

# HITLER'S GIRL

THE BRITISH ARISTOCRACY AND  
THE THIRD REICH ON THE EVE OF WWII



LAUREN  
YOUNG



HARPER

*An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers*

HITLER'S GIRL. Copyright © 2022 by Lauren Young. All rights reserved. Printed in Canada. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews. For information, address HarperCollins Publishers, 195 Broadway, New York, NY 10007.

HarperCollins books may be purchased for educational, business, or sales promotional use. For information, please email the Special Markets Department at [SPsales@harpercollins.com](mailto:SPsales@harpercollins.com).

FIRST EDITION

*Designed by Nancy Singer*

*Page ii, Union Jack: Philip Openshaw/Shutterstock*

*Page iii, Reichsadler Deutschland: @Engineer/stock.adobe.com*

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data has been applied for.

ISBN 978-0-06-293673-8 (Hardcover)

ISBN 978-0-06-326694-0 (International Edition)

22 23 24 25 26    FB    10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

## NOTES

### CHAPTER 1: GERMAN FASCISM CROSSES THE ENGLISH CHANNEL

- 18 "This is a family playing and momentarily referencing a gesture": BBC, "Queen Nazi Salute Film: Palace 'Disappointed' at Use," July 18, 2015.
- 18 "There is an extraordinary atmosphere of drama about a Mosley meeting": David Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford: A Quest* (London: Orion, 1995), p. 60.
- 18 "so much perfection argues rottenness somewhere": Beatrice Webb, *The Diary of Beatrice Webb*, ed. Norman and Jeanne MacKenzie, vol. 3 (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1982–84), p. 418.
- 19 "which senile politicians have so long maintained on our public affairs": Jan Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography of the Glamorous Mitford Sister Who Became Hitler's Friend and Married the Leader of Britain's Fascists* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2000), p. 160.
- 19 "The average *Daily Mail* reader": *Spectator*, January 31, 1934.
- 20 "[A]lthough I loathe antisemitism, I do dislike Jews": Tony Kushner, *The Persistence of Prejudice: Antisemitism in British Society during the Second World War* (Manchester, UK: Manchester University Press, 1989), p. 2.
- 20 Lord Mount Temple, Lord Brabazon of Tara, and the Marquis of Clydesdale: Martin Pugh, *"Hurrah for the Blackshirts!": Fascists and Fascism between the War* (London: Random House, 2005), p. 5.
- 21 "made life worth living again": Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 159.
- 21 as well as a salary of £1 to £2 per week: *Ibid.*, p. 160.
- 21 "'get rid of the Yids'": *Evening Standard*, November 2, 1936.
- 22 recently announced Nuremberg laws (1935) in Nazi Germany: Harry Defries, *Conservative Party Attitudes to Jews, 1900–1950* (London: Routledge, 2001), p. 121.

- 22 "of the unspeakable weapon of anti-Semitism": Jewish Labour Council Workers' Circle, *Sir Oswald Mosley and the Jews* (Aldgate, UK: Jewish Labour Council Workers' Circle, 1935), University of Warwick, Papers of Aaron Rapoport Rollin.
- 22 "I was embarrassed and slunk away": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 73.
- 23 "nails had pierced his head to the skull": Charlotte Mosley, ed., *Love from Nancy: The Letters of Nancy Mitford* (London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1993), p. 62.
- 23 rescinded his support after the violent clashes: A. K. Chesterton, *Portrait of a Leader: Oswald Mosley* (London: Sanctuary Press, 2019), p. 119.
- 23 "in the early days of the NSDAP (Nazi Party)": Letter from Unity to Sydney Redesdale. Unpublished, undated manuscript. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 24 political role in their respective countries: Karina Urbach, *Go-betweens for Hitler* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), p. 167.
- 24 "whilst Bolshevism is the levelling of everything": Ibid., p. 171.
- 25 "the cancerous growth of Bolshevism": Churchill's speech delivered in Rome, January 20, 1927. Quoted in British National Archives HO 45/24893.
- 25 "accepted by millions of well-educated Germans": Urbach, *Go-betweens*, p. 185.
- 25 influence within the British royal family: Ibid., p. 187.
- 25 "race purity and fitness": Ibid.
- 26 where they both had homes: Charles Higham, *Mrs. Simpson: Secret Lives of the Duchess of Windsor* (London: Sidgwick & Jackson, 2004), p. 93.
- 26 "any such pressure on our daughter": Urbach, *Go-betweens*, p. 168.
- 27 with much fanfare at the university: Ibid., p. 183.
- 27 "assure me of Hitler's pacific intentions": John Julius Norwich, ed., *The Duff Cooper Diaries 1915–1951* (London: Phoenix, 2007), p. 218.
- 28 "diplomatic, political and industrial circles": Urbach, *Go-betweens*, p. 184.
- 28 "we will sit between two stools": Albert Speer, *Inside the Third Reich* (London: Weidenfeld, 1971), p. 71.
- 29 "in Germany and elsewhere": Adrian Phillips, *The King Who Had*

- to Go: *Edward VIII, Mrs. Simpson and the Hidden Politics of the Abdication Crisis* (London: Biteback Publishing, 2017).
- 29 "stretched out at them": British National Archives FO 371/18858.

