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Meet the Author who Helped Inspire *Downton Abbey*

Hartford, Connecticut (May 14, 2013) — Carol Wallace, co-author of *To Marry an English Lord: Tales of Wealth and Marriage, Sex and Snobbery*, will speak at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 6, in the Center for Contemporary Culture at the Downtown Library, and for fans of the PBS series *Downton Abbey*, this is an evening not to be missed.

Downton creator Julian Fellowes credits Wallace and co-author Gail MacColl with the inspiration for his wildly popular series, and the authors' *To Marry an English Lord* is a sprightly and entertaining study of the young American women who came to England, mainly between 1890 and 1914, with the express purpose of marrying into the British aristocracy. The book was first published in 1989, but has been reissued in a lavish new edition.

Speaker Wallace, who also co-authored the best-selling *The Official Preppy Handbook*, specializes in books and articles on social history, humor and parenting. *To Marry an English Lord* promises to be an evening of gossip, grand houses, grandeur!

The presentation is free, no registration is required, and all are welcome. In addition, copies of *To Marry an English Lord* will be for sale, and Wallace will sign them.

About Hartford Public Library

The Hartford Public Library traces its roots to 1774. It operates 10 locations in the City of Hartford. The Library receives more than 865,000 visits per year. Services include access to a large collection of materials for reading and research, as well as music and video. Programs provide education, information and enrichment to the people of Hartford in such areas as citizenship training, literacy, business skills and cultural awareness. The mission of Hartford Public Library is to provide free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. To learn more about the library, please see www.hplct.org.