Kelly Bag Encyclopedia Article

Kelly Bag

The following sections of this BookRags Literature Study Guide is offprint from Gale's For Students Series: Presenting Analysis, Context, and Criticism on Commonly Studied Works: Introduction, Author Biography, Plot Summary, Characters, Themes, Style, Historical Context, Critical Overview, Criticism and Critical Essays, Media Adaptations, Topics for Further Study, Compare & Contrast, What Do I Read Next?, For Further Study, and Sources.

(c)1998-2002; (c)2002 by Gale. Gale is an imprint of The Gale Group, Inc., a division of Thomson Learning, Inc. Gale and Design and Thomson Learning are trademarks used herein under license.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Encyclopedia of Popular Fiction: "Social Concerns", "Thematic Overview", "Techniques", "Literary Precedents", "Key Questions", "Related Titles", "Adaptations", "Related Web Sites". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

The following sections, if they exist, are offprint from Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults: "About the Author", "Overview", "Setting", "Literary Qualities", "Social Sensitivity", "Topics for Discussion", "Ideas for Reports and Papers". (c)1994-2005, by Walton Beacham.

All other sections in this Literature Study Guide are owned and copyrighted by BookRags, Inc.



Contents

Kelly Bag Encyclopedia Article.....1

Contents.....2

Kelly Bag.....3

Kelly Bag

The Kelly bag became an American fashion institution in 1956. In September 1956, five months after she married Prince Rainier of Monaco, the former film star Grace Kelly returned to the United States for a two-month visit, clad in fashionable maternity wear and sporting a square, black bag that she had purchased for the journey. The princess was widely photographed carrying the large leather bag in front of her expanding waistline, and a fashion trend was born. Known from then on as the Kelly bag, it was in fact manufactured by Hermés, the chic and expensive Paris design house who had been making the pocketbooks—each of which was fashioned by hand—since 1935. The bags were scaled-down models of the Hermés saddlebags that were made to hold the bridles and riding tack of the European rich. For many American women, the bag symbolized the elegance and style for which Grace Kelly was known both on screen and off, but it has remained in favor with succeeding generations to become the most popular Hermés handbag ever.

Further Reading:

Jackson, Jennifer. "Shh! Hermés' Deepest Secrets." *Harper's Bazaar.* September 1998, p. 234.

Lacey, Robert. *Grace.* New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1994.

"Princess Grace Arrives on Visit." *New York Times.* 12 September 1956.