## CHAPTER 2: MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE BLACKSHIRTS

- 31 "the English popular press is dumb": Odette Keun, "Perfidious Albion," in *Tide and Time*, July 6, 1935.
- 32 "what we are going to do about them": Pugh, "*Hurrah for the Blackshirts!*," p. 232.
- 33 allow them into their country: Alex Ross, "How American Racism Influenced Hitler," *New Yorker*, April 23, 2018.
- 34 lives to be taken more quickly: Ibid.
- 36 population of British citizenry: Pugh, "*Hurrah for the Blackshirts!*," p. 231.
- 37 blond braids and "high spirits": Robin Saika, *The Red Book: The Membership List of the Right Club 1939* (London: Foxley Books, 2010), p. 26.
- 37 "A fur coat can wait": Ibid., p. 23.
- 38 "activities of Organized Jewry": Ibid., p. 136.
- 38 "Conservative Party of Jewish influence": Ibid., pp. 4–5.
- 38 "Jewish intrigue centered in New York": Ibid., p. 134.
- 39 "T'will serve to hang them yet": Ibid., p. 95.
- 39 a member of the Scottish Parliament: Ibid., p. 96.
- 40 "irreproachable sincerity and honesty": Ibid., p. 125.
- 40 of German propaganda: Ibid., p. 115.
- 41 "so vituperative, so vitriolic": Ibid.
- 41 "our Lord was a Jew": Ibid., p. 104.
- 42 "sometimes very well attended": Ibid., p. 43.
- 43 "I knew his uncle in India": British National Archives KV5/87.
- 44 "our own good Prime Minister": Saika, *The Red Book*, p. 27.
- 44 "without shedding one drop of blood": Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 245.
- 44 "the prospect of peace": *Policy of His Majesty's Government*, HC Deb 05 October 1938 volume 339 cc 337–454.
- 46 quick consolidation of power: Norman Rose, *The Cliveden Set: Portrait of an Exclusive Fraternity* (London: Random House, 2001), pp. 136–37.

- 46 "influence on the course of British policy": Ibid., p. 174.
- 47 as well as a few others: Ibid., p. 464.
- 47 "'Der Fuhrer, der Fuhrer'": Natalie Livingstone, *The Mistresses of Cliveden: Three Centuries of Scandal, Power and Intrigue* (London: Penguin Random House, 2015), p. 468.
- 48 "supports of German influence": Rose, *The Cliveden Set*.
- 49 "structure of British Democracy": Ibid., p. 5.
- 49 "German Foreign Policy": Livingstone, *The Mistresses of Cliveden*, p. 470.
- 49 "retire from public life": Rose, *The Cliveden Set*, p. 182.
- 50 "the crimes of Hitlerism": Ibid.
- 50 "senseless fable got into the headlines": Ibid., p. 181.
- 50 foreign policy closer to Germany: Ibid., p. 178.
- 51 "nothing but the thick stick": Ibid., p. 191.
- 51 "their own properties and privileges": Ibid., p. 192.
- 51 "a defeatist pampered group": Ibid., p. 194.
- 52 "I can't believe that has happened": Christopher Sykes, *Nancy: The Life of Lady Astor* (New York: Harper and Row, 1972), p. 414.

### CHAPTER 3: A SHORT HISTORY OF THE LONG HISTORY OF BRITISH ANTI-SEMITISM

- 56 Britain was home to the third-largest Jewish community in Europe. This compares to Germany with about 525,000 Jews (0.75 percent of the total German population), Hungary with 445,000 (5.1 percent of the population), Czechoslovakia with 357,000 (2.4 percent), and Austria 191,000, most of whom lived in Vienna (2.8 percent). Source: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.
- 56 Jews were "untrustworthy individuals": David Rosenberg, *Facing Up to Anti-Semitism: How Jews in Britain Countered the Threats of the 1930s* (London: JCARP Publications, 1985), pp. 14, 17.
- 56 synagogue was vandalized: Ibid., p. 5.
- 56 "Gentiles do not mix socially in numbers": Ibid., p. 17.
- 57 by the Gestapo—in Central London: Richard Dove, "Reviews: The Strange Case of Dora Fabian and Mathilde Wurm. By Charmian Brinson," *Journal of European Studies* 27, no. 4 (December 1, 1997): 474–75.

