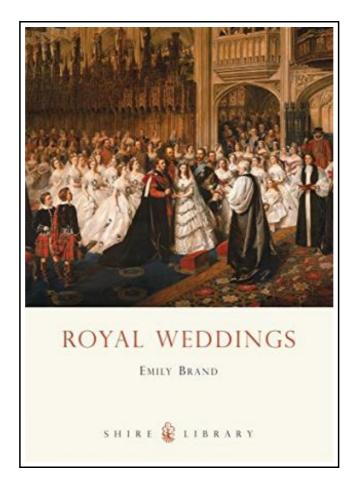
Royal Weddings



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Reviews

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(Jamar Stracke)

ROYAL WEDDINGS



Shire Publications Ltd. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Royal Weddings, Emily Brand, Since the Normal Conquest, the journey of the oldest and most revered of British institutions, the monarchy, has been touched by turmoil, intrigue, sacrifice, and romance." ""Royal Weddings" traces the evolution of matrimonial majesty from the politically charged, relatively austere, private affairs which dominate much of English history, to the grandiose extravaganza of Prince Charles's and Diana's union in 1981. Over time, British royal weddings have become the standard by which all other wedding ceremonies are compared. The book abounds with eyeopening details and interesting stories, such as how King Henry VIII's marital vows--.".to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or worse, for richer and poorer, in sickness and in health, 'til death do us part."-have been paradigmatic ever since; or the touching account of the 15th century monarch, Edward IV, who married beneath him and had to keep his marriage to a poor soldier's widow a secret. Even with nearly a thousand years of British royalty to cover, author Emily Brand deftly keeps from wallowing in a mire of historical pedantry. Instead, she has culled together exquisitely fascinating facts and anecdotes and presents her discoveries in a lively and inquisitive tone. Her account of the 1625 wedding of King Charles I--for which the monarch wasn't even present (he sent a surrogate for the lavish affair held at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris), reads as if she herself was present at the scurrilous event. "Royal Weddings" is a sleek 56 pages volume, generously enhanced with 60 full-color pieces of rare art and photos that go beyond traditional wedding pictures and add to the guilty, yet informative, pleasure of the book. There are examples of elaborate decorations, feasts and wedding cakes; ornate jewelry,...

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