

***Elizabeth the Queen: The Life of a Modern Monarch* by Sally Bedell Smith**

During this season of COVID, I have found my interest in nonfiction, particularly biographies, to be expanding. This isn't a new interest as I vividly remember the joy of finding the orange, clothbound biographies on the back wall of the bookmobile when it would visit our grade school! "The Childhood of Famous Americans" series taught me much about Abigail Adams, Molly Pitcher and Clara Barton. So perhaps this winter while I am home more than usual, I will find new joy in reading a genre I loved fifty years ago!

Elizabeth, The Queen is a hefty book, well over 700 pages. The story starts with the young "heiress presumptive", a title Elizabeth takes on before the age of 10 when her uncle abdicates the throne. Sharing the inside life of a royal during the bombings of World War II, the young queen at 25 years of age, working in a high profile, demanding job while raising her family, and the details surrounding the years of "Diana" are all part of the unique story of the world's longest reigning monarch. The book doesn't contain anything from the past eight years as it was published in 2012.

Since this biography (in paperback) is over 700 pages, I decided *Elizabeth the Queen* would be a great book to read on my iPad. Eureka PLD has a print copy if you prefer paper to electronic!