- 57 any statement about the case: Ibid.
- 57 "syndicate of dirty American Jews": Rosenberg, *Facing Up to Anti-Semitism*, p. 17.
- 57 "filth is swept right away": Ibid., p. 16.
- 57 imminent invasion by Germany: Michael Ffinch, G. K. Chesterton (San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1986), pp. 334–35.
- 58 "Any Jew Is Worth Two Englishmen": Pugh, *"Hurrah for the Blackshirts!"*, p. 230.
- 58 to benefit the British Red Cross: *Leaving Today: The Freuds in Exile 1938*, Exhibition at the Freud Museum London, July 18–September 30, 2018.
- 58 across a much larger population: David Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie: The Uncensored Biography of Unity Mitford* (Stroud, UK: The History Press, 2013), p. 140.
- 59 "for all the evils of the day": Jewish Labour Council Workers' Circle, *Sir Oswald Mosley and the Jews*.
- 59 "unrest and political crisis": Ibid.
- 59 "pogroms in this country": Rosenberg, *Facing Up to Anti-Semitism*, p. 6.
- 60 "to help the German Jews": David Nasaw, *The Patriarch: The Remarkable Life and Turbulent Times of Joseph P. Kennedy* (New York: Penguin Press, 2012), p. 363.
- 60 "with this Jewish question": See Cabinet Files, British National Archives.

#### CHAPTER 4: THE DEBUTANTE NAZI

- 61 love of Wagnerian opera: Jonathan Guinness with Catherine Guinness, *The House of Mitford* (London: Phoenix, 2004), p. 213.
- 62 in the final days of the Reich: David Pryce-Jones, "'You Are Always Close to Me': Unity Mitford's Souvenirs of Hitler," *Spectator*, March 28, 2015.
- 62 since the Norman Conquest: Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, *More Equal than Others: The Changing Fortunes of the British and European Aristocracies* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1970), p. 174.
- 62 "among the Christmas dolls": Anita Leslie, *The Gilt and the Gingerbread* (London: Hutchinson, 1981), p. 148.
- 62 "outstandingly beautiful tribe": Anita Leslie, *Cousin Randolph* (London: Hutchinson, 1985).

- 63 Hampstead League of Mercy: *Court Circular Times* (London),  
November 10, July 4, June 10, December 22, December 10, May 4,  
etc. [1932]
- 63 "flashing sham jewels": Jessica Mitford, *Hons and Rebels*, p. 66.
- 63 to liven up the party: Ibid.
- 63 girl of her social class: Leslie, *The Gilt and the Gingerbread*, p. 148.
- 64 her parents were eager to avoid: Nicholas Mosley, *Rules of the Game: Beyond the Pale: Memoirs of Sir Oswald Mosley and Family* (London: Dalkey Archive Press, 1991), pp. 252–60.
- 64 "first drawing-room Nazi": Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 153.
- 65 intimates and for several years: George S. Messersmith Papers, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, *Report on Ernst Hanfstaengl*.
- 65 "during his leisure moments": Ibid.
- 66 "noises of the steam train": *Sunday Telegraph*, February 27, 2005.
- 66 eventually meet Unity and Diana: Erik Larson, *In the Garden of the Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin* (New York: Crown, 2011), p. 71. See Library of Congress, Martha Dodd Papers, Box 1, File 2, for calling cards Martha Dodd had received.
- 66 "permitted him to do anything": George S. Messersmith Papers.
- 66 "would not stand for that sort of thing": Ibid.
- 67 "flags in all the windows": Anne de Courcy, *Diana Mosley: Mitford Beauty, British Fascist, Hitler's Angel* (New York: William Morrow, 2003), p. 108.
- 67 ran through the crowd when he spoke: Ibid., p. 121.
- 68 "spirit which is moving Germany these days": Ibid., p. 158.
- 68 "I have ever been to in my life": Ibid., p. 107.
- 68 "I succeeded in that direction": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 78.
- 69 a decorated war hero, Captain Vincent: Ibid.
- 69 recommendation from Otto von Bismarck: Ernst Hanfstaengl, *Hitler: The Missing Years* (New York: Arcade Publishing, 1994), p. 214.
- 69 "never let me go abroad again": Manuscript of unpublished correspondence between Lady Redesdale and Unity Mitford, undated. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 69 "there was no one I would rather meet": Ibid.



