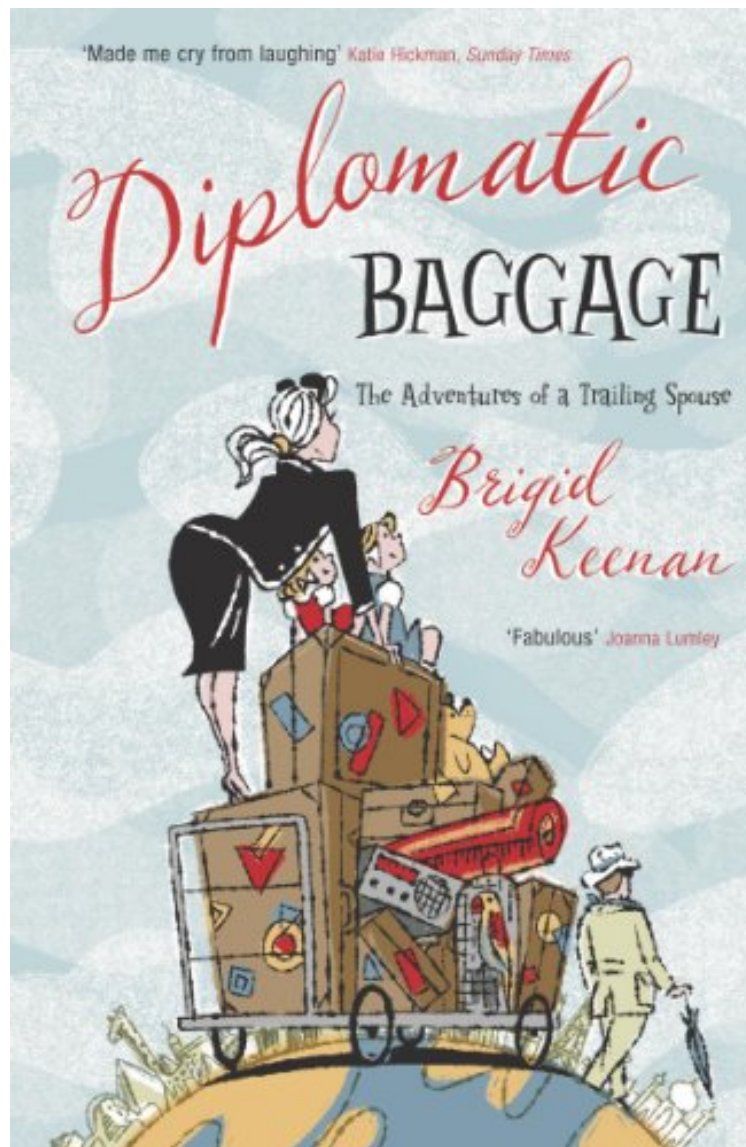


[Mobile book] Diplomatic Baggage: The Adventures of a Trailing Spouse (English Edition)

## Diplomatic Baggage: The Adventures of a Trailing Spouse (English Edition)

Von Brigid Keenan

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Von Brigid Keenan : Diplomatic Baggage: The Adventures of a Trailing Spouse (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Diplomatic Baggage: The Adventures of a Trailing Spouse (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The

pitfalls of being married to a diplomat... Von Nele I enjoyed the book a lot. Keenan gives an accurate and entertaining idea of the pros and cons of living with a diplomat and consequently having to move one's life from one country to the next every few years. She describes the cultural misunderstandings and pitfalls just as pointedly as the joys of discovering new countries, the adventure, and the many friends she has made all over the world due to her rather unusual lifestyle. There were moments when I thought "Oh my God I hope that never happens to me", and then others that made me yearn to enter a life of adventure and travelling myself. Genre-wise it's somewhere between an autobiography and a travel novel. Its purpose is not to describe foreign countries, although naturally Keenan does talk about the places she has lived in. Neither does the book simply try to narrate Keenan's life story, despite being based on her experiences. Instead, it brings both approaches together to give the picture of one woman's life across many different continents and cultures, all nicely seasoned with lots of humour and a willingness to not take herself too seriously. I guess you need to take a certain interest in this kind of writing. If you are thinking about leading a similar life and you want to know what it's like, just like the young woman who's question to this effect caused Keenan to write the book in the first place, this is a great start to find out what may be in store for you.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A must for any expat spouse! Von Rhonda For anyone who has lived abroad, this book was written for you. In a disarmingly honest style, Brigid has captured the emotional rollercoaster of what most see as a life of luxury. Thank you, Brigid, for bringing such hilarious notice to our reality.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. interesting and funny sometimes ! Von hollandiai liked this book , . Sometimes , it could be quite funny , It gives one an idea about her experiences in different countries . She rather enjoyed Damascus ( Syria ) so much and appreciated so much the ancient culture and old houses that she wrote a book about the old Heritage of Damascus Those unique and near destructiopn ARABIC house with an inside garden .

