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# Perfect Wives In Ideal Homes The Story Of Women In The 1950s

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Virginia Nicholson at The Oldie Literary Lunch  
What Makes a Good Wife (The 1950's Had It  
Wrong) | WifeSavers by Ramona A Word to the  
Wives (1955) Daily Life for a Housewife during  
the 1950s and 1960s Good Wife's Guide Training  
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the Ideal 1950's Face || Anita Colby's Beauty  
Book Why Tall People Die Younger: The ideal  
height for the longest life ♀ I read 50 books on  
being a housewife to learn these 10 lessons Patti  
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A 1950s Mother  
Charleston  
The Wives of Los Alamos  
The Angel in the House  
Among the Bohemians  
Millions Like Us  
Passages  
The Feminine Mystique

Girl Trouble  
The Mere Wife  
Perfect Wives in Ideal Homes  
A 1950s Housewife  
Women of the 1960s  
The Adventist home

*Perfect  
Wives In  
Ideal Homes  
The Story Of  
Women In  
The 1950s*      *OMB No.  
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## **BROCK REED**

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Nazi Wives Zed Books  
Ltd.

'Taut, compelling and deliciously dark' – B. A. Paris Leah Dawson and McKenna Hawkins had a lot in common, but they had never met. They are smart, professional women living in the same sunny, prosperous neighbourhood in lovely houses with picket fences and beautiful gardens. And they were both married to successful, good-looking men who both

seem bent on having 'the perfect wife'. They don't – ever – find themselves in the same train carriage or meet accidentally at the gym or in the coffee shop. And they don't – ever – discuss their problems and find common ground. But they do cross paths. And they see something each recognizes in the other. That they are living in hell. Neither narrator is unreliable. They always tell us the truth. And their truth hurts. A lot. Because these two attractive, intelligent professional women are living in a hell of their husband's

making. And there is no way to get out of hell. Is there?

*Perfect Wives in Ideal Homes* ABRAMS

From the author of New York Times bestseller MEGHAN comes a scandalous historical drama about the secrets hidden between the royal family, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, the Duke of Windsor, and Adolf Hitler before, during, and after World War II. Andrew Morton tells the story of the feckless Edward VIII, later Duke of Windsor, his American wife, Wallis Simpson, the bizarre wartime Nazi plot to make him a puppet king after the invasion of Britain, and the attempted cover-up by Churchill, General Eisenhower, and King George VI of

the duke's relations with Hitler. From the alleged affair between Simpson and the German foreign minister to the discovery of top secret correspondence about the man dubbed "the traitor king" and the Nazi high command, this is a saga of intrigue, betrayal, and deception suffused with a heady aroma of sex and suspicion. For the first time, Morton reveals the full story behind the cover-up of those damning letters and diagrams: the daring heist ordered by King George VI, the smooth duplicity of a Soviet spy as well as the bitter rows and recriminations among the British and American diplomats, politicians, and academics. Drawing on FBI documents,

exclusive pictures, and material from the German, Russian, and British royal archives, as well as the personal correspondence of Churchill, Eisenhower, and the Windsors themselves, 17 CARNATIONS is a dazzling historical drama, full of adventure, intrigue, and startling revelations, written by a master of the genre.

**A 1950s Mother**

Harper Collins  
A GOOD MORNING AMERICA BOOK CLUB PICK "Chandler Baker, queen of the feminist thriller, has delivered once again! The Husbands is a poignant exploration of what it would take for women to have it all." —Sally Hepworth, bestselling author of The Good Sister To what lengths will a woman go for a

little more help from her husband? Nora Spangler is a successful attorney but when it comes to domestic life, she packs the lunches, schedules the doctor appointments, knows where the extra paper towel rolls are, and designs and orders the holiday cards. Her husband works hard, too... but why does it seem like she is always working so much harder? When the Spanglers go house hunting in Dynasty Ranch, an exclusive suburban neighborhood, Nora meets a group of high-powered women—a tech CEO, a neurosurgeon, an award-winning therapist, a bestselling author—with enviably supportive husbands. When she agrees to