- 69 at Nazi Headquarters in Berlin: Alexander Geppert, "Dear Adolf!" Locating Love in Nazi Germany," in *New Dangerous Liaisons: Discourses on Europe and Love in the Twentieth Century*, ed. L. Passerini and A. Geppert (Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2008), pp. 190, 195–96.
- 70 "I can't possibly do without lipstick": de Courcy, *Diana Mosley: Mitford Beauty*, p. 120.
- 70 extended family in the country: *Ibid.*, p. 118.
- 71 "modest, but dignified baroness": Gioia Diliberto, *Debutante: The Story of Brenda Frazier* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1987), p. 78.
- 71 "the cook, was already old then": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 86.
- 71 "semi-romance" with Putzi Hanfstaengl: Charlotte Mosley, ed., *The Mitfords: Letters between Six Sisters* (New York: Harper, 2007), p. 43.
- 71 "she'd bothered to come out": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*.
- 72 "self-esteem was Perspex strong": Julia Boyd, *Travelers in the Third Reich: The Rise of Fascism 1919–1945* (New York: Pegasus, 2018), e-book.
- 72 if she did not admit to liking Hitler: *Ibid.*
- 72 he would introduce her to Hitler: *Ibid.*
- 72 RESERVIERT FÜR DEN FÜHRER: *Ibid.*
- 73 "a special salute all to myself": Charlotte Mosley, ed., *Letters between Six Sisters*, Letter from Unity to Diana, June 12, 1934.
- 73 the Night of the Long Knives: Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 127.
- 74 "The whole thing is so dreadful": Charlotte Mosely, *Letters between Six Sisters*, Letter from Unity to Diana, July 1, 1934, pp. 47–48.
- 74 "Miss Hanfstaengl": Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 129.
- 74 "enormously fat": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, Letter from Unity to Diana, May 4, 1934.
- 75 "she was my guest": See Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, pp. 156–57.
- 75 "(she) was hoping to see Hitler": Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 139.
- 75 "the big meetings, they are thrilling": Unpublished, undated letter from Unity Mitford to Lady Redesdale. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 76 "had their *Stammitsch* and came every day": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 103.
- 76 "one of the most thrilling moments of my life": Unpublished, undated letter from Unity Mitford to Lady Redesdale. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.

- 76 "vegetable cutlets": Ibid.
- 76 "were really all she had": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, Letter from Unity to Diana, December 23, 1935, p. 68.
- 77 "And it paid off": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 86.
- 77 at the Osteria Bavaria: Otto Dietrich, *The Hitler I Knew*, trans. Richard and Clara Winston (London: Methuen, 1957), p. 188.
- 77 "go by her table on his way out": Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 119.
- 78 "thrilled to death of course": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 95.
- 78 "passing through Munich": Ibid.
- 78 "I did not like him": Unpublished, undated letter from Unity Mitford to Lady Redesdale. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 78 "my little sunshine": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 147.
- 79 Unity was English and not German: Unpublished, undated letter from Unity Mitford to Lady Redesdale. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 79 "she addresses him as *Mein Fubrer*": Ibid.
- 79 "possibility of a love affair with her": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 96.
- 79 "the police knew it and never did a thing": Ibid., p. 147.
- 79 on account of the "international Jews": Guinness and Guinness, *The House of Mitford*, pp. 370–71.
- 80 "he speaks a lot in analogies": Letter to Lord Redesdale, February 19, 1935. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 80 she wouldn't mind dying: Boyd, *Travelers in the Third Reich*, e-book.
- 80 "Sweet Uncle Wolf": de Courcy, *Diana Mosley: Mitford Beauty*, p. 151.
- 80 "Hero-worship": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 96.
- 80 "& talked a lot about all these Notes": Likely diplomatic notes that were exchanged when Hitler violated the military clause of the Treaty of Versailles.
- 81 "he has a very nice face": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, pp. 55–56.
- 81 "full of praise for what they had seen": Mary S. Lovell, *The Sisters: The Saga of the Mitford Family*, 1st American ed. (New York: W. W. Norton, 2002).
- 82 "found him intelligent to talk to": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, p. 56.

- 82 for the week he visited: Ibid., p. 57.
- 82 "She said what came into her head": Diana Mosley, *A Life of Contrasts: The Autobiography of Diana Mosley*, American ed. (New York: Time Books, 1977), p. 153.
- 83 "tea in the Fuhrer's home": Ernest Pope, *Sunday Dispatch*, January 25, 1942.
- 83 "lord of that National Socialist Party": Ernest Pope, *Sunday Dispatch*, January 25, 1942.
- 84 "he appreciated frankness in her": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, pp. 96–97.
- 84 "knowing that rumours would spread": Ibid., p. 97.
- 84 "I have only to tell her": Ibid., p. 148.
- 84 "the person that everyone was interested in": de Courcy, *Diana Mosley: Mitford Beauty*, p. 152.
- 84 "that 'good for nothing Unity'": Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 130.
- 85 "I could write a funny book about them": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, p. 61.
- 86 "A pleasant host": Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 158.
- 86 "unaware that we knew each other": Sir Oswald Mosley, *My Life*, 2nd ed. (New Rochelle, NY: Arlington House, 1972), p. 368.
- 86 "in no way neurotic": Ibid., pp. 365–66.
- 86 Friederike, later the Queen of Greece: Brigitte Hamann, *Winifred Wagner: A Life in the Heart of Hitler's Bayreuth*, trans. Alan Bance (New York: Harcourt, 2005), p. 240.
- 87 "it was the fashion to chatter on like that": Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 130.
- 87 "such a great personality at its head": "She Adores Hitler," *Sunday Express*, May 28, 1935.
- 87 "The New Age has come": Unpublished letter from Unity Mitford to Lady Redesdale, June 4, 1935. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 88 "friendship between Germany and England will prevail": Pryce-Jones translation in *Unity Mitford*, pp. 114–15.
- 88 "she sees Herr Hitler very often in Munich": British National Archives FO 371/18859.
- 89 "getting faster and faster": Letter from Unity Mitford to Lady Redesdale, June 23, 1935. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.

