



Happy Times

By Lee Radziwill

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Happy Times is the credo of a woman who, having witnessed historical moments and shared the lives of individuals struck by fate, has made the deliberate choice to remember only what's beautiful. Lee Radziwill offers a unique perspective of happy times -- from the Bouvier sisters' first trip to Europe to fond memories of Christmas in Palm Beach with President Kennedy, from her years in London to summer days in Conca, Lee Radziwill has enjoyed a very colorful and successful life. With anecdotes, pictures, notes, and drawings, Happy Times is a very personal look at a highly publicized life.

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Happy Times By Lee Radziwill Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #112679 in Books
- Published on: 2001-05-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Andy Warhol would have approved of close friend Lee Radziwill's autobiographical picture book, *Happy Times*. A sort of postmodern photographic journal crossed with a lovey *Hello!* spread, Radziwill's book offers a visually lush, mildly gossipy, somewhat surreal document--solely in photographs and brief reminiscences--of the younger Bouvier sister's unique brand of celebrity. As Radziwill explains in her introduction, friends had urged her to write a biography for years, but she felt doing so would "involve me in too many other lives." So she opted for a biography that focuses only on her "happy times" (hence the book title), and these, she says, happened mostly in the 1960s. The resulting slim volume is essentially a collection of gorgeous photographs, scattered haphazardly like a scrapbook, interspersed with Radziwill's selective memories and little handwritten comments. With a somewhat unconvincing naiveté ("memories should be of happy times"), each chapter is devoted to a particular "happy time" but in no special order. We have summers in Montauk with Mick and Bianca, Christmas with the young Kennedy family, a tour of India with her sister Jackie, whole chapters devoted to each of Radziwill's many exotic homes.

Assuming the reader knows most of the big events of her life, Radziwill offers little in the way of context of these happy times, and it's this element that ultimately gives the project a surreal, celebrity-by-association feel. You wonder why you're reading this random assemblage of country-house photos and memories of Truman Capote; or, considering so much of the book is taken up by photos of the Kennedys, why you should especially care about Lee Radziwill. But it isn't without its charm, and as you flip through the book, Radziwill's breathless gratitude for her own good fortune becomes contagious. The book's final chapter, hand-drawn by Lee and sister Jackie in 1951, documents a summer trip to Europe. An odd inclusion but ultimately fascinating, it's the essence of *Happy Times*: you're not exactly sure what you're looking at, or why--but isn't it lovely? --Marisa Lencioni, *Amazon.co.uk*

About the Author

Lee Radziwill is the younger sister of the late Jacqueline Onassis. They both attended Miss Porter's School, and after Lee graduated, the two girls traveled in Europe together. When Jackie became First Lady, her most trusted confidante was her sister, and they traveled together on both state visits and private vacations. Lee's second husband was the Polish prince Stanislaw Radziwill, with whom she had two children, Anthony and Anna Christina. Radziwill has been an interior design consultant and a public relations executive for Giorgio Armani, and she received the Légion d'Honneur from the French government in 2008. Radziwill leads a quiet life, dividing her time between Paris and New York City.

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