**Kurzbeschreibung** When Sunday Times fashion journalist Brigid Keenan married the love of her life in the late Sixties, little idea did she have of the rollercoaster journey they would make around the world together - with most things going horribly awry while being obliged to keep the straightest face and put their best feet forward. For he was a diplomat - and Brigid found herself the smiling face of the European Union in locales ranging from Kazakhstan to Trinidad. Finding herself miserable for the first time in a career into which many would have long ago thrown the towel, she found herself asking (during a farewell party for the Papal Nuncio): was it worth it? As this stream of it-really-happened-to-me stories shows, it most certainly was - if only for our vicarious bewilderment at how exactly you throw a buffet dinner during a public mourning period in Syria, remain viable as a fashion journalist when taste-wise you are three seasons out of it and geographically a world away, make people believe that there are actually terrible things going on in paradise, be a good mother and save some of the finest architecture in Damascus and Brussels from demolition - seemingly all simultaneously.

**Pressestimmen** Brigid Keenan vividly evokes both the oddities and loneliness, even today, of being the "other half" of a diplomat. Immediate and intimate, poignant and very funny; it is as if she is talking to the reader. Her eagle-eyed observation of human behaviour and far flung experiences made me laugh out loud.' -- Josceline Dimbleby 20041006 'Life is what you make of it -- you can't just sit there and let it happen to you -- you've got to grab opportunities with both hands, or you risk boredom at least, depression and deathbed regrets at worst. Women have not been raised to understand the importance of this. Brigid Keenan rams the message home with hilarity. This is an important book, written by a very funny writer.' -- Shirley Conran 20041101 'Bridget Jones' mother meets Katie Hickman's Daughters of Britannia ... I've a hunch this is going to do very well.' -- Bookseller 20041105 'The verve, the fun and the disasters of a life spent trekking round the world is vividly conveyed.' -- Publishing News 20041112 'The story sparkles, flies, delights. You love Keenan, the weepy, flighty, funny bit of diplomatic baggage but a part of your heart goes out to AW, her partner, who puts up and shuts up. But what makes this book special is how with a light touch Keenan exposes the dark corners, the frustrations, the dilemmas of those who go forth to represent their country. The grand houses and lifestyles hide so much, silence so many. But not Bridget Keenan.' -- Yasmin Alibhai-Brown 20041101 'There are a handful of books I should dearly love to have written myself, and this is one of them. By the end, I felt as if I had lived a whole new life in an unfamiliar and wondrous world that lies somewhere between that of Arthur Grimble's Pattern of Islands and Gerald Durrell's My Family and Other Animals. Like all the best memoirs, Brigid's book is endlessly engaging, full of delightful details, very funny and sometimes rather sad.' -- Christopher Matthew, author of Now We are Sixty 20041101 'I am furious! Fancy sending me Bridge's book when I'm so busy. I've just spent three whole hours chortling, giggling and wheezing my way through it -- and nary a pot washed or a keyboard key pressed all morning! Very few books these days make me laugh out loud -- this one provoked loud hoots at the rate of three per page. It's the funniest thing I've read since Jilly Cooper stopped writing properly and turned to sex and four-letter words. If this isn't a runaway best-seller I'll run away myself and live in Kazakhstan.' -- Mary S Lovell, author of The Mitford Girls 20041101 'What fun! Brigid Keenan, has written these anecdotal memoirs with a seasoning of undiplomatic mischief that is beguiling and unexpected in the wife of a peripatetic diplomat. Even in postings as remote and unlikely as