- 89 as she left the stage: Ibid.
- 89 "Queen of the May this year at Hesselberg": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, Letter from Nancy Mitford to Unity Mitford, June 29, 1935, p. 60.
- 89 "My heart will always belong to you": David Pryce-Jones, "Eva Braun's Rival: The British Socialite Who Loved Hitler," *National Review*, March 21, 2015.
- 90 "against my own conscience, and it doesn't": Unity Mitford to Lady Redesdale, undated manuscript. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 90 "Germany has already completed victoriously": Harry Kessler, *Berlin in Lights: The Diaries of Count Harry Kessler, 1918–1937*, trans. Charles Kessler (New York: Grove Press, 2000), p. 474.
- 91 "Out with the Jews!": *Der Stürmer*, July 1935 issue, p. 6.
- 91 "The dagger is lovely": Letter from Unity Mitford to Lady Redesdale, undated. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 91 "to get her name in the papers": *Jewish Chronicle*, August 2, 1935.
- 92 "lunch parties in his flat": Michael Burn, *Turned towards the Sun* (Wilby, Norwich, UK: Michael Russell Publishing, 2003).
- 92 "were greeted uproariously": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, pp. 121–22.
- 93 "She was a bit of a suffragette": Ibid., p. 123.
- 93 "He is happy to be rid of them": Letter from Unity Mitford to Lady Redesdale, December 23, 1935. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.
- 93 "'sends you faithfully Adolf Hitler'": Ibid., December 25, 1935.
- 93 for permission to visit Dachau: Ibid., January 1936.
- 94 "in the roof of the temple": Letter from Unity Mitford to Diana Mitford, February 2, 1936. Held at Chatsworth House Trust.

#### CHAPTER 5: "SWEET DR. GOEBBELS"

- 95 "labor unions in a surprisingly short time?": Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 104.
- 96 "silly people at Nuremberg": British National Archives FO 371/18858.
- 96 "rehabilitate Germany in despite of England": John Heygate,

- These Germans: An Estimate of Their Character Seen in Flashes from the Drama 1918–1939* (London: Hutchinson, 1940), p. 180.
- 97 "rather than be over-pernickety": Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 220.
- 97 "we are the poorer thereby": Ibid.
- 97 "It is simply not true": Ibid., pp. 221–22.
- 98 "our victory is certain": Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 111.
- 98 the group's activities to MI5: Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 174.
- 99 "a tragedy was averted": *Anglo-German Review*, November 1936.
- 100 "don't you think": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, Letter from Unity Mitford to Diana Mitford, February 8, 1936, p. 69.
- 100 "partners will be changed": Juliet Gardiner, *The Thirties: An Intimate History* (London: Harper Press, 2010), p. 429.
- 100 "friendship between the two Nordic countries": Ibid.
- 101 winning fourteen medals: Ibid., p. 431.
- 101 the release of a thousand pigeons: de Courcy, *Diana Mosley: Mitford Beauty*, p. 172.
- 101 "has won the masses": Gardiner, *The Thirties*, p. 430.
- 102 the influential British daily: Ibid.
- 102 "pro-German but pro-Nazi": Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 215.
- 102 "supposed interests of your adopted class": Ibid., p. 217.
- 102 private secretary to Prime Minister David Lloyd George: Ibid., p. 216.
- 103 "She cried and I was so sorry": de Courcy, *Diana Mosley: Mitford Beauty*, p. 172.
- 103 not in the main house: Ibid.
- 104 "without a trace of Teutonic flavor": Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 217.
- 104 "would have impressed the Romans": Ibid., p. 218.
- 104 "because everything had geklappt (worked)": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, p. 76.
- 105 the arrest of eighty-three protesters: Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 223.
- 105 "I want to leave Bryan": Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 109.
- 106 an ankle-length black skirt: Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 174.

- 106 "and your sweetness too": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, p. 77.
- 107 "for your success and happiness Magda Goebbels": Dalley, *Diana Mosley: A Biography*, p. 225.
- 107 "the best I ever heard him make": Ibid., p. 224.
- 107 "'newspapermen could squirt their poison': Sefton Delmer, *Sunday Express*, October 11, 1936.
- 108 "you are still in the Fuhrer's train": Charlotte Mosley, *Letters between Six Sisters*, p. 77.
- 108 "we had a lot of jokes": Ibid., p. 78.
- 108 "Tell him that please!": "Who is King Here?" "Strictly Confidential" report was addressed "Only for the Führer and Party Member v. Ribbentrop."

