



# Price of Fame: The Honorable Clare Boothe Luce

*Sylvia Jukes Morris*

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## **Price of Fame: The Honorable Clare Boothe Luce** Sylvia Jukes Morris

“I hope I shall have ambition until the day I die,” Clare Boothe Luce told her biographer Sylvia Jukes Morris. *Price of Fame*, the concluding volume of the life of an exceptionally brilliant polymath, chronicles Luce’s progress from her arrival on Capitol Hill through her career as a diplomat, prolific journalist, and magnetic public speaker, as well as a playwright, screenwriter, pioneer scuba diver, early experimenter in psychedelic drugs, and grande dame of the GOP in the Reagan era. Tempestuously married to Henry Luce, the powerful publisher of Time Inc., she endured his infidelities while pursuing her own, and remained a practiced vamp well into her crowded later years, during which she strengthened her friendships with Winston Churchill, Somerset Maugham, John F. Kennedy, Evelyn Waugh, Lyndon Johnson, Salvador Dalí, Richard Nixon, William F. Buckley, Ronald Reagan, and countless other celebrities. Sylvia Jukes Morris is the only writer to have had complete access to Mrs. Luce’s prodigious collection of public and private papers. In addition, she had unique access to her subject, whose death at eighty-four ended a life that for variety of accomplishment qualifies Clare Boothe Luce for the title of “Woman of the Century.”

## **Praise for *Price of Fame***

“The twentieth-century history of this country, seen through the eyes and actions of a remarkable woman . . . one of the most fabulous, intimate biographies I have ever read.”—**Liz Smith, *Chicago Tribune***

“The epic *Price of Fame* is a thrilling account of one of the twentieth century's most intriguing and ambitious society figures.”—**Amanda Foreman, bestselling author of *Georgiana: Duchess of Devonshire***

“Delicious . . . In *Price of Fame* . . . Sylvia Jukes Morris takes up the story she began in *Rage for Fame*. . . Both books are models of the biographer’s art—meticulously researched, sophisticated, fair-minded and compulsively readable.”—**Edward Kosner, *The Wall Street Journal***

“Clare Boothe Luce [was] one of the twentieth century’s most ambitious, unstoppable and undeniably ingenious characters. . . . This full, warts-and-all biography hauls her back into the limelight and does her full justice.”—**Janet Maslin, *The New York Times***

“Poignant and profound . . . nothing short of a triumph.”—**Marion Elizabeth Rodgers, *The Washington Times***

“Compelling . . . [a] brilliant biography.”—**Peter Tonguette, *The Christian Science Monitor***

*From the Trade Paperback edition.*

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