help with a resident's wrongful death case, she is pulled into the lives of the women there. She finds the air is different in Dynasty Ranch. The women aren't hanging on by a thread. But as the case unravels, Nora uncovers a plot that may explain the secret to having-it-all. One that's worth killing for. Calling to mind a Stepford Wives gender-swap, New York Times bestselling author of *Whisper Network* Chandler Baker's *The Husbands* imagines a world where the burden of the "second shift" is equally shared—and what it may take to get there. "Utterly engrossing and thoroughly timely, *The Husbands* is both a gripping, well-crafted mystery and an insightful critique of

motherhood and marriage in the modern age--working mothers everywhere will feel seen in the best possible way."  
—Kimberly McCreight, New York Times bestselling author of *A Good Marriage*  
Charleston Macmillan  
An illustrated, nostalgic how-to guide to achieving a clean, organized, and happy home—with over 500 retro tips and tricks! Return your household to the simpler times of yesteryear with this delightful guide full of time- and money-saving tips on everything from cleaning and organizing your home to buying and handling food. Even in an age of endless new household products and devices, these old-fashioned, tried-and-true methods

can help any homeowner keep a cleaner, happier home. A thoroughly researched compendium of the best American home life tips from the 1920s through the '60s, *Classic Household Hints* is filled with useful information, full-color illustrations, fascinating sidebars, and quotes—providing practical help as well as fun for housekeepers and neat freaks everywhere.

### **THE WIVES OF LOS ALAMOS**

Penguin UK  
The author presents her views on how a woman can have a happy marriage through an understanding of her feminine role, submission to her husband, and the

fostering of a childlike response to anger and other situations.

### **The Angel in the House** White Lion Publishing

Their average age was twenty-five. They came from Berkeley, Cambridge, Paris, London and Chicago – and arrived in New Mexico ready for adventure or at least resigned to it. But hope quickly turned to hardship in the desolate military town where everything was a secret, including what their husbands were doing at the lab. They lived in barely finished houses with a P.O. Box for an address, in a town wreathed with barbed wire, all for the benefit of 'the project' that didn't exist as far as the greater world was concerned. They were

constrained by the words they couldn't say out loud, the letters they couldn't send home, the freedom they didn't have. Though they were strangers, they joined together – babies were born, friendships were forged, children grew up. But then 'the project' was unleashed and even bigger challenges faced the women of Los Alamos, as they struggled with the burden of their contribution towards the creation of the most destructive force in mankind's history – the atomic bomb. Contentious, gripping and intimate, *The Wives of Los Alamos* is a personal tale of one of the most momentous events in our history.

## AMONG THE BOHEMIANS

MCD

Phoebe Judson was a young bride in 1853 when she and her husband crossed the plains from Ohio to the Puget Sound area of Washington Territory. She was ninety-five when this book was first published in 1925. The years between were spent in “a pioneer’s search for an ideal home” and in living there, when it was finally found at the head of the Nooksack River, almost on the Canadian border. Phoebe Judson’s account of the journey west is based on daily diary entries detailing her fear, excitement, and exhaustion. At the end of the trail, the Judsons encountered hardships aplenty,



causing them to abandon a farm and business in Olympia before their arrival in the Nooksack Valley. During the Indian Wars they holed up in a fort at Claquato. In time, Phoebe overcame her fear of the Indians, learned the Chinook language, and won their friendship. All this is told in vivid detail by a woman of great dignity and charm whom readers will long remember. Susan Armitage, professor of history at Washington State University, calls *A Pioneer's Search for an Ideal Home* a "classic pioneering account," important for its woman's point of view.