## CHAPTER 6: WHOSE SIDE?

- 110 avoid a war between the two countries: Federal Bureau of Investigation File Number HQ65-31113 and HQ94-46650. Released by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts. Undated.
- 111 "her conversation deft and amusing": Ibid., p. 39.
- 112 at the end of the week: British National Archives FO/954/10A.
- 112 "because of that stupid tactlessness": Testimony of Reichsmarshal Goering to Major Douglas Kelley, November 11, 1945, International Military Tribunal, *Trial of the Major War Criminals before the International Military Tribunal* (Nuremberg: Allied Control Authority of Germany, 1947), IX, 400.
- 113 "the last thing which any of us desire": British National Archives FO/054/10A.
- 113 "every drop of blood in my veins is German": Morton, *17 Carnations*, p. 57.
- 113 "for what reason I cannot imagine": Ibid., p. 63.
- 114 "interesting and significant": Ibid., p. 58.
- 114 "with which he was treated in Austria": British National Archives FO 954/33.
- 114 "His abdication was a severe loss for us": Speer, *Inside the Third Reich*, p. 72.
- 114 "formation of British foreign policy": Morton, *17 Carnations*, pp. 60–61.

- 115 "There is no genuine trait in him": Paul Schwarz, *Ribbentrop the Man* (New York: Julian Messner, 1943), pp. 294–95.
- 115 "that she was passing on to the Germans": Morton, *17 Carnations*, p. 158.
- 116 "cast an undesirable reflection upon their King": Ibid., p. 74.
- 116 "'in several of the larger cities'": British National Archives FO 954/33.
- 117 "would not make any speeches": Ibid.
- 117 "costs of the trip would be paid by Germany": Ibid.
- 117 "regarded as countenancing it": Ibid.
- 117 "as little as possible to do with them": Ibid.
- 118 "regarded as countenancing the visit": Ibid.
- 118 "in no way approves of the visit": Ibid.
- 118 "it is not possible to stop the Duke of Windsor going to Germany": British National Archives FO 954/33A-55.
- 119 "A great man!": Morton, *17 Carnations*, p. 132.
- 119 "'where they store the cold meat'": Ibid.
- 120 "with the same peculiar fire": Greg King, *The Duchess of Windsor: The Uncommon Life of Wallis Simpson* (London: Citadel, 2020), e-book.
- 120 "it was a soldier's salute": Morton, *17 Carnations*, p. 133.
- 121 a "semi fascist comeback in England": Ibid., p. 137.
- 121 "to marry her and maintain the throne": Ibid., p. 158.
- 121 "England's destiny after the war": Ibid., p. 163.
- 122 "the suggestion comes from Germany": British National Archives CAB-301-179\_01.
- 123 "make England ready for peace": Morton, *17 Carnations*, p. 178.
- 123 "became very thoughtful": British National Archives CAB-301-179\_01.
- 124 "both to HM and the Government": Morton, *17 Carnations*, p. 174.
- 124 "to do away with him at first opportunity": British National Archives CAB-301-179\_01.
- 125 "as good as impossible": Ibid.
- 125 on behalf of Germany: Ibid.
- 126 "Spanish secret police will ensure a safe crossing": British National Archives CAB-301-179\_12.
- 126 "Duke and Duchess are prepared to return to Spain": Ibid.
- 126 "he would give an answer in 48 hours": Ibid.
- 126 "in accordance with their wishes": British National Archives CAB-301-179\_13.

- 127 "expressed admiration and sympathy for the Fuehrer": British National Archives CAB-301-179\_15.
- 127 "persuade the Duke and Duchess to remain in Europe": British National Archives CAB-301-179\_16.
- 127 "Security Police could offer no guarantees": Ibid.
- 128 "Shall any answer be sent?": British National Archives CAB-301-179\_18.
- 128 "was listening to suggestions that were disloyal": Ibid.
- 129 "there was no possible value to them": British National Archives CAB-301-179\_19.
- 129 "destroy all traces of these German intrigues": Ibid.
- 130 "and never saw him after 1937": Federal Bureau of Investigation File Number HQ65-31113 and HQ94-46650. Released by the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts. Undated.
- 130 "he is virtually non compos mentis": Ibid.
- 131 ensure that the duchess had no communication with Ribbentrop: Ibid.
- 131 "the transferring of messages through the clothes may be taking place": Ibid.
- 131 "among the British aristocracy": Ibid.
- 132 "represented the number of times they had slept together": Ibid.
- 134 "it will cost the lives of millions of Americans": Ibid.
- 134 "there would be no question about his wife's being queen": Ibid.
- 135 during the Windsors' visit to Miami and Palm Beach: Ibid.
- 135 "praised the German government and the Hitler regime": Ibid.
- 136 "I'll fit in anywhere that I can be helpful": Ibid.
- 136 "how pleasant it was to renew my acquaintance with you": Ibid.
- 137 Anglo-German Naval Agreement (1935) with the Chamberlain government: See Avalon Project, Yale Law School.
- 137 "policy did not materialize": *Nuremberg Trial Proceedings*, vol. 9, March 16, 1946, Avalon Project, Yale Law School.
- 138 shared with President Truman and Marshal Stalin: British National Archives FO/954/32D.



