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Frances Osborne

The Bolter

Idina Sackville – the woman
who scandalised 1920s society
and became *White Mischief's*
infamous seductress

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Frances Osborne

The Bolter

Idina Sackville - the
woman who scandalised
1920s society and became
White Mischief's
infamous seductress

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To my mother

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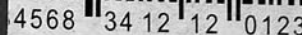


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'A corker of a subject. Idina's behaviour . . . probably inspired The Bolter in Nancy Mitford's *The Pursuit of Love*. Osborne's richly wrought descriptions of glittering Paris nights and lush mountainous landscapes of Kenya's Happy Valley are fabulous . . . A breakneck-paced, thoroughly diverting story'

Valerie Grove, *The Times*

In 1934 Idina Sackville met the son she had last seen fifteen years earlier when she shocked high society by running off to Africa with a near-penniless man, abandoning him, his brother and their father.

So scandalous was Idina's life – she was said to have had 'lovers without number' – that it was kept a secret from her great-granddaughter, Frances Osborne. Now Osborne explores her moving tale of betrayal and heartbreak.

'Frances Osborne has brilliantly captured not only one woman's life but an entire lost society'

Amanda Foreman

'An enthralling account of a dazzling, troubled life'

Julian Fellowes

'A wonderfully engaging book which combines the tingling immediacy of the best kind of history with the stay-up-till-3am-to-finish-it urgency of a bestseller'

Allison Pearson, *Daily Mail*



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