

If you like Downton Abbey: TRY THESE!



*compiled by: Monica Williams
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Read Alikes- the books!

Carnarvon, Fiona.	Lady Almina and the Real Downton Abbey.
Chevalier, Tracy.	Falling Angels.
Colegate, Isabel.	The Shooting Party.
Fellows, Jessica.	The World of Downton Abbey.
Fellows, Julian.	Snobs
Ford, Ford Maddox,	Parade's End
Galsworthy, John.	The Forsythe Saga
Goodwin, Daisy.	The American Heiress
Ishiguro, Kazuo.	The Remains of the Day
MacColl, Gail & Carol McD.Wallace.	To Marry an English Lord
Mitford, Nancy.	Love in a Cold Climate
Morton, Kate.	The House at Riverton
Powell, Margaret.	Below Stairs: The Classic Kitchen Maid's Memoir that Inspired "Upstairs, Downstairs" and "Downton Abbey"
Vincenzi, Penny.	No Angel
Winspear, Jacqueline.	Maisie Dobbs



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Miniseries and Films

The Buccaneers

Based on the Edith Wharton novel *The Buccaneers* this mini series follows four wealthy American girls who go to England to marry aristocratic husbands. Like Cora, they bring their new American money to impoverished English aristocrats. They do not, however, always get the happy ending that Cora and Robert share.

Flambards

(based on the novels of the same title by K.M Peyton)

Set in pre World War I England, this is the story of Christina, a young girl sent to live on her uncle's dilapidated estate. Her uncle and cousin Mark are part of the traditional English country gentleman culture with its emphasis on hunting and hounds. Her other cousin, William, dreams of escaping and quite literally flying away in an airplane. Christina is the girl that both the brothers love and her decisions will impact them all. Like *Downton Abbey*, the story carries on through WWI and its aftermath.

Upstairs, Downstairs

Before there was *Downton Abbey* there was *Upstairs, Downstairs*. Spanning five seasons this show follows the doings of both the servants and their masters. While it has been likened to a soap opera, it won 9 Emmys over the course of its run. As in *Downton Abbey*, World War I rears its ugly head as part of the drama. This show was such a hit it was revived by the BBC in 2010. This time the show is set in the 1930s with World War II looming in the distance. Season 1 is currently available on DVD, while Season 2 is airing in Britain.

Atonement

Based on the novel by Ian McEwan, this film is set in England just before World War II. Wealthy Cecilia Tallis is in love with Robbie Turner, who is the housekeeper's son. Cecilia's younger sister Briony witnesses the two involved in a romantic interlude. Briony lies about the nature of what she saw, and Robbie is sent away and enlists to fight in the war. Briony becomes a nurse in part to assuage her guilt, but nothing can ever truly atone for the lie she told and the damage she caused.

Gosford Park

(screenplay written by Julian Fellowes-creator of *Downton Abbey*) Sir William McCordle and his young wife Lady Sylvia invite their friends to their country estate for a shooting party. While Sir William and his wife rule upstairs, the servants below stairs are ruled by Mr. Jennings, the butler, and Mrs. Wilson, the housekeeper, who keep everything running smoothly. The shooting party brings additional guests as well as their servants. When Sir William is found dead with a knife through his chest, few grieve. The investigation into his death begins to bring secrets to light. It seems that all, both upstairs and downstairs, have secrets that they would prefer to keep hidden. But who would be willing to kill to keep them?

Howard's End

(based on the novel of the same title by E.M. Forster)

Margaret Schlegel becomes friends with wealthy aristocratic and terminally ill Ruth Wilcox. The two become friends despite a prior less than happy association between their families. Margaret's sister Helen had been involved with Ruth's son Paul, however their relationship did not work. In an interesting turn of events Ruth decides to leave her estate "Howard's End" to Margaret. When Ruth's husband Paul and her daughter Evie find the bequest they secretly destroy it. They believe Margaret is friend of Ruth for the wrong reasons. Helen begins to pursue a relationship with Leonard Bast, a married man and working class clerk. Leonard is married to a woman he does not love, but stays with her out of a sense of duty. The lives of the Basts, Wilcoxes, and the Schlegels become intertwined.