## CHAPTER 7: THE WOLKOFF AFFAIR

- 139 "It may be here (in the US) too": Op-Ed by Ambassador Joseph Kennedy, *Boston Sunday Globe*, November 10, 1940.
- 141 "outside the courtroom would see a certain witness": Staff reporter, *Daily Express*, October 24, 1940.
- 141 likely to be high-ranking MI5 agent Maxwell Knight: British Press Association, October 1940.
- 142 further raised the suspicions of British intelligence: British National Archives KV-2-841\_1.
- 142 "they will not be able to understand": Ibid.
- 143 whatever she wished: Ibid.
- 144 "Hitler was undoubtedly a genius": British National Archives KV-2-842\_6.
- 144 both MI5 and the police: British National Archives KV-2-841\_1.
- 144 "membership of the Right Club was a secret matter": British National Archives KV-2-2\_6.
- 145 "for the way it had rid itself of Jews": British National Archives KV-2-841\_2.
- 145 "wears a gold-rimmed monocle": British National Archives KV-2-841\_1.
- 145 he would spit in the faces of the English: Ibid.
- 145 Imperial Russian War Cabinet of 1914: Ignatieff was the father of former Canadian MP and Opposition Party leader Michael Ignatieff who now serves as the president of Central European University.
- 146 "until the outbreak of the war": British National Archives KV-2-842\_6.
- 147 "in Harrington Gardens almost every night": British National Archives KV-2-841\_4.
- 147 with whom she was in frequent contact: British National Archives KV-2-841\_1.
- 147 "Jews were ruining the country": British National Archives KV-2-841\_2.
- 147 the two women made omelets together: Ibid.
- 148 "England would not be able to stand up to Germany": Ibid.
- 148 "could be read with a magnifying glass": Ibid.
- 148 "strategic position of the Allies": British National Archives KVI-2-841\_3.

- 149 "you will give us the stuff all the same": Paul Willetts, *Rendezvous at the Russian Tea Rooms: The Spy Hunter, the Fashion Designer and the Man from Moscow* (London: Constable, 2015), p. 324.
- 150 "subversive operations in Great Britain": British National Archives KV-2-842\_6.
- 150 to Maxwell Knight of MI5 instead of Joyce: British National Archives KV-2-841\_2.
- 151 with "pluck and initiative": Ibid.
- 151 "dark hair and complexion": British National Archives KV-2-841\_1.
- 151 "looked like a cheap gangster": British National Archives KV-2-1698.
- 151 "obtaining 'intelligence' in this country": Ibid.
- 152 might be an accomplice: Ibid.
- 152 to the Embassy Club where they stayed until just after midnight: British National Archives KV-2-841\_2.
- 152 "I made no further attempt to get in touch with Kent": Ibid.
- 153 "asked me to keep it for him": Ibid.
- 154 "where any unauthorized person might have access to it": British National Archives KV-2-841\_1.
- 154 "removed to prison as a menace to that policy": Ibid.
- 154 disclosure of unauthorized information: British National Archives KV-2-841\_4.
- 154 evidence of her political leanings: Ibid.
- 155 "my duty to make these facts known": British National Archives KV-2-841\_1.
- 155 "the telegrams were very secret": Ibid.
- 155 "both the governments concerned": British National Archives KV-2-841\_3.
- 156 "they would be of use to an enemy": British National Archives KV-2-841\_1.
- 156 "only because she was in love with him": British National Archives KV-2-841\_6.
- 156 that Kent was a spy—and suggest a love affair: Ibid.
- 156 "to the full extent of her power": British National Archives KV-2-841\_2.
- 156 "without any specific object in mind": Ibid.
- 156 she spent an hour there alone: Ibid.

- 157 was cleared when each count was presented: British National Archives KV-2-841\_4.
- 157 "used as a means of dissolving Parliament": Roosevelt spelled incorrectly in the text. British National Archives KV-2-841\_6.
- 158 whose identity was not disclosed: Ibid.
- 158 considers herself to be German: Ibid.
- 158 "because she is allowed to sew": Ibid.
- 159 car accident in Spain in August 1973, aged seventy-one: Ibid.
- 159 "you will then be told who is to be your leader": British National Archives KV-2-841\_4.
- 160 with his wife at Royal Holloway Prison: British National Archives KV-2-841\_1.

