

WENDY WAX



Wendy Wax, freely admits to her *Downton Abbey* addiction and the role it's played in the creation of her latest novel, **WHILE WE WERE WATCHING DOWNTON ABBEY**. As Season 2 ended, she found herself thinking about characters who were also fans of the show. "That was all well and good," she says, "but I didn't have a book for them—at least not until I let *Downton Abbey* itself bring them together." She adds that once she saw how the show might actually help change their lives, the story "came alive."

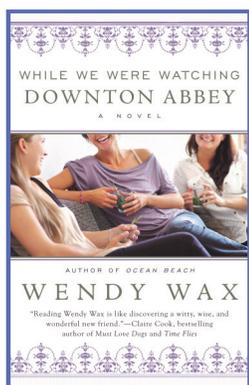
The novel takes place at the Alexander, a historic Atlanta apartment building whose British concierge invites residents to weekly screenings of *Downton Abbey*. That's how Samantha, Claire, Brooke and Edward, who have little else in common, forge bonds that sustain them through some of life's hardest moments—all of it reflected in the unfolding drama, humor, and lives of *Downton Abbey*. Wendy's writing, including her recent books **Ocean Beach** and **Ten Beach Road**, has been highly praised. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution says she "writes with breezy wit and keen insight into family relations." Her books have been featured in national publications such as **USA Today** and **Woman's World**, and at online book blogs and sites such as *On A Clear Day You Can Read Forever*, *Luxury Reading*, *Night Owl Reviews* and *Fresh Fiction*. In 2011 she was honored by the City of St. Pete Beach, where she was born and raised, when the City Commission declared May 12 "Wendy Wax Day."

The mother of a toddler and an infant when she decided to change careers, Wendy admits it may not have been the best timing in terms of productivity. "I'm still not certain why I felt so compelled to write my first novel at that particular time," she says, "but that first book took forever." Since then she's written eight others, including **Magnolia Wednesdays**, the Romance Writers of America RITA Award finalist **The Accidental Bestseller**, **Leave It to Cleavage** and **Single in Suburbia**. Her novel **7 Days and 7 Nights** was honored with the Virginia Romance Writers Holt Medallion Award. Her work has been sold to publishers in fifteen countries and to the Rhapsody Book Club, and her novel, **Hostile Makeover**, was excerpted in Cosmopolitan magazine.

Wendy is currently at work on her next novel, which takes characters introduced in **Ten Beach Road** (St. Pete Beach) and **Ocean Beach** (Miami) and sets them loose in Key West. Her first e-original, a holiday novella, **Christmas at the Beach**, also reunites those protagonists and will be published in the fall.

When not writing, she spends much of her time speaking to writer's groups and book clubs, enjoying time with her family, visiting relatives in St. Pete, and devouring books. She lives in Atlanta.

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Contact: Joan Schulhafer Publishing & Media Consulting, joan@joanschulhafer.com, 973-338-7428
Berkley Books Contact: Erin Galloway, Berkley/NAL, erin.galloway@us.penguin.com, 212-366-2153