherous rapids of Washington; a wife and mother operating under constant scrutiny; and an able CEO responsible for the smooth operation of countless services and special events at the White House. Now, as she did in her smash #1 bestseller *The Residence*, former White House correspondent Kate Andersen Brower draws on a wide array of untapped, candid sources—from residence staff and social secretaries to friends and political advisers—to tell the stories of the ten remarkable women who have defined that role since 1960.

Brower offers new insights into this privileged group of remarkable women, including Jacqueline Kennedy, Lady Bird Johnson, Patricia Nixon, Betty Ford, Rosalynn Carter, Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush, Hillary Clinton, Laura Bush, and Michelle Obama. The stories she shares range from the heartwarming to the shocking and tragic, exploring everything from the first ladies' political crusades to their rivalries with Washington figures; from their friendships with other first ladies to their public and private relationships with their husbands. She also offers insight as to what Melania Trump might hope to accomplish as First Lady.

Candid and illuminating, this first group biography of the modern first ladies provides a revealing look at life upstairs and downstairs at the world's most powerful address.

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Editorial Review

Review

“[A] gossipy, but surprisingly deep, look at the women who help and sometimes overshadow their powerful husbands.” (*USA Today*)

Praise for *The Residence*: “The tell-all *The Residence*, featuring intimate anecdotes collected from past and current White House staff members, is absolutely delicious.” (*The Washington Post*)

“A juicy new book. . . . A touching story.” (**The Daily Beast**)

“A highly readable . . . deep look at the women who help and sometimes overshadow their powerful husbands.” (*USA Today*)

“A revealing look at America’s first ladies, shining a spotlight on both their friendships and feuds.” (*The Today Show*)

“Superbly reported. . . . A fascinating backstage account of the world’s most famous residence.” (**Judy Woodruff, anchor, PBS NewsHour and former White House Correspondent for NBC News**)

“One of those rare books that is both elegant portraiture and highly readable, important White House history. The anecdotes are fresh and the analysis cogent. The stories about Kennedy, Reagan, Clinton, and Obama are irresistible. Highly recommended!” (Douglas Brinkley, editor of *The Reagan Diaries*)

From the Back Cover

From the number one *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Residence*, the groundbreaking work of journalism about the White House staff, comes an intimate, news-making look at the true modern power brokers of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue: the first ladies, from Jackie Kennedy to Michelle Obama.

Holding one of the most underestimated and challenging positions in the world, the first lady of the United States must be many things: an inspiring leader with a forward-thinking agenda of her own, a savvy politician skilled at navigating the treacherous rapids of Washington, a wife and mother operating under constant scrutiny, and an able CEO running the private side of the White House. Drawing on a wide array of untapped, candid sources—from the former first ladies themselves to their political advisers, friends, family members, and residence staff—Kate Andersen Brower, the *New York Times* bestselling author who covered President Barack Obama’s first term, now tells the stories of the ten remarkable women who have defined the role for more than a half century.

First ladies make up the world’s most elite sorority, with members including Jacqueline Kennedy, Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon, Betty Ford, Rosalynn Carter, Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush, Hillary Clinton, Laura Bush, and Michelle Obama. With stories ranging from the heartwarming to the shocking and tragic, Brower discusses the first ladies’ rivalries and friendships with one another—revealed in letters never published before—and explores everything from their political causes to their public and private relationships with their husbands. She also offers a detailed, insightful new portrait of Hillary Clinton, one of the most-watched first ladies of all time, asking what her tumultuous years in the White House may tell us about her own

historic presidential run . . . and what life could be like with the nation's first "First Gentleman."

Candid and illuminating, this first group biography of the modern first ladies provides an inside look at life upstairs and downstairs at the world's most powerful address.

About the Author

Kate Andersen Brower spent four years covering the Obama White House for Bloomberg News and is a former CBS News staffer and Fox News producer. She lives outside Washington, D.C., with her husband and their two young children.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Thomas Hawkins:

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive now, people have to do something to make them survive, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice by simply surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a guide your ability to survive enhance then having chance to remain than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading a new book, we give you this kind of First Women: The Grace and Power of America's Modern First Ladies book as nice and daily reading book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

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