## CHAPTER 8: HITLER'S GIRL

- 161 "she intends to remain on the continent for a lengthy period": British National Archives KV-2882\_64.
- 162 "she would of course stay in Germany": British National Archives KV2/882.
- 162 "probably in love with Hitler": August 22, 1939. Amanda Smith, ed., *Hostage to Fortune: The Letters of Joseph P. Kennedy* (New York: Penguin, 2001), 355–56.
- 163 American ambassador to Berlin from 1933 to 1937: See Larson, *In the Garden of the Beasts*.
- 163 Unity questioned his loyalty to Hitler: Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 196.
- 165 "a young Jewish couple going abroad": Lovell, *The Sisters*, p. 286.
- 165 witnessed Unity depart in an ambulance: Bayerische Hauptstaatsarchiv, Munich, September 3, 1939 (Pol. Dir. Munchen, 10 117).
- 165 noted that she was not gravely wounded: Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 297.
- 166 "Gestapo officers entered her room and a shot was heard": Ibid., pp. 306–7.
- 166 she had no memory of what had occurred: Ibid., p. 307.
- 167 repatriation by the American embassy in Berlin: British National Archives KV2/882 Ref 11410.

- 167 "about to change, her nationality to German": British National Archives KV-2882\_63.
- 167 getting Unity sent back to England: British National Archives KV2/882 11410/11419/218.
- 167 "she is getting on well": British National Archives KV2/882 Ref 113.
- 168 "having fallen in love with Hitler": *The Guy Liddell Diaries*, Volume 1: 1939–1942 MI5's Director of Counter-Espionage in World War II, ed. Nigel West (New York: Routledge, 2005), p. 54.
- 168 "she was getting on marvelously": British National Archives KV-2-882\_61.
- 168 subsequent Allied declarations of war: Albert Speer, *Spandau: The Secret Diaries* (New York: Macmillan, 1976), p. 331.
- 169 "to give to the nurses": *Times of London*, August 19, 1938.
- 170 "Unity's bosom friend": Litchfield, *Hitler's Valkyrie*, p. 130.
- 170 his intimate relationship with Unity: *Ibid.*, p. 228.
- 170 to Count Almásy for safekeeping: Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 301.
- 171 "the flowers they had brought": *Ibid.*, p. 295.
- 171 "eight dead and sixty wounded": *Ibid.*
- 172 "doctor (Reiser) were to accompany her": *Ibid.*, p. 298.
- 173 "told that it would be all right": *Ibid.*, p. 299.
- 173 "The nurse also joined in the conversation": British National Archives KV-2-882\_60.
- 173 "and before the 27th": British National Archives KV-2-882\_59.
- 174 hired a guard van to follow their train: Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 307.
- 175 "and telephone what paper it was": British National Archives KV-2-882\_57.
- 176 sent to Admiral Salmond for clearance: British National Archives KV-882.
- 176 Walton Private Ambulance Service: Pryce-Jones, *Unity Mitford*, p. 308.
- 177 "went into the cabin and shut the door": British National Archives KV-882\_47.
- 177 "her mother and sister [Deborah] have gone over to fetch her": *The Guy Liddell Diaries*, Volume 1, ed. West, p. 54.
- 177 a request that Maxwell did not grant: *Ibid.*, p. 55.

- 178 "came perilously near to high treason": Ibid.
- 178 "should be searched discreetly but thoroughly": Ibid., p. 54.
- 178 "the case had been considered": Ibid.
- 180 "in view of her past associations": British National Archives KV-882, June 28, 1940.
- 180 "necessary medical treatment in prison": British National Archives KV-882.
- 180 "assisting an enemy government": British National Archives KV-882, January 24, 1940.
- 181 "keeping hundreds of others in detention": British National Archives KV-882, January 24, 1940.
- 181 "Unity's Sister Weds, Then Signs On": "Unity's Sister Weds, Then Signs On," *Sunday Dispatch*, April 20, 1941.
- 181 "Not on your life": *Daily Mirror*, April 22, 1941.
- 182 "yawned at the happy guests": Ibid.
- 182 "'U.M.' in gilt letters": *Daily Express*, April 20, 1941.
- 182 "NO ONE CARES ABOUT UNITY ANY MORE": "NO ONE CARES ABOUT UNITY ANY MORE," *Sunday Pictorial*, April 20, 1941.
- 182 "her declared pro-Nazi views?": British National Archives KV-882.
- 183 "sent back to England": Ibid.
- 183 "talks of her associations with Hitler": Ibid.
- 184 "the bullet is still in my brain": Ibid.
- 184 "she gets mildly depressed": Ibid.
- 185 "removed from Brize Norton to another station": Ibid.
- 185 "had been broken off": Ibid.
- 185 "spoke very quickly and laughed a lot": Ibid.
- 185 "I tried to commit suicide": Ibid.
- 185 "I should love to be here with you": Ibid.
- 185 "quite her old self again": Ibid.
- 186 MY HEART WILL ALWAYS BELONG TO YOU: David Pryce-Jones, "You Are Always Close to Me," *Spectator*, March 28, 2015.

#### AFTERWORD: HITLER'S CHILD?

- 188 "avoid publicity and unpleasantness to her family": British National Archives KV4/19.
- 190 "always said (the baby) was Hitler's": Martin Bright, "Unity Mitford and Hitler's Baby," *New Statesman*, September 27, 2015.