Millions Like Us Flatiron Books

EMBARKING on motherhood was a very different affair in the

1950s to what it is today. From how to dress baby (matinee coats and bonnets) to how to administer feeds (strictly four-hourly if following the Truby King method), the childrearing methods of the 1950s are a fascinating insight into the lives of women in that decade. In *A 1950s Mother*, author, mother and grandmother Sheila Hardy collects heart-warming, personal anecdotes from those women who became mothers during this fascinating post-war period. From the benefits of 'crying it out' and being put out in the garden to gripe water and Listen with Mother, the wisdom of mothers from the 1950s reverberates down the decades to young mothers of any

generation and is a hilarious and, at times, poignant trip down memory lane for any mother or child of the 1950s.

**Passages** Grand Central Publishing  
An in depth look at the lives of women in the swinging 1960s—beyond the sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll. The 1960s were a progressive decade, bringing many life changing events, especially for women. *Women of the 1960s* explores the experiences of teenagers, young career women, and those married with young children, especially those based outside of London and far from the hedonistic influences of the day. Much of the information included in this book comes from

the surprisingly honest and generous contributions of the women themselves, ensuring that a wide range of experiences are brought to life like never before. Covering topics including life after school, career choices, life after work, eating in and out, teenagers, sex, marriage, fashion, finance, women's liberation, and travel. These stories also cover the era's current affairs, including the Cold War and the pervasive fear of nuclear attack. Fascinating and frank, *Women of the 1960s* provides a new perspective on one of the most pivotal decades in modern history.

## **THE FEMININE**

## MYSTIQUE

The History Press Released for the first time in paperback, this landmark social and political volume on feminism is credited with being responsible for raising awareness, liberating both sexes, and triggering major advances in the feminist movement. Reprint.

**Girl Trouble** Penguin  
From a rediscovered collection of autobiographical accounts written by hundreds of Kansas pioneer women in the early twentieth century, Joanna Stratton has created a collection hailed by Newsweek as “uncommonly interesting” and “a remarkable distillation of primary sources.” Never before has there

been such a detailed record of women’s courage, such a living portrait of the women who civilized the American frontier. Here are their stories: wilderness mothers, schoolmarms, Indian squaws, immigrants, homesteaders, and circuit riders. Their personal recollections of prairie fires, locust plagues, cowboy shootouts, Indian raids, and blizzards on the plains vividly reveal the drama, danger and excitement of the pioneer experience. These were women of relentless determination, whose tenacity helped them to conquer loneliness and privation. Their work was the work of survival, it demanded as much from them as from their men—and at last that partnership

has been recognized. "These voices are haunting" (The New York Times Book Review), and they reveal the special heroism and industriousness of pioneer women as never before.

*The Mere Wife* W. W. Norton & Company  
 In *Perfect Wives in Ideal Homes*, Virginia Nicholson tells the story of women in the 1950s: a time before the Pill, when divorce spelled scandal and two-piece swimsuits caused mass alarm. Turn the page back to the mid-twentieth century, and discover a world peopled by women with radiant smiles, clean pinafores and gleaming coiffures; a promised land of batch-baking, maraschino cherries and brightly hued

plastic. A world where the darker side of the decade encompasses rampant prostitution, a notorious murder, and the threat of nuclear disaster. *Perfect Wives in Ideal Homes* reconstructs the real 1950s, through the eyes of the women who lived it. Step back in time to where our grandmothers scrubbed their doorsteps, cared for their families, lived, laughed, loved and struggled. This is their story.

### **PERFECT WIVES IN IDEAL HOMES**

Harper Collins  
 Set in the heart of the Sussex Downs, Charleston Farmhouse is the most important remaining example of Bloomsbury decorative style, created by the painters Vanessa Bell

and Duncan Grant. Quentin Bell, the younger son of Clive and Vanessa Bell, and his daughter Virginia Nicholson, tell the story of this unique house, linking it with some of the leading cultural figures who were invited there, including Vanessa's sister Virginia Woolf, the writer Lytton Strachey, the economist Maynard Keynes and the art critic Roger Fry. The house and garden are portrayed through Alen MacWeeney's atmospheric photographs; pictures from Vanessa Bell's family album convey the flavour of the household in its heyday.

St. Martin's Press  
Don't think that your wife has placed waste-paper baskets in the rooms as ornaments.