Kazakhstan, or as bland and unpromising as Belgium, Keenan is incapable of boredom and therefore, she cannot be boring. Particularly, her delight in the antiquities of the Middle East and the old city of Damascus is knowledgeable and infectious. She is the person you hope will be seated next to you at a dinner party: a companion of experience, vivacity and charm. To read her book is to meet her and to meet her is to be enthralled.' -- Irma Kurtz, *Cosmopolitan agony aunt* 20041101 'Brigid may have sobbed her way round the world in her diplomat husband's wake but her reward -- and ours -- is an inexhaustible stream of ludicrous events and witty observations. Her book has the authentic voice of a born storyteller and a very funny writer.' -- Lesley Garner, author of *How to Survive as a Wo* 20041101 'It's possibly the first time the travails of the envoy's family life have been so wittily spelled out.' -- *Diplomat* 20050503 'A witty, funny, touching book full of riveting anecdotes. Part-memoir, part-manual, part-travelogue, part-diary and wholly delicious ... if this book doesn't leave Brigid Jones in the ha'penny place, I'll eat my furry hat.' -- *Image magazine* 20050205 'A wonderfully funny, mischievous account of the adventures and travails of a diplomatic "spouse". It really did make me laugh out loud, startling the cat. Brigid Keenan is quite as hilarious a comic invention as Bridget Jones, only she's REAL.' -- Julie Christie 20041101 'For anyone with an ambition to build a career in the diplomatic corps (this) should be required reading.' -- *Public Servant* 20050408 'A must read' -- *Living Abroad Magazine* 20050601 'Dull this book certainly is not!' -- *Tablet* 20050401 'Insightful and extremely entertaining' -- *Traveller* 20050601 'Light-hearted and eminently readable ... a vivacious and engaging dialogue with the reader ... She brings to life her experiences by painting vivid images' -- *Music Week* 20050701 'Hilarious and engaging ... an entertaining account which is hard to put down' -- *Orient Express Magazine* 20050701 'Never let it be said that the life of a diplomat's wife is totally boring ... a very entertaining book' -- *Writing Magazine* 20050701 'With a glorious sense of the ridiculous, she depicts herself as a hyperventilating hysteric, who sobs her doom-ridden fantasies into reality.' -- *The Spectator* 20050430 'Glorious' -- *Publishing News* 20050812 'Brigid writes like a dream ! fabulous' -- Joanna Lumley 20041101 'A wonderful picaresque take on the travails of expat life, and an absolutely delicious read ... There are not many books that have actually made me cry from laughing, but this is one of them' -- Katie Hickman, *Sunday Times* 20050220 'I found myself laughing out loud three or four times a page. Quite unlike anything else I have read: sad, touching, honest and observant.' -- William Dalrymple 20050220 'Thirty years of far-flung postings later, she has acquired enough farcical experiences to make this memoir irresistible.' -- *Mail on Sunday* 20050227 'She is consistently herself, an observant journalist with a beady eye for local eccentricities ... Life with Brigid Keenan could never be boring.' -- *Country Life* 20050324 'Vogue loves ... Diplomatic Baggage' -- *Vogue* 20050301 'The story sparkles, flies, delights.' -- Yasmin Alibhai-Brown 20041101 'Brigid's book is endlessly engaging, full of delightful details, very funny and sometimes rather sad.' -- Christopher Matthew, author of *Now We Are Sixty* 20041101 'It's the funniest thing I've read since Jilly Cooper stopped writing properly and turned to sex and four-letter words.' -- Mary S Lovell, author of *The Mitford Girls* 20041101 'She is the person you hope will be seated next to you at a dinner party: a companion of experience, vivacity and charm. To read her book is to meet her and to meet her is to be enthralled.' -- Irma Kurtz, *Cosmopolitan agony aunt* 20041101 'An inexhaustible stream of ludicrous events and witty observations.' -- Lesley Garner, author of *How to Survive as a Wo* 20041101 'Deliciously effervescent' -- *Times* 20060708 'Perfect tone ! surprising, astute, brilliantly observed and very human' -- Ahdaf Soueif, *The Guardian* 20060708 **Kurzbeschreibung** When *Sunday Times* fashion journalist Brigid Keenan married the love of her life in the late Sixties, little idea did she have of the rollercoaster journey they would make around the world together - with most things going horribly awry while being obliged to keep the straightest face and put their best feet forward. For he was a diplomat - and Brigid found herself the smiling face of the European Union in locales ranging from Kazakhstan to Trinidad. Finding herself miserable for the first time in a career into which many would have long ago thrown the towel, she found herself asking (during a farewell party for the Papal Nuncio): was it worth it? As this stream of it-really-happened-to-me stories shows, it most certainly was - if only for our vicarious bewilderment at how exactly you throw a buffet dinner during a public mourning period in Syria, remain viable as a fashion journalist when taste-wise you are three seasons out of it and geographically a world away, make people believe that there are actually terrible things going on in paradise, be a good mother and save some of the finest architecture in Damascus and Brussels from demolition - seemingly all simultaneously.