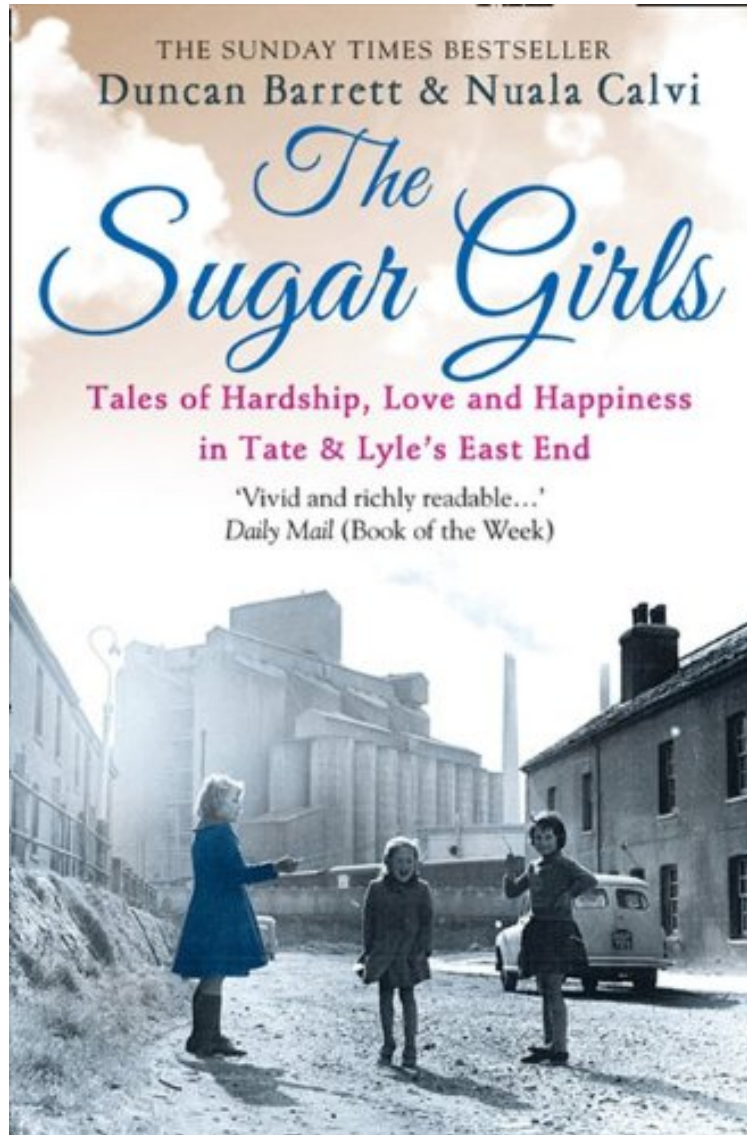


The Sugar Girls

Duncan Barrett, Nuala Calvi

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Duncan Barrett, Nuala Calvi : The Sugar Girls before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Sugar Girls:

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating storyBy Laura A. CellaI was assigned a social history project when I was studying at Oxford and completing it left me with a residual respect for and fascination with domestic history, the lives of ordinary people, especially women, and this book amazed me.Growing up in the prewar East End of London offered few options for women and this book examines and celebrates one of the popular

ones. Tate Lyle's Sugar Girls were admired and envied and I can see why. Each woman is fascinating in her own way. Each woman's story is uniquely her own yet there exists a series of delicate gossamer threads joining them all throughout their entire lives. Social histories like this are especially important as society moves further - geographically, educationally, technologically, financially - away from our past and we will never understand who we are as a society unless we know where we came from. This well-researched, well-written book helps us understand just those things. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing By Karen The stories are interesting, but I don't like the way the book is written. The timelines are not at all clear and a lot of it is summarized - more "telling" than "showing." It was also really hard at first to keep the girls' stories straight. With some rearranging, it would be much better. I read it for my book club and probably wouldn't have finished it otherwise. I usually like social history, but this was disappointing. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. True Story By Susan Gershman Interesting story about the lives and careers of women working at Lyle and Tate. A sugar packaging factory on the docks in London's East End. Every chapter gives us a peek as the teenagers make lifelong friends, grow up, Very well written, brings you into the factory with them.

'On a crisp September day in 1944, Ethel Alleyne stood outside Tate Lyle's factory at Plaistow Wharf, on the shining curve of the Thames. Looking up at the giant gate, Ethel felt as if she'd been preparing for this moment all her life. She drew herself up to her full height and did her best to hide her nerves as she headed into the factory.

'Delightful, a terrific piece of nonfiction storytelling, and an authoritative and highly readable work of social history which brings vividly to life a fascinating part of East End life before it is lost forever.' Melanie McGrath, bestselling author of *Silvertown* and *Hopping* 'This vivid and richly readable account of women's lives in and around the Tate Lyle East London works in the 40s and 50s is written as popular social history, played for entertainment. If it doesn't become a TV series to rival *Call The Midwife*, I'll take my tea with ten sugars.'