Don't forget that very true remark that while face powder may catch a man, baking powder is the stuff to hold him. Marriage can be a series of humorous miscommunications, a power struggle, or a diplomatic nightmare. Men and women have long struggled to figure each other out--and the misunderstandings can continue well after they've been joined in matrimony. But long before *Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus*, couples turned to self-help booklets such as *How to Be a Good Husband* and *How to Be a Good Wife*, two historic advice books that are now delightfully reproduced by the Bodleian Library. The books, originally published in the 1930s for middle-class British couples,

are filled with witty and charming aphorisms on how wives and husbands should treat each other. Some advice is unquestionably outdated--"It is a wife's duty to look her best. If you don't tidy yourself up, don't be surprised if your husband begins to compare you unfavorably with the typist at the office"--but many other pieces of advice are wholly applicable today. They include such insightful sayings as: "Don't tell your wife terminological inexactitudes, which are, in plain English, lies. A woman has wonderful intuition for spotting even minor departures from the truth"; "After all is said and done, husbands are not terribly difficult to manage"; or "Don't

squeeze the tube of toothpaste from the top instead of from the bottom. This is one of the small things of life that always irritates a careful wife."

Entertaining and charmingly illustrated, *How to Be a Good Husband and How to Be a Good Wife* offer enduringly useful advice for all couples, from the newly engaged to those celebrating their golden anniversary.

## **A 1950s HOUSEWIFE**

A&C Black  
The internationally bestselling novel by the author of *A Kiss Before Dying*, *The Boys from Brazil*, and *Rosemary's Baby* With an Introduction by Peter Straub For Joanna, her husband, Walter, and their

children, the move to beautiful Stepford seems almost too good to be true. It is. For behind the town's idyllic facade lies a terrible secret -- a secret so shattering that no one who encounters it will ever be the same. At once a masterpiece of psychological suspense and a savage commentary on a media-driven society that values the pursuit of youth and beauty at all costs, *The Stepford Wives* is a novel so frightening in its final implications that the title itself has earned a place in the American lexicon.

*Women of the 1960s*

The History Press  
'A brilliant cultural history.' Irish Examiner  
Girls behave badly. If they're not obscenity-shouting, pint-swiggling

ladettes, they're narcissistic, living dolls floating around in a cloud of self-obsession, far too busy twerking to care. And this is news. In this witty and wonderful book, Carol Dyhouse shows that where there's a social scandal or a wave of moral outrage, you can bet a girl is to blame. Whether it be stories of 'brazen flappers' staying out and up all night in the 1920s, inappropriate places for Mars bars in the 1960s or Courtney Love's mere existence in the 1990s, bad girls have been a mass-media staple for more than a century. And yet, despite the continued obsession with their perceived faults and blatant disobedience, girls are infinitely better off today than they were a

century ago. This is the story of the challenges and opportunities faced by young women growing up in the swirl of the twentieth century, and the pop-hysteria that continues to accompany their progress.

The Adventist home St. Martin's Press

Learn how to better navigate the challenges of adult life with Gail Sheehy's landmark bestseller—named one of the ten most influential books of our times by the Library of Congress. For decades, Gail Sheehy's *Passages* has been inspiring readers to see the predictable crises of adult life as opportunities for growth. She charts the stages between 18 and 50 as unfolding in a pattern of adult

development: once recognized, more easily managed.

*Passages* is an insightful road map of adulthood that illustrates with vivid stories our continuing personality and sexual changes throughout the "Trying 20s," "Catch 30s," "Forlorn 40s," and "Refreshed (or Resigned) 50s."

One comment is continuously repeated by men, women, singles, couples, and people who recover from a midlife crisis: "This book changed my life."

Perfect Wives in Ideal Homes Harper Collins

In *Perfect Wives in Ideal Homes*, Virginia Nicholson tells the story of women in the 1950s: a time before the Pill, when divorce spelled scandal and two-piece swimsuits



caused mass alarm. Turn the page back to the mid-twentieth century, and discover a world peopled by women with radiant smiles, clean pinafores and gleaming coiffures; a promised land of batch-baking, maraschino cherries and brightly hued plastic. A world where the darker side of the decade encompasses rampant prostitution, a notorious murder, and the threat of nuclear disaster. *Perfect Wives in Ideal Homes* reconstructs the real 1950s, through the eyes of the women who lived it. Step back in time to where our grandmothers scrubbed their doorsteps, cared for their families, lived, laughed, loved and struggled. This is their story. Praise for

Millions Like Us '[A] rich, entwined narrative, moves in and out of the lives of an absorbing cast of characters . . . Vividly entertaining, uplifting and humbling' Bel Mooney, *Daily Mail* 'Nicholson's vivid narrative is set firmly in the context of the time, which can seem so alien today as to be from another planet . . . Poignant, hilarious and inspiring' Edwina Currie, *The Times* '[A] brilliantly readable, often haunting history of the war . . . Sharply written and intensely moving' Sinclair Mckay, *Daily Telegraph* Praise for *Singled Out* 'It is high time to dig [this generation] up again, salute their memory and listen to their sad and uncomplaining voices unmuffled at last in Nicholson's

brave, humane and honest book' Hilary Spurling, Observer  
 'Pioneering, powerful, inspiring' John Carey, Sunday Times  
 Virginia Nicholson was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne and grew up in Yorkshire and Sussex. She studied at Cambridge University and lived abroad in France and Italy, then worked as a documentary researcher for BBC Television. Her books include the acclaimed social histories *Among the Bohemians: Experiments in Living 1900-1939*, *Singled Out: How Two Million Women Survived Without Men after the First World War*, and *Millions Like Us: Women's Lives During the Second World War*, all published by Penguin. She is

married to a writer, has three children and lives in Sussex.

*The Stepford Wives*  
 Bantam

*How to Make Your Marriage a Lifelong Love Affair*  
 What makes a woman fascinating to her husband? What is happiness in marriage for a woman? These are just two of the questions Helen B. Andelin answers in the bestselling classic that has already brought new happiness and life to millions of marriages. *Fascinating Womanhood* offers timeless wisdom, practical advice, and old-fashioned values to meet the needs and challenges of today's fascinating woman. Inside you'll learn: What traits today's men find irresistible in a woman  
 How to

awaken a man's deepest feelings of love Eight rules for a successful relationship How to rekindle your love life How to bring out the best in your man and reap the rewards Plus special advice for the working woman and much more! Fascinating Womanhood offers guidance for a new generation of women happy, fulfilled, adored and cherished who want to rediscover the magic of their own feminine selves.

The Husbands Chronos Books

New York Times bestselling author Maria Dahvana Headley presents a modern retelling of the literary classic Beowulf, set in American suburbia as two mothers—a housewife

and a battle-hardened veteran—fight to protect those they love in *The Mere Wife*. From the perspective of those who live in Herot Hall, the suburb is a paradise. Picket fences divide buildings—high and gabled—and the community is entirely self-sustaining. Each house has its own fireplace, each fireplace is fitted with a container of lighter fluid, and outside—in lawns and on playgrounds—wildflowers seed themselves in neat rows. But for those who live surreptitiously along Herot Hall's periphery, the subdivision is a fortress guarded by an intense network of gates, surveillance cameras, and motion-activated lights. For Willa, the wife of Roger Herot (heir of Herot

Hall), life moves at a charmingly slow pace. She flits between mommy groups, playdates, cocktail hour, and dinner parties, always with her son, Dylan, in tow. Meanwhile, in a cave in the mountains just beyond the limits of Herot Hall lives Gren, short for Grendel, as well as his mother, Dana, a former soldier

who gave birth as if by chance. Dana didn't want Gren, didn't plan Gren, and doesn't know how she got Gren, but when she returned from war, there he was. When Gren, unaware of the borders erected to keep him at bay, ventures into Herot Hall and runs off with Dylan, Dana's and Willa's worlds collide.

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